

# The Nebraska Independent

Agricultural Experiment Station

## The Wealth Makers and Lincoln Independent Consolidated.

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### McKINLEY PROSPERITY

Mills Closing, Men Discharged, Banks Breaking.

### GOLD STANDARD GOOD TIMES.

The Same Old Story Which We Have Had for Twenty-Five Years.

### Have the People Had Enough?

DETROIT, Nov. 17.—The big Michigan Car Company's works have shut down indefinitely and 1,500 men are out of employment.

The works were reopened early in October, working night and day. During last week hands were laid off, little by little until last night the climax came, and those who were left were dismissed, and told they would be paid off tomorrow.

It is learned from a number of men who work in the shop that they were told by their foremen, prior to election day, that all hands would certainly work until Christmas, and after that the force would be increased to 4,000 men.

Charles L. Freer, the managing director was asked to verify the report, but sent back word that he was too busy to be disturbed.

A written synopsis of what the men had said was sent to Mr. Freer, with a request that he endorse or repudiate the statement. Mr. Freer sent the note back without endorsement, but the porter said Mr. Freer had told him that he would not be interviewed and would neither admit nor deny the statements. No cause for the shut down could be obtained, neither from Freer nor his business colleagues.

NEW YORK, Nov. 18.—It was announced in the tapestry mills of Alexander Smith's Sons' Carpet Company, in Yonkers last night, that one-half the force employed in the mill would be laid off on Friday and the remainder by Wednesday of next week, and the mill would then shut down.

It is understood the other mill of the company will follow this action and all will be closed down within two weeks. If that occurs 7,000 hands will be thrown out of work.

The cause given is that there is no market for carpet, and the company has manufactured stock ahead until it is overloaded with goods which must be disposed of before more is made.

Smith's is one of the largest, if not the largest, carpet manufacturers in the world. When working full time the mills turn out 50,000 yards of carpet a day.

The announcement of the coming shut down has caused much alarm and depression among Yonkers tradesmen, who fear a repetition of the state of affairs which followed a shut-down of the mills in 1893. At that time many of the people who had earned their living in the mills had to be fed at soup houses supported by charity. It is officially stated at the mills that, after they close, they will not reopen before January, if then.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 19.—The East St. Louis Packing Company, which has a plant valued at \$4,000,000 in East St. Louis, and also maintained a large establishment in this city, has closed up its packing house on the east side and is selling off its property.

There has been very little margin in the pork packing business for the last year, and D. L. Yuirk, sr., the president and principal stockholder of the company, who is a very wealthy bank president of Ypsilanti, Mich., concluded that the small profits, at the present time, did not justify the risk incurred.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., Nov. 19.—J. K. Prugh & Co., wholesale and retail crockery dealers, failed here today with assets of about \$41,000 and liabilities of \$12,000.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., Nov. 19.—The First National bank of this city closed its doors today. The institution is an old one, and although it was known for some time to be hard pressed, much surprise is expressed at its failure. The bank examiner is not here and as yet no statement of its condition has been given out. The last statement, October 6, showed loans amounting to \$492,564.28 and deposits of \$537,998.57; capital and surplus, \$140,000.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Nov. 19.—Immediately after the election at Jackson, Ohio, and in the coal regions surrounding that place, the mine owners notified the operatives in the mines that the rate of sixty-one cents per ton for mining would no longer be allowed, but thereafter, only forty-five cents per ton would be paid.

CHICAGO, Nov. 19.—The Probst Construction company made an assignment in the county court today. The assignee is Gustave Wilks. The company is one of the largest constructing concerns in the country. Its headquarters are in New York. No statement was filed showing the amount of the liabilities or the assets.

It looks very much like a conspiracy

exists to play the people for fools, even after they have been used to bolster a fallacy and to enthrone error. A proof of this conspiracy comes from Kangley, Ill., where there are extensive glass works, and where the plant has been idle for a long time. During the campaign Charles Rathbun promised credulous voters that if McKinley was elected the fires would be lighted and smoke would again be seen curling from the chimneys. His promise was made good. The other day he sent a single ton of coal from Sireator and lighted a fire under the boilers, vindicating his pledge but setting no men to work. Eastern papers announced the fact that Kangley was on a boom, and thus the glass trade was "stimulated" and "confidence" restored. —Chicago Dispatch.

