

Nebraska Independent

THE WEALTH MAKERS and LINCOLN INDEPENDENT.

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Nebraska's choice for President of the United States 1896-1900 is WM. J. BRYAN.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Our subscribers will please take notice of the date following the address on the paper. This is the time at which the subscription expired or will expire. Note this carefully, and if behind make us a remittance at once, while you have the date at hand. This applies to all who are behind, and especially to those who have written and promised to remit during harvest. The amount you owe may seem small, but when there are several thousand behind it means a considerable load for us.

National bank notes are not a legal tender for anything.

Would we maintain the national honor by reducing our farmers to peasants?

Populist orators will be the only ones who can use their old speeches in this campaign.

Every fall in price increases by just that much all debts, taxes, interest and freight rates.

What the Wall street defenders call a "crash" is an earnest desire of patriotic citizens to restore prosperity.

John Locke, the great economist said: "Gold is not the money of the world or measure of commerce, or fit to be so."

The so-called market or commercial value of gold is a law made value. England and other nations make the price by law. Who will deny it?

At Bellwood, Butler county, a Bryan club was organized composed of fifty democrats, forty-five republicans, twenty-one populists and one prohibitionist.

"Come, let us reason," says the populist. "You're an anarchist and repudiator," replies the gold bug. They call that reply an evidence of intelligence.

Who owns that \$100,000,000 gold reserve? If the government owns it why don't it lock it up and keep it? But it seems the banks own it, and whenever they want some of it they just go and take it.

The contestants on one side of this conflict are reading, thinking, and investigating. On the other they are coining abusive epithets and inventing slanders with which to besmirch private character.

It is anarchy for a miner to advocate free coinage for the purpose of advancing the price of silver, but it is pure patriotism for a manufacturer to advocate a high tariff to advance the price of his product.

It is the duty of every honest American citizen to rebuke the insolence that asserts that the average voter has not the mental capacity to study and thoroughly understand the science of money.

If the honesty of a coin varies in accordance with the cost of the metal in it, which is the gold bug doctrine, then the honesty of the coins of every different mine in the world varies. Gold from some mines costs little, and these coins are very dishonest.

Let voters avail themselves of the fruits of the world's scholarship. The great minds of the past have thought all these problems out, and written down their conclusions long ago. They all agree. Believe them, and not the teaching of modern Shylock.

The republican party advocates an entirely new experiment—an experiment never sanctioned by any party before, and denounces all those who refuse to sanction it as lunatics, idiots, knaves or swindlers. They have reached the mountain top of insolence.

All the gold advocates claim that the decline in the price of silver bullion was caused by increased production. There has been a great increase in the production of gold bullion during the last year. Why has it not declined in price? Simply because the governments of the world fix the price by law, and take all that is produced.

"WHERE WE ARE AT."

It is well for all to keep in mind that while the populist and democratic parties have united in the effort to elect a president who is in favor of the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 by the United States independent of any other nation, and who is opposed to banks of issue and issue of bonds in times of peace, that the two parties remain distinct organizations, with widely diverging views or many other subjects.

The populist press and the members of the party will continue to advocate the doctrines laid down in the platform adopted at St. Louis, the foundation of which principles were first promulgated at Omaha four years ago.

The populist party has maintained and will ever continue to advocate those principles. They may be briefly stated as follows:

There are three functions that a government must never surrender to private control.

1. It must issue all the money and regulate its value by controlling the quantity by positive enactment of law, and not leave it to the chance production of gold and silver mines or the will of corporations.

2. It must own or absolutely control all public highways, by water and by land. This is the old common law. It is only in modern days that public highways have been turned over to the control of corporations or individuals. In reality, a railroad is only a public highway, and its surrender to private control is against good public policy and a danger to free government.

3. To provide means of rapid communication is a government function, and to surrender it in whole or in part to the control of corporations or individuals, is against good public policy. Telegraphs and telephones, being means of rapid communication, the government should own them and make them part of the postoffice system.

In all of these things the populist platform differs from the democratic platform. They make the continuance of populist organization a necessity. They give a wide field of usefulness to the populist press. They will continue to be advocated until enacted into law. If the populist party should dissolve, another party would arise to take them up.

There are many correlations to the above principles which would take a wide field of legislation to cover, which cannot be enumerated here. All taken together, they mean government for the benefit of all the people.

