

FROM POLULIST HEADQUARTERS.

A Letter From the Chairman and Secretary of the State Committee.

To the people of the state of Nebraska: The political situation is such that every loyal American citizen must at the coming election decide for himself whether he favors American Industries under American control, or whether he will sustain a financial policy for the American people dictated by a Wall street syndicate in the interest of foreign aristocratic money power.

Our civilization, our prosperity as a people, our hopes, our homes and our happiness are involved in this issue. Financial slavery once fixed upon us under a gold standard may remain as a permanent policy.

The result of the elections this year in this country may determine the great question whether a gold standard shall be forced upon the people, not only of this country but of the industrial world, who are now suffering as we are suffering.

Therefore, in the interest of good government and believing that the people are the government and that they have a right to govern themselves without the consent of any other "nation on earth," we in the name of Peoples Independent party of the state of Nebraska, without reference to former party ties or affiliations request, that all persons viewing the present situation as herein set forth are hereby invited to unite their efforts with ours in this struggle for human rights.

To all persons accepting this invitation we would request that you at once place yourselves in communication with the state central committee at Lincoln, Nebraska, who will be pleased to correspond with you, assigning you work where we may unite our efforts in one common course.

Respectfully yours, J. H. EDMISTEN, B. R. B. WEBER, Chmn. Sec.

ONE GOLD BUG DEMOCRAT.

But 100 Silver Republicans Have Joined the Bryan Club

HASTINGS, Neb., Aug 19, 1896.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—Professor Tobar addressed the Bryan silver club at the court house last Saturday afternoon in a speech of one and one half hour's length and through the medium of charts showed conclusively to his audience that the advocates of bimetalism at the ratio of 16 to 1 are the true friends of the American policy as adopted by the Chicago and St. Louis platforms which declare for the double standard without waiting for the consent of England.

There is but one single standard democrat and not one single standard populist so far as heard from in this county and there is not one of the Hanna list as claimed in this county. It is probable that the same thing is true of every county in the state. Bryan will carry this county by at least 100 majority and is a sure winner in the state.

There is at least 100 silver republicans in this county up to date who have signed the Bryan clubs and that number will be doubled within thirty days from this writing. If we could induce the republican campaign committee to keep Hurr in Nebraska until election day he would be worth 5,000 votes to the silver cause.

John U. P. in a Fix.

Thurston says he based his charges against Bryan on the word of the Chicago Chronicle. This is what the same paper has to say about Thurston:

Who and what is John M. Thurston? What is his record as the paid attorney and flegleman of corruption and public plunder? To whom does he owe his seat in the United States senate and to what interests has he devoted his time not only previous to his election, but since he has occupied a public office?

For twenty years he has been in the employ of the Union Pacific railway company, the most notoriously dishonest and corrupt railway corporation in the world. First as assistant attorney and later as general solicitor. He has devoted his time and his energies to the interests of a concern which has robbed the people of the United States of more millions than Bryan's employers ever owned.

That corporation elected him to the Nebraska legislature. It sustained him in the political councils of the republican party and it finally rewarded him by securing his election to the United States senate.

He has not been ungrateful. His election to the senate has not abated his zeal for his benefactor, though he is nominally no longer in its employ. A senator of the United States, he is notoriously a lobbyist for the Union Pacific road. Representing the state of Nebraska, his efforts are devoted to the fastening fresh upon that commonwealth the chains of the most cruel and oppressive

railroad monopoly in the United States. That is John M. Thurston's record. It is not an enviable one.

THURSTON KNOCKED OUT.

The old man of the Mountains Wipes up the Earth with him.

Thurston Turns Tall and Leaves the Ring.

WASHINGTON, Aug., 17.—This afternoon Senator W. M. Stewart gave out for publication a reply to Senator Thurston's letter to him, published in the papers this morning, regarding the charge that Mr. Bryan had been a paid lecturer in the employ of silver mine owners. The letter quotes Thurston's statement that he had not assailed Bryan's character in any instance or by any word, and Stewart asks Thurston how he can reconcile that statement with the following language used by him in the speech which gave rise to the controversy:

"The proprietors of the big bonanzas have found it profitable to keep a large number of lecturers and other spokesmen on the road preaching to the people. Among the many who have thus been employed and carried on the pay rolls of the big bonanzas for a number of years is William J. Bryan of Nebraska, a paid agent and spokesman of the free silver combine."

The letter then continues: "Your disclaimer in connection with the foregoing statement requires explanation, provided you consider your reputation for truth and veracity valuable, but your explanation that you would be the last man to assail the character of Mr. Bryan" reflects either upon your veracity or your knowledge of the law of libel.