LAHARPE, Ill., Nov. 14.—The bank of LaHarpe closed its doors this morning, owing to lack of business and depressed times. The liabilities are estimated between \$50,000 and \$60,000.

GALVESTON, Texas, Nov. 14.—J. Rosenfeld & Co., wholesale military and notions, made an assignment today. M. Laeker was named as assignee. The partners are Adele Rosenfeld, Samuel J. Rosenfeld, N. E. Seligman and Abraham Rosenfeld. The liabilities are estimated at \$120,000 and nominal assets within a few thousand of the liabilities.

CHICAGO, Ill., Nov. 18.—The Pullman Palace Car company has reduced the wages of the employees in the big shops at Pullman 15 per cent. In addition, it is said, each re-employed workman must contract to live in the town of Pullman and pay rent to the company.

CHICAGO, Ill., Nov. 21.—The Illinois Steel company has given notice to its employees in the blast furnaces in operation at the South Chicago works that December 1 a reduced scale of wages will go into effect. Keepers will be paid \$2.40; helpers, \$1.80 and \$1.90; cinder snappers, \$1.75; iron carriers, \$2.20; top fillers, \$1.95; barrow men, \$0.80. This scale is called a readjustment of wages and not a cut by the company, although it cuts the wages of the "front side" men who got a 25 per cent increase by striking in July, 1895, from 15 to 20 per cent.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—The comptroller of the currency today ordered Bank Examiner Caldwell to close up the First National bank of Saginaw, Michigan.

Besides the above we have enough more notices of the closing down of mills, failures and bankruptcies to fill at least three more columns of the INDEPENDENT, but that would take more space than can be spared. They were all taken from our exchanges within three days. As a specimen of the false reports printed in the goldbug papers, a St. Louis paper in its list of new and revived industries, claimed to have a dispatch from Lincoln announcing the starting up of the West Lincoln Packing Company, with a large force of men which we all know was false.

### Denver's Reception to Bryan.

DENVER, Colo., Nov. 25.—If Mr. Bryan had come to Denver as the President-elect he would not have received any more enthusiastic greetings than those given to him to-day when he arrived to take part in the twentieth anniversary of the admission of Colorado to the Union. Before he was nominated for the Presidency, he had agreed to speak at the exercises. He was met at the depot by a committee, including T. M. Patterson, C. S. Thomas, Mayor McMurray and several thousand people, who swung their hats and cheered lustily. He was driven at once to the home of C. S. Thomas, where he breakfasted and remained until 10 o'clock.

At 10 o'clock Mr. Bryan went to the Brown Palace hotel to attend a reception given in his honor by the women of Denver. The interior of the hotel was decorated with flags and bunting. Mrs. T. M. Patterson, president of the Equal Suffrage association, presided. In introducing Mr. Bryan, she said: "It is my high privilege to present to you formally to-day our distinguished visitor, already well known to us and honored beyond words, for in him we see embodied the hope of our nation against the dangers that threaten from our very strongholds all liberty and progress. Through him we hope to see the national fabric of the future founded upon the Christ-given principle of the Golden Rule, and in prophetic vision we see the stone which the builders rejected at last become the head of the corner. Women of Colorado, I present to you the first president of the Twentieth century, William Jennings Bryan."

After the speaking the women filed past the stand, shaking hands with Mr. Bryan, while the Colorado state band played popular airs. Mr. Bryan was presented with a memorandum book of Colorado chased silver, having declined to receive any gift of great value.

In order to give the people an opportunity to hear him as well as see him on his carriage drive through the principal streets, Mr. Bryan will make half a dozen outdoor speeches.

Fred Trompen, the 9 year old son of Sheriff John Trompen, died at an early hour yesterday morning of diphtheria. Owing to the contagious character of the dread disease, the funeral was held as soon as possible after the demise, being of course strictly private.