All populists agree that legislation cannot be given a trend in this direction until the government is wrested from the control of the money power. Therefore we have united with two other parties, the democratic and free silver parties; to first overthrow that power, and, after that, we match on. There is "where we are at."

JOHN SHERMAN PROPHECY.

John Sherman is the great law-giver and prophet of the gold bugs. In 1893 he made a famous prophecy. It can be found on page 2597 of the Congressional Record, 53d congress. This is his prophecy.

"Why should we be here seventy odd days without a single vote on any question? Let us try it. If we would try it tomorrow after all the long debate that has been had and dispose of this question as we think best for the people of the United States, while you are assuming your responsibility we would gladden the hearts of millions of laboring men who are now being turned out of employment. We would relieve the business cares of thousands of men whose whole fortunes are embarked in trade. We would relieve the farmer and his product for free transportation to foreign countries, now clogged for the want of money. In the present condition of affairs there is no money to buy cotton and corn and wheat for foreign consumption. Break down the barrier now maintained by the senate of the United States, check this viper called obstruction to the will of the majority, give the senate free power and play, and in ten days from this time the skies will brighten, business will resume its ordinary course, and the clouds that lower upon our house will be in the deep bosom of the ocean buried."

That is the famous John Sherman prophecy of '93. Repeal the purchasing clause of the Sherman act and in ten days the skies would brighten, business would resume its ordinary course, the hearts of millions of laboring men would be gladdened!

The act was repealed and not only "ten days" but nearly three years have passed and no part of this prophecy has come true.

In 1878 he made another famous prophecy. He said if we coined 50,000,000 silver dollars, gold would be driven out of the country. We coined \$24,000,000 a year until 1890 and our imports of gold were 100 per cent greater than our exports.

All his other prophecies have failed in the same manner, but John Sherman is still the great prophet of the gold bugs and his prophecies are implicitly relied upon today by millions of people. That at the close of the 19th century a false prophet should be so trusted and believed is very strange indeed.

A banker's note is honest money. The government's note is dishonest money, repudiation and anarchy.

In clubs of ten or more campaign subscriptions 10c each. No commission allowed.

FOREIGN CAPITAL.

Thos. B. Reed, more widely known as the czar, in opening the republican campaign in Maine used the following words: "What this country needs is capital from abroad." This is the fundamental error of the whole goldite contention. That is what gives Lombard street an interest in this campaign. All men in favor of monetary reform utterly deny this statement and their reasons for denying it have never been refuted. They say that every government must of necessity have the right to coin money and regulate its value. It should furnish the people with a sufficient quantity to enable them to develop the country's resources and do its business. To borrow money of a foreign nation and pay to foreigners interest for the use of a medium of exchange when the government has the sovereign right to furnish that instrument itself, is not only unwise but is disloyalty to the people, for it makes them in fact, tribute payers to foreign powers to the amount of interest that they pay.

The investment in foreign capital in a country, at any rate of interest ever heretofore charged, and where the interest must be annually sent out of the country, is always a detriment. So when the goldites say: "Establish the gold standard so that foreign capital will be invested here" say to them: "That is just what we do not want, for in the end it will transfer the property to the foreign money lender at any rate of interest current in the past."

SOMEWHAT PERSONAL.

In looking over our populist exchanges we find not one protesting voice among them all against the final action of the national convention, but several of the editors file protests against the action of their delegations in minor matters.

The editor of this paper has no protests to file. Every plank of the platform which he proposed, and which was printed in this paper two weeks before the convention assembled, was adopted. The policy of the convention was the one outlined in the speech he made before the delegates of the Third congressional district at Grand Island, and for which he got sat down upon very hard.

That policy is now conceded to be the only way to secure the election of W. J. Bryan, and any variance from it means defeat. All agree to that now. So the editor of INDEPENDENT is fully vindicated, and therefore feels quite elated.

There is a thing or two about the platform he don't like. One is the cumbersome sentences in which the ideas are expressed. Donnelly's criticism of it may be too severe, but the style is certainly open to criticism. Donnelly says it "is a barren statement of thread-bare facts, unrelieved by a single flash of genius;—it is as stale, flat and unprofitable as a congressional agricultural report."

The next time a platform is to be made a newspaper man or two should be put on the committee, or if that is not done, hire one and let him just clothe the ideas in a fitting form of good English.

