

# State Historical Society The Nebraska Independent

## The Wealth Makers and Lincoln Independent Consolidated.

VOL. VIII.

LINCOLN, NEBR., THURSDAY, Oct. 22, 1896.

NO. 20

### SURE WITH UNION

The National Populist Executive Committee Speaks Plainly to Its Voters.

### W. J. BRYAN OUR CANDIDATE.

Populists are Patriots and are Against Mark Hanna and Boodie Always.

Joint Electoral Tickets Everywhere. The populist national committee held a meeting in Chicago October 13, and issued the following address: TO THE PEOPLE'S PARTY VOTERS OF THE UNITED STATES.

Your national committee indulged the hope that patriotic action of the people's party in national convention in subordinating the interests of party to the success of the vital issues involved in this campaign would be met by equally unselfish devotion to a common interest on the part of the democratic party and that all the friends of silver could present a solid front against the minions of greed by supporting one ticket, the truly co-operative ticket, Bryan and Watson. But this was disappointed, and there were but two courses left us, one of which must be adopted. First, to run a straight Bryan and Watson electoral ticket in every state, which, on account of the failure of the democratic party to support this ticket would have elected the same result in this campaign that would have followed the nomination of a straight populist ticket at St. Louis, namely, the election of McKinley and the triumph of the gold standard.

It is true that the democratic party would be responsible even to a greater extent than ourselves for such a result, but to permit evils to triumph on such grounds would convict us as well as them of a lack of patriotism and a narrow partisanship that would deservedly forfeit to us the confidence of the American people. Remember that two wrongs never make a right.

#### COUNTRY COMES FIRST.

When our devotion to the welfare of the people falters because of any failure on the part of the democratic or any other party, then, indeed, will we have lowered our standard and proven ourselves false to our own teachings and repudiated our own motto, of country first and men and parties second. The brave, enlightened voters who constitute the rank and file of the people's party are incapable of such base betrayal of their country as would result from a division in the ranks of those opposing the machinations of the confederated money power of the two continents against the homes and liberties of the American people and would repudiate any action on the part of their leaders opposed to united effort at this time as they repudiated the old parties for treachery to their interests.

The other course left open for your committee that was consistent with the action of the convention in nominating Mr. Bryan was to do everything in its power to unite the voters of the country against McKinley and to overcome the obstacles and embarrassments, which, if the democratic party had put the cause first and party second, we would not have encountered.

#### DIVIDING THE ELECTORS.

This could be accomplished only by arranging for a division of the electoral vote in every state possible, securing so many electors for Bryan and Watson, and conceding so many to Bryan and Sewall. At the opening of the campaign this, under the circumstances, seemed the wisest course for our committee and it is clearer today than ever that it was the only safe and wise course if our votes are to be cast and made effective for the relief of an oppressed and outraged people. Following this line of policy your committee has arranged electoral tickets in three-fourths of the states and will do all in its power to make the same arrangement in all of the states. By perceiving this arrangement and every sincere opponent of the gold standard giving loyal support to these joint electoral tickets, the people's party will not only secure in the electoral college for Bryan and Watson several times as many votes as we could have possibly secured by making a straight fight, but we will secure the defeat of McKinley and the gold standard, which should now be the greatest desire of every citizen who believes in the principles of true democracy.

By this plan we can unite a large majority of the voters on our joint electoral tickets, therefore, the only hope of the money power and trusts is to divide us and conquer. The republican managers and their democratic allies realize this and are putting forth every effort to accomplish this end.

#### WORK OF THE GOLDBITES.

They have their emissaries on hand everywhere trying to prevent joint electoral tickets from being arranged—failing in this they try to find populists and silver democrats who can be induced, on one pretext or another to rebel against the joint electoral tickets. The danger lies in the possibility of a certain portion of the rank and file of the populist party being misled by so-called leaders who, for reasons best known to themselves, or for want of reason, are advising voters to rebel against the joint electoral tickets, or to withhold their support from the joint electoral tickets. Some of the democrats of the revenue stripe, who are not yet weaned from the flesh-pots of Egypt, are sticklers for regularity and are nominally supporting Mr. Bryan, while secretly and in every

underhanded way are trying to accomplish his defeat, are advising against the joint electoral tickets and failing in this they advise democrats to scratch party electors and already a few so-called populist leaders are advising the rank and file of our party to strike back by refusing to support the democratic electors on the joint electoral tickets. This is a trap set by the goldbugs, who are rejoicing that a few honest men have fallen into it. These reports today are the only thing that buoy up the hopes of the republican managers, and the democrats and populists who are thus engaged are doing just what the gold men most desire. Therefore, we appeal to every populist, who may have been misled by such mistaken or false pleas of pretended loyalty to the people's party in refusing to support such joint electoral tickets, to stop and consider the results of such conduct and refuse to be influenced by either misguided or corrupt men.

