

The Nebraska Independent.

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CORRUPTIONIST PIPER

He Creates a Big Row Among the Republican Editors of the State.

EACH PAPER TO BE TAXED \$100.

To Assist in Re-electing that Official as Secretary of State.

A Pretty How Do You Do.

A well known citizen of Norfolk, Neb., a man thoroughly reliable and who is generally given the credit for knowing what he is talking about sends us the following communication. He assures us that every statement contained therein can be verified.

The populist and democratic papers of Nebraska have frequently alluded to the \$30,000 which will be paid to the republican newspapers as a republican campaign fund, and now the startling revelation has leaked out that this \$30,000, or a part of it, is actually and truly a genuine republican campaign fund being used to boost our present secretary of state, J. A. Piper, into a second term of office. This is a glaring accusation to make against a state official who has taken a solemn oath to uphold the dignity and honor of our great commonwealth, but what makes the accusation more glaring is the fact that we have pretty good proof that it is true.

The next day after the meeting of the Northeastern Nebraska Press association, held at Wayne, Neb., not long since, I overheard two editors talking on the streets of Norfolk. I was just out of their view at an open window and could hear every word they said, which in substance was that the matter of printing the proposed constitutional amendments was brought up before the association at Wayne, and one republican editor came right out openly and above board and stated that Mr. Piper had made him promise to give \$100 of the printing money to his campaign fund before he would designate his paper as one in which the amendments should be published. Others gave them to understand that it was the same in their counties and that it was pretty much the same all over the state. What do you think of this, "free born Americans?" Is such a man as that a proper person to fill the honored and responsible office of secretary of state? Since I heard that conversation I have been told that a secret organization of many republican editors in all parts of Nebraska has been perfected, each member of which has taken a solemn oath or obligation to do all in their power to send Piper up "Salt creek" on the 3d of November, and if they are as sincere and earnest as I have heard they are, he will be defeated by an overwhelming majority, as any man should be who would use such ignoble means to force himself into office. A man who would rob the starving printers of their just earnings in order to ride to office would doubtless do more unscrupulous things after he is in. We believe it the solemn duty of every law-abiding citizen of Nebraska to rise up and invite Mr. Piper to stay at home, by their ballots on the 3d day of November, 1896.

The Middle of the Roaders.

A remarkable political convention was held in this city this morning. It was a state convention of the middle-of-the-road republican hosts, a convention of those republicans that still adhere to the principles of that party as advocated by Lincoln, Grant, Blaine and the martyred Garfield. It was a convention of those republicans who are unwilling to give up the faith of a life time for the new faith of Marcus A. Hanna. They met that they might still preserve that party which boasts of its grand record in the past from the disgrace that now threatens it.

The middle-of-the-road republican convention met this morning at the Lincoln hotel. Every county in the state was represented.

The first order of business to come up was the nomination of a governor.

Hon. Robert Armstrong of York county and C. O. Loback of Douglas county were placed in nomination. As a result of the ballot Armstrong received one hundred and fifty-six and Loback fifty-four. Armstrong was declared the nominee. The following were placed in nomination for lieutenant governor Hon. C. A. Peters Lancaster, and Hon. W. T. Leenhof of Douglas county. The ballot resulted in the nomination of Peters.

The rules were suspended and T. S. Perry of Saunders county was nominated by acclamation for secretary of state.

Under a similar motion the following were nominated for the offices indicated: James R. Harris, Lancaster county, auditor of public accounts.

Samuel A. Bryant, Dawes county, state treasurer.

J. L. McInnno, superintendent of public instruction.

James D. Pattison, Dawes county, commissioner of public lands and buildings.

John M. Lynda, Cass county, attorney general.

The following were nominated for presidential electors: W. F. Leonhardt, Douglas; Michael Morrissey, Cass county, electors at large, and A. Behnke, R. A. Williams, J. E. Lamb, H. Henry, Dawson county, were named as district delegates.

F. L. Rose was elected chairman of the state committee and R. A. Williams secretary.

Ring resolutions were adopted condemning the new leadership of Marcus A. Hanna which aspired to control the destinies of this grand nation, and declared emphatically for the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

Stirring speeches were made by a number of the delegates present in support of the platform and tickets.