"You assume that you are not assailing Mr. Bryan when you quote what irresponsible newspapers say of him and giving to such statements all the credit your high official position can confer. You belittle your understanding when you say it is the duty of Mr. Bryan to enter into personal controversy with every hiring newspaper scribbler who is employed to slander or defame him. The people understand the animus of partisan newspapers and make proper allowances for their assertions, but when you clothe their slanders with your official robes it is a lame and cowardly defense on your part to protect yourself by skulking behind miserable newspaper scribblers. I called your attention to the injustice of your charge, not the charge of newspapers, which I have again quoted for the purpose of calling your attention to the charge you made, supposing you were an honorable man and would retract the charges at once, if you are unable to prove them. Instead of doing so, you repeat other stale slanders against Mr. Bryan, myself, Senator Sharon, Governor Stanford and others, which if true, do not prove your charge against Mr. Bryan.

I shall not reiterate in kind and quote what venal newspapers, or even respectable men, say of you, because it is not pertinent to the issue. The issue whether you have unjustly and without truth assailed the character of Mr. Bryan. You cannot avoid that issue by pretending that you only repeated a falsehood which somebody else originated. Do you fear the repeating of a falsehood, and ascribing it to irresponsible parties, will impair your influence in favor of the cause you are advocating? You must remember, my dear senator, that there is a sense of public justice, which is outraged by slander and libel which you cannot justify by claiming you have a right to repeat it because you had not the courage to originate it. If you have no case against Mr. Bryan, which you have already virtually admitted by citing incompetent hearsay to prove your charges, your slanders will be harmless, so far as he is concerned, but can you afford to be published to the world as a peddler of slander which you cannot prove? If you have any friends who supposed that you were both honest and brave they will be sorely disappointed if you fail to frankly avow your error and retract your slanders which I have quoted above."

CHICAGO, August 18.—When asked by a reporter for the United Press if he had read the reply of Senator Stewart to his letter regarding the charge against Mr. Bryan, the senator said he had glanced over it, and did not think he would answer it, because he had not the time.

LINCOLN, Neb., August 19.—Senator Thurston has given out through this morning's press reports that his statements concerning Mr. Bryan's employment by the silver miners was based on hearsay evidence, and that he is forced to admit that the charge was wholly without foundation in fact. He then proceeds in a long tirade against Senator Stewart which he will have to take back in the same manner in a very few weeks.

Small income and big interest and taxes.

Big income and small taxes.

—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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Big income and small taxes.

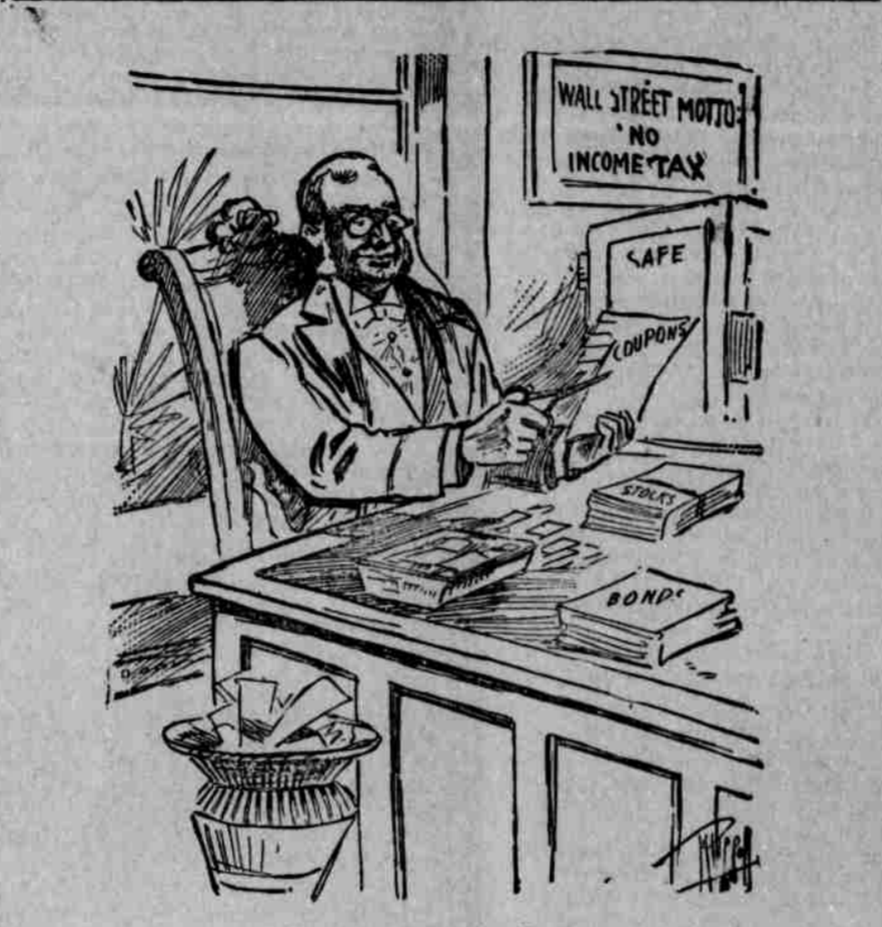
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—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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