This platform will make two columns or more of solid brevity. It will bankrupt the country editors to set it up. A good newspaper man would have put every idea in it in three-fourths of a column, and stated them more clearly than they are now.

Now let this be a reply to all personal inquiries, either by letter or otherwise, to the editor of this paper.

JOHN M. THURSTON

In the Associated Press report of the speech of Senator Thurston opening the campaign in Wisconsin, occurs this passage: "The senator mentioned that July 11th the Chicago Chronicle had charged Bryan with being the paid agent and spokesman of the bonanza silver kings, who had really made the silver issue, and that he had not met the charge. 'That man,' cried the senator, 'posing as the friend of the downtrodden masses, holding a crown of thorns in one hand and the bugaboo of a cross of gold in the other, owes it to every man, woman and child in this country to say whether that charge is false, or whether it is true.'"

Ever since John M. Thurston went to Washington he has been falling in the esteem of intelligent men. That statement removes him from the position of an intelligent partisan and places him on the level of a ward politician.

NO SENSE IN IT.

The moment that free coinage becomes probable, say all the goldites, a deluge of American bonds and stocks would be returned from foreign countries and sold on the stock exchange at one half their present price, and that that would be the greatest calamity that ever befell this nation. But would it be a calamity?

If Americans could buy the debt we owe to foreigners for half its face value, would not that be a great blessing to this country instead of a calamity?

Their predictions of disaster are of necessity based on the idea to be enormously indebted to foreign countries is a great blessing and to buy up that debt or pay it off, would bring untold disasters. There is no sense, at all in that kind of talk.

10 campaign subscriptions \$1.00. Send in your orders.

WHAT WILL BECOME OF THEM.

If the drought had continued for two more years in Nebraska, what would a corner lot in Omaha or Lincoln have been worth? What would a medical or law practice return? How many goods could a merchant have sold?

If taxes, freight rates and rates of interest remain the same and the purchasing power of the dollar increased until one dollar would buy twenty bushels of corn, five bushels of wheat, and fifty pounds of pork, how much would a law or medical practice then be worth? How much goods could a merchant sell then to the farmer, after he had paid his taxes, rents, repairs and interest?

Under such conditions the farmer would not be as badly off as the professional and business man.

The farmer could live, he could raise enough, with fair seasons to live on and if need be, return to the old handloom and spinning wheel of our grandfathers. But what would become of the professional or business man. He would starve.

The republicans hold that money of great purchasing power is "sound money," and therefore the greater its purchasing power, the sounder it would be. A dollar that would purchase twenty bushels of corn, according to their theory, would be a better dollar than one that would purchase ten bushels. If corn should go down to five cents a bushel, as it will if "the present gold standard" is maintained, "any effort to raise the price of corn by increasing the number of dollars, would, in their eyes, be repudiation. It would depreciate money. It would be "cheap money."

Is there any "soundness" in such talk as that? Is there any common sense in it? Do the people of this state want money so dear that business men must starve, the professions be forsaken and nothing left within our borders, except a few tillers of the soil, who will live in huts when the present houses rot down, pound their hominy in a wooden mortar dress in sheepskins or linsey woolsey, have no churches or schools or books? Is that what you want? you can make money so dear that that will be the inevitable result. When money gets so "sound" that a man must raise 100 bushels of corn to get five dollars, we will be very near that state. Do you want that? Then vote to maintain "the present gold standard" and in a few years you will see the lawyers, doctors, professors and merchants become tramps, and the only one safe from starvation, he who tills the soil. That is what will become of them.

Any man who can clearly reason, cannot fail to know that a constant increase in the purchasing power of money or what is the same thing, constantly falling prices, must end in the wreck of civilization. While prices are falling men do not build new houses. Even when one burns down it is not replaced. Look at the blackened ruins in Omaha and Lincoln and see if that is not true. In a few years more, the fires and natural deterioration of property, if money continues to appreciate and prices continue to fall, will make this state a land of ruined homes. It cannot result otherwise. Do you want to leave such a heritage as that to your children? What will become of them?