The secretary of state refused to file the certificate of nomination of the middle-of-the-road republicans. The matter will be carried into the supreme court and an attempt will be made to compel him to recognize the new ticket. While the convention as called by Mr. Rose was in session a number of McKinleyites met and held what they thought was a convention under the call of Mr. Rose and nominated a regular ticket duplicating the nominations of the state republican convention two months previous. They rushed up to the secretary of state's office with their certificate and had the same filed.

What the Traitors Did.

Effort has been made to secure fusion of democrats and populists in Indiana. But this failed, and the populists have put up separate electors. The democrats were willing to concede the populists three or four electors; the special committee "middle-of-the-road" demanded seven, and all fusion contingent on the withdrawal of Mr. Sewall by the national committee. The demands were made so exorbitant purposely to be impossible of fulfillment. Paul VanDervoort of Omaha, a co-worker with Senator Thurston, was at Indianapolis working against fusion.

Indiana is close and VanDervoort and that ex-rebel Charles X. Mathews, think they have Bryan beaten in that state, but instead of that, they will find that they will have only wrecked the populist party in Indiana.

THE LAST CHANCE

If Plutocracy wins in four years there will be no free ballot.

Workingmen, this is the last chance you will have to assert your privileges as freemen, unless you elect W. J. Bryan to the presidency. If he is not elected, you may as well bid a long farewell to your boasted freedom, for before another national election you will be deprived of all the rights of citizenship. Your elections will be under the control of United States marshals, and no matter how you vote, the count will be made to suit those in charge of the machine. These are no idle words, but they are truths that it will be unsafe even to print in a few more years, should the tory gang get another grip on the country at the November election. Men, be worthy of the name—and strike one decisive blow now, for your liberty, before it is everlastingly too late. Vote for Bryan and perpetuate your independence, for if you vote for another candidate you simply throw away your rights as men.—South Omaha Sun.

Please Read This.

We have for some time presented in our columns the announcement of the Oxford Merchandise company of Chicago. We have it on the authority of our Chicago representative that this firm is a most worthy one, honorable in its business methods, with a long standing record for fair dealing. Now that the season is approaching for laying in supplies of merchandise, etc., we ask those of our readers who intend making purchases to write to the Oxford Merchandise company for their catalogue of prices, and to be particular to mention this paper. We make this request as in all cases where concerns like the Oxford are liberal advertisers in our paper. It helps our paper, and we believe our people should patronize those advertisers who are friendly to their journals, and not those who boycott them and only advertise in papers that are against us.

Best Work on Finance.

Holdrege, Neb., Oct. 3, 1896
To THE EDITOR—Will you please inform me in your next paper where I can obtain a standard work on finance embodying the financial legislation of this country from 1892 to the present time. I like your paper first rate.
An old greenbacker for 28 years.
E. Y. CORNELL.

The best work on finance ever printed is the speech of J. P. Jones delivered in 1893. Send 25 cents to Bimetallic League, Sun Building Washington, D. C. and get it.—Ed.

PRIVATES VS GENERALS

The Grandest Political Demonstration Thus far Held in the City of Lincoln This Campaign.

GENERALS' ORDERS IGNORED.

Speaker of the Evening, J. Burrows Hurls an Avalanche of Argument Against Goldbugs.

Privates Now Give Orders.

The largest crowd that has assembled in Bohannan's hall for any political meeting during the campaign was that of last Saturday night to hear the privates answer the generals. Ever since the distinguished military gentlemen visited Lincoln to tell the Nebraska veterans how to vote there has been no little indignation on the part of the latter at the presumption of the former. The meeting of last Saturday night was arranged to give the old soldiers of Nebraska an opportunity to present their side of the case and protest against the action of those who commanded in war calling them repudiationists and anarchists because they do not now propose to follow their leadership.

There were over one hundred veterans present, all members of the Bryan's Veteran club. They were loudly cheered as they entered the hall. Two hundred university students entered the building in a body and made the hall ring with their yells for Bryan and free silver—yells such as only college boys know how to give.

Attorney General Leese presided. In stating the object of the meeting, he said:

We meet here tonight in behalf of the old veterans of the Bryan club. Last Tuesday we heard the generals call us anarchists and repudiationists. Tonight we meet and shall hurl our declaration back at them and brand it as a lie.