### TOTAL VOTE NECESSARY

A Majority Thereof Held to Be Necessary to Carry an Amendment.

### SOME QUESTIONABLE FINDINGS

Suspicion That Conditions May Have Some Force in Prompting the Conclusions.

### Some Defective Returns.

The state canvassing board, comprising the governor, secretary of state, auditor, treasurer and attorney general, met yesterday to open and canvass the vote on presidential electors, regent of the university, contingent judges of the supreme court and constitutional amendments. When the returns were opened it was discovered that those from Nemaha and Blaine county were defective, which will delay completion of the work until they can be corrected. It will be several days before the returns can be tabulated and the result announced.

The board construes it to be its duty to canvass the vote for state officers, including regent of the university and judges of the supreme court, and presidential electors, although the abstract of the vote for presidential electors must be sent to the legislature and there formally canvassed. The last session of the legislature passed an act empowering this board to canvass the vote cast on constitutional amendments, the canvassing to be done "in the same manner" as in the case of the vote cast for state officers. The words of the statute "in the same manner" make it the duty of the board to announce the result and state whom they declare to be elected and whether or not the constitutional amendments have carried.

There is a general understanding among those who have consulted the members of the board that it will hold, in reference to the proposed constitutional amendments, that a majority of all the votes cast at an election are necessary to adoption, and will insist that in order to pass a constitutional amendment must receive an affirmative vote greater than one-half of the total vote of the state. It is believed that such a ruling will certainly kill every one of the proposed amendments. The one which this ruling is especially aimed to defeat is the one providing for an increase of the number of judges of the supreme court from three to five. Inasmuch as the additional judges would be the fusion contingent candidates, the republicans who constitute the canvassing board, true to the party precedents in this state, are willing to strain a point to defeat the election, and they will therefore tenaciously hold that a majority of all the votes cast at the election are necessary to adopt the amendments, although the vote on that question was cast in a different ballot box.

In order to thus hold the board must overlook a precedent established by Justice Maxwell, who, while a member of the supreme court, held that a majority of all votes cast for senators and representatives is required for the adoption of an amendment. There is a suspicion current that if the republican candidates for the contingent supreme judgeships had received a plurality of the votes, the canvassing board would have found a great deal of virtue in Judge Maxwell's decision, and would have unhesitatingly held that all other rulings on that point paled into utter insignificance beside it. But now, if the board holds the amendments to have passed, two fusionists will be given places on the supreme bench, and of course no precedent that would lead to such a condition can possibly be found to possess any virtue. In the light of such a finding, how silly and ridiculous appear the acts of this city government when, in its desire to secure the passage of certain propositions submitted to the people, it has repeatedly, while the vote was taken at a general city election, submitted the propositions by proclaiming a special election thereon.

There is a suspicion amounting almost to a certainty, that if the republican contingent candidates had received a majority of the votes, the canvassing board would have unhesitatingly declared that all that was necessary for the adoption of an amendment to increase the number of supreme justices was a majority of all the votes cast on that proposition.

Republicans have a peculiar habit of interpreting laws and precedents to best conceive republican interests. Their laws are built on the principle of the gun, which was built to "hit it if it is a deer and miss it if it is a calf." It was probably the guilty consciousness of their intentions in this matter that recently led republicans to the alleged sensational discovery that there was a project on foot to seat the fusion candidates for supreme justices in a revolutionary manner and in defiance of law.

There is a prospect of interesting developments ahead before this matter is settled, although the republicans cunningly enacted a measure in the last session designed to deprive the legislature of all authority in canvassing the vote on state officers.

Republicans have for years been annually declaiming against the necessity for delays in court work and litigation occasioned by the fact that the supreme justices are overworked and that there are not enough of them to carry on the work of the court expeditiously, and had the republican contingent candidates received the shadow of a plurality in the

late election the necessities of the hour would have been urged as a reason for declaring the amendment increasing the number of judges to have been carried in spite of adverse precedents. It would have been carried forward as a necessary measure of relief for the supreme court and the litigants of the state.