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The claim that the vast amount of imports following the repeal of the McKinley act has caused the present depression in all prices and the stoppage of manufacturing, will appear grossly absurd to any man when he takes into consideration that of \$700,000,000 imports, \$223,000,000 worth is contained in four items, which are not manufactured goods viz, coffee, \$90,000,000; tea, \$13,000,000; sugar, \$80,000,000; and flax, \$40,000,000. Besides these, there are a large number of other articles imported which in no way effect our manufactures and some that are a great aid to them, such as hides. It is doubtful if the manufactured articles imported during the last year amounted to \$350,000,000, while our exports were \$882,510,229.

Nine-tenths of the honest readers of republican papers believe that our imports exceed exports, for this falsehood is constantly printed in the republican goldite papers. The campaign committee ought to furnish large numbers of the government reports on this subject for distribution among republicans.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

Gold dollars are a full legal tender. Silver dollars are a full legal tender unless otherwise provided in the contract. Treasury notes and greenbacks are a legal tender except for import duties and interest on the public debt.

Minor silver coins—halves, quarters and dimes—are a legal tender for five dollars.

NATIONAL BANK NOTES ARE NOT A LEGAL TENDER.

The banks hold on to gold and silver coin, gold certificates, and greenbacks, and pay out silver certificates and national bank notes whenever they can. This is why but little of these forms of currency is seen in general circulation.

IN MAINE.

This year things in Maine are in a queer fix. The democratic free silver vice-president lives there. The democratic gold bug candidate for governor refuses to run on the Chicago free silver platform. Maine will vote September 14. In 1894 Maine gave 69,599 republican, 30,621 democratic, and 5,321 populist votes.

Awful calamities are predicted if gold should leave the country. Once in our history it fled to foreign shores. During its absence we fought a great war and had the most prosperous times in all our history, and times remained good until it began to come back again. From the day of its return until now, they have gradually grown worse. Every man of fifty years of age knows this to be true.

PRESERVING THEIR FETICH.

Wall street has recently been exchanging gold for greenbacks at the subtreasury. The bankers know that another bond issue before election would knock McKinley out, and they suspicion that if the gold reserve should run down to twenty or thirty millions, and nothing should happen except to stimulate business to the extent of putting seventy or eighty millions, now locked up in the treasury into circulation, their gold reserve fetich would be forever destroyed. To preserve their fetich and save McKinley, they exchange their gold for greenbacks, knowing that they can get the gold back whenever they present the greenbacks. By this silly performance they hope to deceive the people into continued faith in their gold reserve fetich.

AN INTELLIGENT INSTRUCTOR.

THE INDEPENDENT thought it had discovered the prize republican idiot when it overheard one of them declaring that "you silver fellows and populists want the government to coin sixteen silver dollars for every gold dollar," but it was mistaken. It is another fellow by the name of Thomas McKee, who has just been put in charge of one section of the gold bug literary bureau. In his

book entitled, "Hard Places Made Easy in the Coinage Problem," he says: "Coinage ratio between gold and silver is fixed by law. The original law of 1792 made \$1 in gold equal to \$15 in silver. The act of 1834 changed the ratio to one dollar of gold to sixteen." Men of that calibre will be intelligent instructors of the American voter.

GOLD BUG CONGLOMERATES.

Goldite campaign literature is a very strange conglomeration. One document tells us that we have little need of any money at all, that 95 per cent of business is done with checks and drafts.

Another document tells us that the probability of free coinage will drive \$600,000,000 of gold money out of the country and the loss of that much money would produce such calamities as the world never suffered before. So it seems that checks and drafts won't do the business without money after all.

Another document says that free coinage will dump all the silver of the world into the United States.

Another document says that the silver of the world would, if compressed in single bulk, constitute a cube sixty-six feet on each side and could be hidden out of sight in any of the great modern commercial buildings.

Another document says the sole idea of the free coinage men is to inflate the currency. Another says that free coinage would produce a terrible contraction by driving gold out of circulation and to this our own Parson Andrews agrees.

And so it runs through the tons and tons of gold bug literature. No two of the documents tell the same lie. A man who would try to believe any two of them true, would go mad.

THE LINE OF BATTLE IS LAID DOWN.

The line of battle is laid down. The president's letter to Governor Northen expresses his opposition to the free and unlimited coinage of silver by this country alone. Upon that issue the next congressional contest will be fought. Are we dependent as a nation? Shall we legislate for ourselves or shall we beg some foreign nation to help us provide for the natural wants of our people?