We will first listen to a song by a chorus of 100 University students. The boys sang well and it is to be hoped the people of Lincoln will have an opportunity to hear them often during the campaign.

General Leese then introduced Comrade Jay Burrows who ably answered the arguments of the generals.

Mr. Burrows expressed his regret that there was a republican meeting in town "otherwise we might have had a larger crowd." The audience was not slow in catching the irony of the remark.

Mr. Burrows said he did not hear any arguments from the generals—nothing but assertions. It was a new custom for these generals to come out here to instruct us how to vote.

I have no disrespect for them, we know by history that they are all brave men. I reported to one of them personally after the battle of Bull Run. As soldiers and citizens I hold them in the highest respect and esteem.

The only thing the speaker heard in the entire speech of General Alger was his assertion that the silver men were repudiationists. The speaker here read from a little book published in Washington in which Sherman said that the bond holder is a repudiator and dishonest in refusing to take the same kind of money as was borrowed. That is John Sherman on repudiation.

These men are great on patriotism. They are great on waving the bloody shirt. Gen. Stewart said cheap money meant cheap men. If this be true why was the country so prosperous during the years of the war when money was so cheap. People do not know what cheap money means. When they use that term they refer to the intrinsic value of the material. That has nothing to do with the value of money.

General Stewart had referred to the condition of England to show the prosperity of a country under the gold standard. Mr. Burrows then read from English statistics showing the concentration of wealth in that country, how the property, the land and everything was going into the hands of the few and making paupers of the many.

He also quoted from Robert P. Parker to the same effect, depicting a life of slavery of the working classes. This is the condition of England, the country which is alluded to as being so prosperous. General Booth, when he started out in his great and noble work, did it with the intention of bringing these people up to the standard of the cab horse. That was his standard. Would you call this a condition of prosperity?

In regard to Corporal Tanner's criticism of Bryan Mr. Burrows said that there are a certain class of men in this country who are enemies to the country. They are enemies to mankind. They are attempting to fasten

gold standard on this country. The object is to reduce the common people to a condition of servitude. I believe this is their intention. However, I do not think Mr. Bryan intended using the word in this sense, he merely meant his political enemies.

They say that Mr. Bryan is losing his mind. He might lose part of it. He might have part of his great brain removed but he would still be more than a match for the champions of Hannaism. (This remark was greeted with cheers lasting several minutes. Men got on chairs and waved their hats, ladies waved their handkerchiefs and paudemonium reigned for a few minutes.) Corporal Tanner said that thus far we have paid dollar for dollar on our debt. The speaker quoted from John Clark Ridpath showing the dishonest manner in which the bondholders have manipulated the sale of bonds.

He showed the fallacy of the 50 cent dollar argument of the generals. He said the only value of money is value in exchange. There is no such thing as intrinsic value. Intrinsic value adheres in the thing. "I do not care what the dollar is made out of" said the speaker. "If the government stamps it and gives it the legal tender power it is a dollar and is worth 100 cents.

There was nothing in the 50-cent dollar argument. Every man knows that under free coinage the silver bullion would be worth as much as the coined product.

He said there was one thing that amused him and that was the statement of General Sikes about the pleased smiles Mr. Bryan always wore. Certainly no man had a better right to wear a pleased smile than he.

He referred to the crises of American history. The first was in 1776, when the issue was the right of the people to free and independent government. The issue in the second crisis was the right of the black men to their liberty. The third crisis is the present one, in which the yoke of the white slaves is about to be thrown off and the leader in this crisis, the champion of truth, the central figure of the civilized world, is the Hon. W. J. Bryan. [Great applause followed this tribute to Mr. Bryan.]

The university glee club was then announced and sang in characteristic style, "There is a Man in Our Town and His Name is Bryan."

Col. L. C. Pace was the next speaker. He said "The constitution of the United States while it provides that there should be no titled lords in this country did not provide that there should be money lords.