#### THAT CORRUPTION FUND.

The one and only hope of the republican party to win in this campaign and fasten the gold standard upon the country is the corrupt use of an unlimited supply of money, for bribery, corruption and intimidation. The patriotic action of the people's party in forming and supporting the joint electoral tickets has shattered that hope. Already they are alarmed at the impotency of a boodie campaign, when all of the great moral forces of the people are solidly united in the defense of American institutions. The revulsion of the American people against this boodie campaign, during the last ten days has so united them that victory is now assured.

The people's party will be the party of the future. The American people will recognize it as the agency which saved the day when their interests were at stake; the American people will rally around its banner as the party to contend against the enemy of good government in the future. Every man to his post and the victory is won.

MARION BUTLER Chairman.  
J. R. SOVEREIGN,  
H. W. REED,  
GEORGE F. WASHBURN,  
JOHN W. BRIDENTHAL,  
M. C. RANKIN,  
C. F. TAYLOR,  
J. A. EDGERTON, Secretary.

#### HON. BILL DECK.

He Occupied the Whole Road at Hickman.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT.—The republican campaign committee punished this town severely last night by sending William Hurricane Deck (Middle of the road pop) down here to make a speech. He arrived at 2 o'clock and went at once to the saloon where he remained nearly all the afternoon until time for the speaking at 8 o'clock, when he took "middle of the road pop" was really appropriate to his condition. However he reached the school house along with the republican men women and children of the town who listened to his harangue of abuse and profanity until they were thoroughly disgusted. Verily he came to his own and they received him but they like him not. Let the good work go on.

W. P. LARSH.

#### Presidential Election.

THORNBERG, Neb., Oct., 11, 1896.  
EDITOR INDEPENDENT.—I would like to ask for a little information through the columns of your paper. There is a good deal of dispute here over the electors. Some claim Bryan and Sewall and some Bryan and Watson. Please answer this through your paper and oblige,

Yours truly,  
MELVIN SPENCER.

#### ANSWER.

There are eight presidential electors. Four of them have heretofore been free silver democrats, and four populists. They will all vote for Bryan and four of them will vote for Watson and four for Sewall. That seems to be the only way to down the money power.

#### BRYAN IN NEBRASKA.

Will Swing Around the Circle the Day Before Election.

Chairman Dahlman of the democratic state central committee has just announced the itinerary for Mr. Bryan's tour through the state on the day preceding the election. He will make the tour in a special train, comprising an engine and one car. Leaving Lincoln at 6:45 a. m., he will make brief speeches from the car platform at Seward, Aurora, Grand Island, Hastings, Harvard, Saronville, Sutton, Grafton, Fairmont, Exeter, Friend, Dorchester, Crete, Lincoln and Omaha. The cities will be visited in the order named, and Omaha will be reached at 8:03 p. m., after a ride of 292 miles.

From McKinley Town.  
SHELTON, NEB., Oct., 13, 1896.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT.—Enclosed is an extract from a letter received Sept. 23d from Stark county Ohio.

#### Mrs. JOHN STEBBINS.

The enclosure was as follows: "We have nothing but politics here. In every part of the state they are discussing free silver. I went to Cleveland to see Bryan and think it was the largest and most enthusiastic crowd I was ever in. There was a procession of 5000 from Canton. They had a banner upon which were the words 'From McKinley Town.' The populists and democrats have great hopes of carrying the state."

### MUTUAL INSURANCE.

Governor Holcomb Always an Advocate of it.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, LINCOLN, NEB., October 10, 1896. Mr. L. P. Kruse, Beatrice, Nebraska. My Dear Mr. Kruse: I have your favor of the 9th instant and thank you for calling my attention to the report being circulated by our enemies in Beatrice to the effect that, during the last session of the legislature, I vetoed a bill extending certain privileges to life insurance orders. I do not know of any such bill having been introduced in the legislature, and I know that no measure of this description was presented to me for my approval. It is one of a long series of campaign falsehoods which are being circulated by unscrupulous politicians in their desperation because of the knowledge that Nebraska voters have set their faces toward honest state government.