You may think that you have buried the cause of bimetalism—you may congratulate yourselves that you have laid the free coinage of silver away in a sepulcher, never made since the election, and before the door rolled the stone. But, sire, if our cause is just, as I believe it is, your labor has been in vain; no tomb was ever made so strong that it could imprison a righteous cause. Silver will lay aside its grave clothes and its shroud. It will yet rise, and in its rising and its reign will bless mankind.

Alexander "wept for other worlds to conquer" after he had carried his victorious banner throughout the then known world. Napoleon "re-arranged the map of Europe with his sword" amid the lamentations of those by whose blood he was exalted; but when these and other military heroes are forgotten and their achievements disappear in the cycle's sweep of years, children will still hup the name of Jefferson, and freemen will ascribe due praises to him who filled the kneeling subject's heart with hope and bade him stand erect, a sovereign among his peers.

STREET ILLUMINATION

The City of Omaha to Expend \$2,500 to Light Its Streets Fair Time.

OMAHA, Aug. 6.—The local electric light company has a force of men at work putting up wires for the street illuminations during fair week. The plan of the illuminations will be exactly the same as last year, but six blocks will be added to the previous route. Just which additional blocks will be included has not been decided, but the matter will probably be settled this week. The incandescent lights will be strung five feet apart on each side of the streets along the route of the parades, and the street intersections will be crossed by a Greek cross of incandescent lights as was the case last year. The city has appropriated \$2,500 to pay for the extra lights, this being slightly more than the amount expended last year.

HOLCOMB NOMINATED.

Hastings Convention Nominates the Governor—Bryan and Sewell Electors.

HASTINGS, Neb., Aug. 6.—At the populist convention yesterday Silas A. Holcomb was renominated.

The matter of electors was left to the populist state central committee with power to act.

Resolutions were adopted indorsing the Omaha exposition. Senator Allen's course, Congressman Kem's course, and the administration of Gov. Holcomb.

The only other nominations made were J. C. Cornell for auditor and J. W. Porter for secretary of state. But one ballot for treasurer was taken, resulting in no choice.

A central committee was named.

WILL STAND BY WATSON.

John Breidenthal, state chairman of the peoples party of Kansas, has uttered a strong denunciation of the plan to put up populist electors instructed for Bryan and Sewell. He maintains that the party in Kansas must be true to Watson and the action of the national convention in all things.

Breeders of fine stock can find no better advertising medium than this paper.

Ripans Tablets; pleasant laxative.

The money owner clearly sees that when money is made scarce and dear by contraction, that his wealth is doubled without exertion on his part. Is it impossible that he who owes money, or is a producer, cannot see it also? Does it follow that because a man is in debt or is a producer that he is incapable of reasoning?

John U. P. Thurston and Herr Most both belong to the same party and their style of campaigning seems to be on a parity, repeating slander and assaulting private character.

At Norfolk last week Judge Maxwell was nominated for Congress in the Third district by representatives of the populist, democratic, prohibition and free silver parties.

Senator Thurston seems determined to reduce this campaign from a discussion of economic truths to one of personal slander. Those who have known John U. P. Thurston are not at all surprised.

Hon. Wm. J. Bryan's Sayings.

Some who are ready to use the power of the government to limit the supply of money, in order to prevent injustice to the creditor, are slow to admit the right of the government to increase the currency when necessary to prevent injustice to the debtor. I denounce that cruel interpretation of governmental power which would grant the authority to starve, but would withhold the authority to feed our people—which would permit a contraction of our currency, even the destruction of all prosperity, but would prohibit the expansion of our currency to keep pace with the growing needs of a growing nation.

I may be in error, but in my humble judgment he who would rob man of his necessary food or pollute the springs at which he quenches his thirst, or steal away from him his accustomed rest, or condemn his mind to the gloomy night of ignorance, is no more an enemy of his race than the man who, deaf to the entreaties of the poor and blind to the suffering he would cause, seeks to destroy one of the money metals given by the Almighty to supply the needs of commerce.

The line of battle is laid down. The president's letter to Governor Northen expresses his opposition to the free and unlimited coinage of silver by this country alone. Upon that issue the next congressional contest will be fought. Are we dependent as a nation? Shall we legislate for ourselves or shall we beg some foreign nation to help us provide for the natural wants of our people?

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