Generals were used to giving command. After receiving big salaries all their lives, they come out here to make broad and general declarations. They say we want honest money. So do the boys in blue who were under you. Corporal Tanner said if there is a man who, after enduring the horrors of Andersonville, wishes to vote for McKinley, don't say aught to offend him. To turn the figure if there is a patriot who, after years of hardship and suffering the horrors of civil war in defense of human liberty, if he would now forget his post and vote for the money power, and could vote to reduce the American people to a condition of serfdom don't say aught to mar his feelings.

Mr. Bryan may be poor in money but he is rich in principle, rich in right and rich in his devotion to the people. Is not that the kind of man we want for president?

In speaking of the attempted dictation of the generals he said: "You wish to dictate to us to vote for the money power. But this impulse to vote as we please, this impulse to determine for ourselves our opinions will not be given up, not even at the command of generals.

Trying to Bribe.

There is abundant evidence that republican money is being used in Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri and several other close states, to prevent a fusion on electors between the populists and democrats. It is very probable that some sensational developments will soon be made in all these states and the most gigantic plot disclosed to divide the silver forces and perpetuate the infamous reign of the gold power.

WATSON'S SPEECH FOR SALE.

Copies of the supplement to this paper containing Tom Watson's entire speech for sale at 2 cents per copy or \$1.50 per 100. Cash must accompany all orders. Address NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Reformers Unting.

The populists and democrats of Salt Lake county, Utah, have united on a county ticket. The populists, take four of the candidates and the democrats get the rest. The populists in that section have heretofore been among the strongest middle-of-the-roaders in the country. The logic of events is doing more to unite reformers than anything else.

CALIFORNIA IS SAFE

Hundreds of Republicans Stumping the State for Bryan.

ALL JOIN HANDS OUT THERE.

One Republican Club Two Thousand Five Hundred Strong.

Another Free Silver Senator.

Some time ago an item was printed in this paper to the effect that there was a republican Bryan club at Los Angeles, California, having a membership of 2,000. Mr. Charles A. Cook thought he would write out there and see if the story was true. He received the following answer:

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 23, 1896.

I have just come from the republican silver club. Their pledge is only to vote for silver and they number tonight 2250. All are republicans.

When the democrats in the convention nominated a man for congressman he came on the stage and thanked the convention for the honor and, then said: "Gentlemen of this convention, any time you want me to step out of the way and work for any good silver man, I am ready. Anything for Bryan and silver."

He was taken down and a populist fused on. In this state they have fused in every district for congressman.

We expect to have the state legislature so as to send a silver senator this winter.

The Bryan silver club, another club that takes in any one that is for Bryan has between three and four thousand. The majority of the free silver speakers on the stump here are old line republicans. California is all safe. Last Saturday night we opened the wigwag and shall hold meetings in it from now on.

The night the republicans came down here from San Francisco, the speaker was talking in a hall holding about 8,500 and all sat and listened for a few minutes and they had cheered him a few times and he began to feel good and was singing McKinley's name (thought).

Then he spoke Bryan's name, and my God! Didn't you hear the yell in Lincoln? The yell drove him to a stand still for fifteen minutes.

Can you swear that Nebraska is safe for Bryan? We shall carry Ohio by 20,000.

Write me about Nebraska and tell me how the populists are going to stay by Bryan.

THOMAS JORDAN.
[Well, all the populists in Nebraska—about 70,000 in number—will stay by Bryan except three. Their names are VanDervoort, Deef, and Clark, and these three deserters will cost Hanna a pile before he gets rid of them.—Ed.]

The Court Sustained Them.

There is just now a wonderful amount of interest being taken by the republican politicians in the probable outcome of the contests which will be precipitated by the filing of the certificates of nomination by the bolting democrats. Matters affecting that organization of the democratic party for the time being seem to more thoroughly engross the attention of republicans than their own party organization.

Each year almost, since the adoption of the present ballot law, has brought up questions under it for the decision of the courts. In the present juncture the history of some of these cases, and the declaration of the courts, are of interest.

In 1894, when the thirty-six bolted from the Omaha democratic state convention and gathered around the punch bowl in the Paxton hotel cafe, they named candidates for offices to be voted for at the ensuing election. These bolters called themselves democrats, and filed with the secretary of state what they called a certificate of nomination made by the "convention of delegates representing the democratic party in Nebraska." The certificate of the regular convention officers was also filed, and the secretary of state decided that the bolters were not entitled to use the name of democrat, and must go on the ticket, if at all, merely by petition. The supreme court sustained this ruling of the secretary.