You will probably, also, be confronted with the statement that I am opposed to mutual insurance, despite the fact that I have, at all times and under all circumstances, advocated the organization and encouragement of mutual and fraternal societies and organizations. During the last session of the legislature a bill was introduced providing for the organization of mutual fire companies in cities and villages. The bill was first drafted by Mr. Lichty of Richardson county, author of the farm mutual law, which is now on our statute books. This bill, as drafted by Mr. Lichty, contained all of the provisions of the farm mutual law and provided amply for the protection of policy holders. Astute lawyers examined this bill and, in their wisdom, decided that it was too voluminous. Under their direction the bill was cut down until it was only a skeleton of the well proportioned measure drawn up by the friend of mutual insurance. In this form the bill was passed by the legislature and presented to me for my approval in the closing hours of the session.

I examined it and was at once impressed with the serious defects existing in the measure. A comparison of our farm mutual law with the vetoed bill, by any one who will take the trouble to examine them, will disclose readily the imperfections in the last act. I was of the opinion, and have no reason to change my belief, that if it became a law it would result in the organization of irresponsible companies, in serious loss to innocent policy holders, and would bring mutual insurance into disrepute in the state, resulting in irreparable damage to farm mutual companies already existing under our present law. I felt that it would be better to wait two years more and get a bill passed by a legislature friendly to mutual insurance which would cover all the ground as does the farm mutual law. Had this skeleton bill been presented to me during the session of the legislature I would have unhesitatingly vetoed it and at once have had introduced in its stead a bill which would have offered sufficient protection to policy holders and have been a strength to mutual insurance. If I am re-elected, I shall see to it that such a bill is introduced and, if passed by the legislature, I will be glad to approve of it. I make you this full explanation for your information in case this attack is made on me in Gage county, as it has been elsewhere.

In this connection I desire to call your attention to the plank in the populist state platform relating to mutual insurance and which has my hearty approval: "We hold that the formation of mutual and fraternal associations for the protection of their members against loss by fire, death and accident, is a right of the American citizen that should be fostered and protected by law and approved of the present valued policy law and demand its rigid and honest enforcement."

Now, note carefully the covert declaration of the republican platform: "We favor state legislation, with proper restrictions for the safety and protection of the people, under which mutual companies may be organized. The valued policy act should not be repealed or modified in any way that will destroy the equity of its provisions."

Our party can be relied upon to champion the cause of mutual insurance. The carefully worded declaration of the republican party is thrown out as a bait for voters, yet its saving clauses leave republican representatives as free as ever to attack mutual insurance and the present valued policy law, which by practical experience and the test of judicial decisions, have been found to answer every requirement of safe and sound insurance.

During the last session of the legislature I readily approved an act providing for the organization of mutual benefit associations and life insurance companies, the same chapter 42 of the session laws of 1895. I have at all times been a friend to mutual insurance and have never hesitated in expressing my approval of laws which will keep the money expended by our people as premiums within the state. Again thanking you for calling my attention to the other matter, I am,  
Very cordially,  
SILAS A. HOLCOMB.

The next national house of representatives will be for free silver and Nebraskans should vote for the men who will be in harmony with the western spirit that will dominate congress. A vote for Judge Broady will be such a vote. Congressmen who are wedded to tariff agitation will be of little avail, as no tariff measure can be gotten through the senate for the next four years unless concessions are made for the free coinage of silver.

### BRYAN TRAVELING MEN

Proclaim Their Reasons for Their Advocacy of the Doctrine of Free Coinage.

IT WILL STIMULATE TRADE.

And Restore the Confidence That is so Necessary to Business Prosperity.

By Giving a Rising Market.

At the last meeting of the Bryan Travelling Men's club of this city the following resolutions were submitted and adopted:

Whereas, The advocates of the single gold standard have persistently sought to deceive the public into a conviction that the traveling men of the nation are as a class favorable to the maintenance of that financial policy and allied to the misnamed "sound money" party; now therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the Bryan Traveling Men's club of Lincoln, Neb., with a membership of 150, all residents of the city of Lincoln, denounce as unwarranted by the facts the claim that the traveling men are as a class favorable to the single gold standard, and proclaim our sincere conviction that 75 per cent of the traveling men whose homes are in the west are earnest supporters of the Hon. W. J. Bryan and advocates of the free coinage of both gold and silver at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1 without waiting for the aid or consent of any foreign nation.

We believe that the patriotic people of this country are not yet ready to bow to the dictation of any foreign power or seek the permission of England or any other nation to legislate in the interests of the American people. We resent any denial of the right and the ability of the people of the United States to legislate for their own best interests, which right and ability have never until now been questioned since the surrender of the British sword at the close of America's struggle for independence.