### Was Elliott Implicated in It?

The confession of Charles Elliott of the wild west show outfit that he killed his companion, Gay Hutsonpiller, in the Windsor hotel at Omaha by beating him over the head with a car coupling pin, recalls the death of another member of the wild west company on the occasion of the company's visit to this city. It will be remembered that Buffalo Bill's aggregation was in Lincoln October 14th, leaving the same night over the Union Pacific for the south. At 7 o'clock the next morning the engineer on the north bound train discovered about six miles south of Lincoln the body of a dead man lying beside the track. It was brought to this city. The remains were those of Eddie Hughes, a Columbus, O., boy who had been employed as a waiter in the Wild West restaurant gang.

It was supposed that he had fallen from the train and been run over. His skull was crushed, just as Gay Hutsonpiller's skull was crushed when he was found in the room he and Elliott had occupied at the hotel. The developments in the Omaha case have suggested the thought that possibly Elliott may know something about how Eddie Hughes' skull may have been crushed and how he may have fallen from the train.

Elliott's confession as to the killing of Hutsonpiller is a harrowing recital and stamps him as a man possessed of every qualification of the murderer. Hutsonpiller and he had been companions with the Buffalo Bill show. They had come to Omaha together. Hutsonpiller had something like \$100, while Elliott was without funds. The former was ill while in Omaha, and paid Elliott's hotel bill while they were there. They wanted to go to Montana, where Hutsonpiller had a ranch, and Elliott made his friend believe that he could get them passes from parties in South Omaha, but it would take \$15 to do it. Hutsonpiller gave him the \$15. Elliott failed to get the passes, and Hutsonpiller wanted his money back.

Elliott says it was during a quarrel in their room over this that the killing occurred. He wrote a receipt for the \$15 and demanded of Hutsonpiller that he sign it. This confessed incident is enough to show Elliott's desperate character. He also says that in a fit of passion he grasped the coupling pin and struck Hutsonpiller over the head. The coupling pin was at the time lying on the bed. He had taken it out of his valise, where he had originally put it to make the valise heavy for hotel security purposes, another indication of the character of the man.

He struck Hutsonpiller a second blow with the pin. Then, as the injured man lay breathing his last, Elliott went down stairs and across to a drug store, secured some chloroform, returned to the room, chloroformed a towel and laid it over his dying companion's face. This he did, he says, because he was afraid some one would hear his heavy breathing. Then he cleaned the blood from himself with a damp towel, rifled the dying man's pockets, went down stairs and bade good bye to the landlord and left the hotel.

It is thought that that same coupling pin may have had something to do with the crushing of the skull of Eddie Hughes. There were 65 cents in the boy's pocket when he was found.

### Sedalia's Poultry Show Opened.

SEDALIA, Mo., Nov. 25.—The third annual poultry show of the Sedalia and Pettis County Poultry club opened this morning and will continue for three days. There are an unusually large number of exhibits.

### A Farmer's Wife Burned to Death.

GUTHRIE, Okla., Nov. 25.—While James Epler was at work in the woods near Red Oak his wife saw a prairie fire starting and attempted to fight it back, but wind drove the fire upon her and she was burned to death.

Now that the smoke of political conflict has cleared away, the INDEPENDENT wants to have a plain business talk with its subscribers on the question of their relation to our advertisers. The majority of those who advertise largely are not in harmony with the political views of our party, and it is anything but an easy task to get their business. Our endeavor is to accept only reputable business, and we urge our friends to support our advertisers where they can do so with profit and advantage to themselves, rather than patronize those whose prejudices prevent their advertising in our columns. Among those whom we desire to mention as worthy of patronage is the Swanston Rheumatic Cure Co., of 167 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill. Their remedy "5 Drops" is stated by our Chicago representative who has made a personal and careful study of the matter, to be the most remarkable and meritorious preparation of the age. He has been given free access to the mail and has seen so many genuine and enthusiastic letters praising this remedy, and has known so many sufferers who have been absolutely and permanently cured by it, that he can state that "5 Drops" is as infallible in its curative properties as any medicine could be, and more so than any medicine he has ever shown or heard of. As you will see by their advertisement which appears on another page, a sample bottle is sent prepaid by mail for a small sum, and this sample is sufficient to prove the merits of "5 Drops" to any skeptic. Kindly when you write mention the INDEPENDENT.