The bolters' candidate went on by petition, and last year they again came up with their petition. The regulars asked the supreme court to issue its writ to prevent the secretary of state from putting the nominees of the bolter's convention on the official ballot as democrats. The regulars and the bolters were all put on the ballots, with the designation of democrats.

During the progress of these cases, both before the secretary of state and before the supreme court, there was a strong point made by the attorneys for the bolters that the gatherings were the true democratic conventions, because they represented the principles of the democratic party. To show that they did represent the principles of that party the platform of the democratic national convention of 1894 was read and interpreted according to their understand-

ing. The national convention was cited as the supreme arbiter in matters political.

THE COURT'S DECISION.

In the case last cited, which was docketed as Phelps against Piper, the court seemed to be proceeding on this theory when in the opinion in the case it was said:

"Political parties are voluntary associations for political purposes. They establish their own rules. They are governed by their own usages. Voters may form them, reorganize them and dissolve them at their will. The voters ultimately must determine every such question. The voters constituting a party are indeed the only body who can determine between contending factions and contending organizations. The question is one essentially political and not judicial in its character. It would be alike dangerous to the freedom of elections, the liberty of voters and to the dignity and respect which should be entertained for judicial tribunals for the courts to undertake in any case to investigate either the government, usages or doctrines of political parties and to exclude from the official ballots the names of candidates placed in nomination by an organization which a portion of, or perhaps, a large majority of the voters professing allegiance to the particular party believed to be the representative of its political doctrine and its party government. We doubt even whether the legislature has power to confer upon the courts any such authority. It is certain, however, that the legislature has not undertaken to confer it.

In the syllabus the court said: "The question as to which one of two factions of a political party is the true representative of such political party, is rather a political than a judicial question."

There was a seeming conflict in their opinion with the doctrine, that the secretary of state should determine from extraneous evidence whether the certificate was what it purported to be or not—whether the parties presenting it were representatives of the political party named.

From the arguments of the attorneys for the bolters and the apparent theory of the court in declining to take jurisdiction it is construed by the democrats that there was a transferring of these political questions, the proper determination of which depends upon rules of party usage, to the party tribunals. They also contend that there was a transfer to such party tribunal, the highest in the land, the one cited by the attorneys of the bolters, the democratic national convention which met at Chicago last July.

The decision of that supreme tribunal in party matters the democrats claim was against the "bolters" when the convention unseated their delegates and seated the delegates sent by the regular democratic convention.

To decide differently now would be to say that there can be more than one party in the state all claiming the right to use the same party designation, and that neither the secretary of state, the courts nor the party national convention can decide as to the regularity of contending factions.

Broken Promises.

Several speakers after agreeing with the state central committee to fill appointments have failed to keep their promises and many complaints from the localities where they were billed have been filed with the editor of this paper and the state committee. Chief among these sinners has been Mr. Harrington. A correspondent at Long Pine writes as follows:

"Will you kindly investigate and let the people know what is the matter with Mr. Harrington, he is billed for three points on this road and up to this time has failed to keep two of the appointments. He was to have been at Newport the 28th, Long Pine the 29th and Ainsworth the 30th. We have understood that Mr. Harrington was billed for these points by the free silver central committee. Now we would certainly like to know why he failed us. There was the largest crowd in Long Pine the 29th inst., that has ever gathered there on any occasion, and there was considerable disappointment and I am afraid that we have lost several votes thereby. Please give us some explanation if you possibly can.

Growing Desperate.

The depth of desperation to which the goldbugs are driven in their fight on silver is shown by their action in the Seventh Kentucky congressional district where the republicans and gold democrats have united and will support "Billy" Madeline Pollard Breckenridge for congress.

Watson in Nebraska.

The New Era wants to extend its personal thanks to our esteemed Populist friend, Hon. T. Tibbles, for his beautiful editorial tribute to Tom Watson in this week's Nebraska Independent. We have read many pretty things of Mr. Bryan, but none that pays a higher tribute than Mr. Tibbles's eulogy of Watson. Mr. Tibbles is a populist, and that means a great deal.—Wahoo New Era.