We believe the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 to be essential to the progress of the republic and the prosperity of its people and its business interests. We feel assured that the demonetization of silver, by reducing the supply of primary money to about one-half its former value has made money so dear that it no longer flows through its wonted channels of industry, enterprise and trade, as the present owners of the limited supply of money find it more profitable to hoard it and enjoy the unearned profit arising from its appreciation than to employ it in the uses for which money was created.

We realize that dear money makes cheap labor and cheap property. Cheap labor paralyzes industry, and cheap property and products destroy commerce, upon the life and prosperity of which depends the prosperity of the traveling men. Falling markets are always the inevitable effect of the single gold standard, and when products and merchandise are on the decline, trade cannot prosper, for the merchant declines to purchase when threatened by decreasing values. When there is more money than there is business the purchasing power of money decreases, and there is more profit in trading in property and merchandise than there is in hoarding money. The hoarded money of the world, which is growing less valuable, is brought out of its hiding places and poured into the channels of trade in return for property, which is growing more valuable. When there is more business than money, the purchasing power of money increases and it again seeks the hiding places to profit from its own accretion, while property is growing cheaper.

The resumption of the free coinage of both gold and silver will increase the currency of the country, cheapen money and appreciate prices of labor and property. Increased prices will stimulate industry and quicken commerce. Merchants and manufacturers will be able to consistently engage in business without the fear that a falling market will prevent them selling their merchandise or products for less than the prices prevailing when they were purchased or manufactured.

In the proportion that the gold standard depreciates the property of the world, it appreciates the purchasing power of the vast sums paid each year by the people of this country to the capitalists of foreign nations to meet interest charges on our great indebtedness. Foreign money kings are reaping the sole benefits of the gold standard at the expense of the American people, and it is worse than folly for the latter to hope or expect that the money powers of those foreign countries will ever seek or consent to the abolition of a financial system that is pouring into their coffers the earnings of the industry of America. We believe that the only way to secure the establishment of international bimetallicism is for the United States to at once remonetize silver, when the other nations of the world, which will never do it otherwise, will be forced to return to bimetallicism to protect their commercial interests.

We recognize that the current campaign shibboleths of the gold standard advocates, "sound money," "an honest dollar" and "a policy of dishonesty and repudiation" are designed solely to de-

ceive the American people, and we recognize as the honest dollar that which is subject to the least appreciation or depreciation. The honest dollar is the dollar whose purchasing power does not fluctuate, and we believe that the silver dollar under a bimetallic financial system is such a dollar. We believe that it is not repudiation to offer to pay a debt with dollars of equal purchasing power with those received when the debt was incurred, and we believe that it is worse than repudiation for a creditor to demand dollars of a greater purchasing power than had those he loaned when the debt was created.

We believe that the return to bimetallicism in this country without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation would at once restore the confidence so necessary to the revival of trade and industry, upon which depends the welfare of the travelling fraternity, as well as that of the nation.

Ed M. FRIEND, Secretary.  
S. S. WRITING, President.

### STRAINING EVERY NERVE.

Free Passes Given Democrats to Get Them Where They Cannot Vote.

While outwardly the republican national committee manifests the utmost confidence in the result of election, developments of each succeeding day show that they are straining every nerve to secure every vote possible for McKinley and prevent every vote possible for Bryan.

Here in the city they have established agencies for the distribution of transportation to democrat or populist who can be induced to leave the city in time to lose their vote. Residents of Lincoln who could not otherwise secure transportation under any possible circumstances are furnished tickets for themselves and families to distant parts to visit. This is no idle rumor. It is known to be a fact.

Employees of corporations in this state suspected to be for free silver are being sent out of the state to work until the election, and men from outside the state who can lay any possible claim to residence here are being brought to the state by the railways and the republicans to help out the corporation cause.

An inmate of the soldiers' home at Leavenworth, Kas., writes a friend in this city that an agent of the republican national committee is now in that city arranging to send home to vote for McKinley such old soldiers as he finds to be afflicted with goldbuggism. They are furnished free transportation to any part of the United States. Quite a number of them are to be sent to Nebraska to attempt to vote in communities in which they have not resided for from six to eight years.

One cannot begin to conceive of the enormous expense that must attend this colonization system. It simply shows the desperate measures to which republicans feel compelled to resort.

### ALLEN IS COMING.

He Will Speak at Bohanan's Hall Saturday Afternoon and Evening.

Senator W. V. Allen will speak Saturday afternoon and evening at Bohanan's hall on the silver question. Several efforts have been made of late by the silver forces of this city to secure the senator for a speech or two, but up to the present time their efforts have been unsatisfactory. There are many in Lincoln who will be glad to hear the senator as he is one of the most forceful and logical speakers of the campaign. Everyone should bear in mind the date, Saturday afternoon and evening.