### ONWARD WE MARCH

Great Populist Gains all Over the United States.

### FIERCE FIGHTING BY POPULISTS

Secretary Edgerton Tells of the Campaign Results.

Eight States, Eight Senators and 22 Representatives.

J. A. Edgerton, secretary of the people party national committee returned from Washington last week where he has been during the whole campaign. He is the same genial gentleman he always was, but shows the marks of the hard work which his responsible position entailed upon him during the fierce conflict just ended.

He says that it is generally conceded by all, even the democratic national committee, that the populists did the hard fighting of the campaign. Even in the eastern states where they were few in number, they were the ones who were at it all the time, morning, noon and night. If the democrats had stood by Bryan and fought with the vigor, enthusiasm and self-sacrifice that the populists did, he would have been elected.

In looking over the result, Mr. Edgerton says the populists made great gains almost everywhere, and to this organization is bequeathed the duty of reforming the free silver forces and making the next fight.

In this campaign we have made a gain of 15 congressmen and two senators. California will send two populist congressmen, Idaho one, Colorado one, South Dakota two, Nebraska four, Kansas six, North Carolina five, Alabama one and Indiana one.

That will make a very respectable populist caucus for the house, but the national committee has assurances that nearly every one of the free silver republicans who have been elected to congress will also go into the populist caucus in which case the number will be very greatly increased.

Senator Pettigrew has joined the populists and we will elect another senator from Utah which will give us eight of the very ablest men in the United States senate, who will carry on a fight there that will keep the fur flying until the plutocrats think the very seats have claws to scratch them with.

Besides all that, we have control in eight state governments, either electing the whole state ticket or a large majority of it. In the following six states the populists will run things to suit themselves, viz: Kansas, Nebraska, Idaho, Montana, Washington and North Carolina.

We have also made a gain in electoral votes. Tom Watson will receive 28 votes being six more than Weaver got. But the most important gain is not the large increase in members of congress, United States senators and state and county officers. It is the advance made in getting our principles more fully comprehended by the people, hundreds of thousands of whom know them as described by the great goldbug papers that constantly tell the people that populists are anarchists made up from the wild-eyed and ignorant mob.

Many of the most intelligent citizens in the United States for the first time became acquainted with the doctrines which we advocate and thousands of them have for the first time become earnest and able advocates of them. Learned men and students of political economy, after studying the action of the railroad corporations and telegraph monopoly in the last campaign, have become earnest advocates of the public ownership of the telegraphs and railroads, among them Wharton Barker.

The only earnest, ardent, and unrelenting fight made for Bryan outside of the populists was made by the Altgeld democrats in Illinois, but they could not hold their party, for the gold democrats had too long held them in ignorance to enable the noble men and true patriots of the party to instruct them in the doctrines of the regenerated Bryan democracy.

The somewhat startling news from Washington is that W. D. McHugh, who is known in Nebraska chiefly as General Cowin's law partner, was on Saturday appointed to the United States judgeship recently vacated by the death of Judge Dundy. This is rather unexpected news, and must be somewhat trying to Messrs. T. J. Mahoney, A. J. Sawyer, John H. Ames, George E. Pritchard, and Charles Offutt, who are now doubtless trying to figure out how it was done. In the dispatches from Washington stress has now and then been laid upon the alleged fact that Hon. J. Sterling Morton was working his finger nails off in trying to secure the appointment of his bosom friend, the Hon. A. J. Sawyer of this city. At the same time it was stated that Secretary Lamont has been just as zealous to secure the place for Hon. T. J. Mahoney, while Secretary Carlisle has been actively favoring Hon. Charles Offutt. Mr. Offutt is a former Kentuckian, which explains Secretary Carlisle's leaning toward him. It is related of Offutt that he belonged to a family that was involved in one of Kentucky's numerous vendettas, and that after he had seen his father and brother killed in an embroglio he came to Nebraska and entered into the practice of the law, in which he has been

signally successful.