### WILL GIVE A BOND.

Norris Humphrey Nails a Campaign Lie Effectually.

To the voters of Lancaster county who are interested in the coming election I would say that it is reported that S. W. Beardsley, candidate for county treasurer, could not give the required bond if elected. There is not a man in Lancaster county that I would be more willing to go his bond than Mr. Beardsley. I have known him for the last fifteen years. He is honest, capable and responsible and would make an efficient and trustworthy official.

NORRIS HUMPHREY.

All of the populists who signed Bill Dech's petition as a populist candidate for congress have withdrawn their names, so that Bill now stands as a populist candidate on the petition solely of republicans. But Bill Dech and his manager continue to live high around the fetal-board of the republican state committee. He hasn't had so much fun since he swallowed a dose of poison in his room on Tenth street several years since, and his friends trotted him around and spaked him for twenty-four hours to keep him from yielding up his troubled ghost.

### DECH STRIKES A SNOW

Men on His Petition Ask to Withdraw Their Names From the Petition.

SIX PERSONS WILL FULLY

Leaving the Illustrious Bill Wagon out the Equivocal Fifty Signers.

Bad for BILL.

Another question involving a question of interpretation of the law has been presented to the committee of state. When W. H. Dech, the son of the road populist, became a candidate for congress in the Fourth district, had his name placed in nomination on a petition. Under the law of course he was only entitled to have the words "petition" follow his name, without other which will explain his party affiliation. It was necessary that he had fifty names to his petition, and he had fifty-five. Yesterday afternoon a letter was filed with the secretary of state signed by six of those persons had signed Dech's petition of nomination. The letter reads as follows:

Wahoo Neb., Oct. 14, 1896.—Hon. Secretary of State, J. A. F. Lincoln, Neb.—Dear Sir: We, the undersigned, who have previously signed a petition of Wm. Dech to make his name for congress in the Fourth (4th) district of Nebraska, do hereby most respectfully ask and request that our names be called or withdrawn from said petition which is now in your possession, greatly oblige, yours very respectfully,  
L. T. BURBANK,  
J. P. MILLER,  
H. W. BARNES,  
A. LEBER,  
JOHN M. RYAN,  
F. J. CHOLLY.

The question before the secretary on these signers have their names called off the petition if the application is before the certification is made by county clerks. The populists and the boys for the six men say that they have a right to have their names left on this is true Dech will not have a petition because it will lack one name having the number required by the state. As yesterday was the last day which nominations by petition could be made the nomination of Dech was good only in case he is allowed to file his petition after these names are stricken off.

### THEY GOT IN THE DITCH.

Not Half as Good a Place as the Middle of the Road.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT.—As the lecturer of the Farmers Alliance and industrial union, I am asked many questions as to how I stand on the question of the middle-of-the-road populists and being too busy to answer each separately, I beg the use of your column to reply to all at once. First, I will have been an Alliance man ever since the first organization of the Alliance in Second. I was one of the very first cases of independent political action. I have been a radical exponent of a middle-of-the-road idea and am yet in Omaha platform is too much for average voter to comprehend all at all. I have always thought, and yet still stand to adopt part at a time. I hasten, if we wait at the bottom of the mountain until we get sufficient strength to go up all the way at once, we will never get up at all. Neither want to sit at a table and stammer cause I can not swallow the whole at one mouthful.

Now I see that we have had sufficient strength to compel the democratic party at Chicago to adopt most of our form. In other words we have captivated the body of that party and cut the head of gold and thrown the head of the republican camp where it belongs. If we have had brains enough to cut the body we surely have brains enough to control the same in the future interest of the people. Therefore for Bryan and Watson and the state ticket from top to bottom on the road supervisor.

I hear some of the so-called middle-roads say they have a good to stay at home and not vote. I say they think they will vote the republican and the like. Now my good friends of the middle of the road, you got so far from the middle of the you are in the ditch instead. I see republicans are much interested in pops running an independent middle-road ticket and I see one Wm. Dech is making an independent republican congress. Now all this is to help the public gold bugs into power. I did the Nazarene of old, "He that is for us is against us." The fight year is between the gold bugs of the hard and Wall streets and the free of the American laborer and we voters we can get and every vote I half a vote for the plutocrats. Then my friends and fellow workers of Alliance, let us stand by our side through the fight of November 3, and not give aid and comfort to the enemy. A vote for Bryan and the populist state ticket is a vote for the ghost.  
J. M. HANCOCK  
State Lecturer F. A. &