Perhaps many were led to believe from the dispatches that either Mr. Sawyer, Mr. Mahoney or Mr. Offutt, because of their reputed backing, was sure to capture the prize, and therefore there must be considerable speculation as to the nature and identity of the pull which won the place for Mr. McHugh. The only expression in the dispatches is the assurance that the new appointee is a personal friend of the secretary of agriculture, and the additional information is given that "it is not known that the latter recommended him to President Cleveland." This expression from the State Journal's Washington correspondent, who usually enjoys pretty fully the confidence of Mr. Morton, is apt to create the suspicion that Mr. Morton was not after all so fully bound up in Mr. Sawyer's candidacy.

No doubt, also, a good many people are wondering what special significance can be attached to the fact that the Hon. Tobias Castor is now in Washington, and whether or not it was Mr. Castor who has upset the precious plans of Secretaries Morton, Lamont and Carlisle.

W. D. McHugh, the new judge, was born at Galena, Ill., September 10, 1859. He attended the public schools of that city until fourteen years of age, when he began serving a three years apprenticeship as shoemaker, and after learning the trade was several years a shoe and bootmaker. Mr. McHugh then began attending the Illinois state normal school, afterwards teaching and studying the law evenings. He was admitted to practice of law in the appellate court of Illinois at Chicago at the age of twenty-two. The young lawyer located at Galena and entered into partnership with the firm in whose office he had pursued his studies of law, the firm then being known as D. & T. J. Sheehan & McHugh. Mr. McHugh remained in Galena and continued the practice of his profession until 1888, when he removed to Omaha. After practicing the law one year and a half he entered into partnership with General Cowin, under the firm name of Cowin & McHugh, which has continued to the present time, the office being located in the Ware block at Fifteenth and Farnam streets.

### KRETSINGER CONTEST.

Silver Candidate for State Senator in Gage County Charges a Variety of Frauds.

BEATRICE, Neb., Nov. 26.—O. E. Kretzinger, populist candidate for state senator in Gage county, has served notice of contest on the successful candidate, George A. Murphy. It is a lengthy document and contains nine specific charges, the substance of which is as follows: First, ineligibility because he (Murphy) at the time of election was holding an office, that of county attorney. Second, that Murphy unlawfully procured the name of J. C. Collard on the official ballot as a candidate for the office. Third, that the election in the Second ward of the city of Beatrice was illegal for the reason that the regularly elected board was forcibly removed. The fourth count charges that none but republicans were allowed to serve on the board in Holt township. Fifth, that illegal votes were cast for Murphy in the First and Fourth wards of Beatrice, in Holt, Liberty, Blakely, Blue Springs, Filley, North and South Wymore and other townships. Sixth, that a large number of voters who would have voted for the contestant were by fraud and unlawful means induced and required to leave home on election day. Seventh, that bribes were given and offered. Eighth, that liquor was sold, given away, and used at polling places in Beatrice and elsewhere. Ninth, that electioneering was allowed within 100 feet of booths in Murphy's interest.

Kretzinger appoints F. B. Sheldon, a notary public, to take testimony and fixes November 24 as the day for beginning the work. To determine the content it will be necessary to inspect the ballots cast in every precinct in the county. While Murphy's majority was but 302, there has been no talk of a contest, but Mr. Kretzinger seems to entertain some confidence that he will be able to show such technical violations of law as will justify the majority in the next state senate in seating him.

### WILL KEEP IT UP.

Free Silver Men Form a Permanent Organisation.

About seventy-five free silver men held an interesting meeting last night at the Lincoln hotel and formed the Lancaster county Bimetallic union, thus making public their desire and the wish of many others to organize a permanent society to continue the campaign of education, according to the suggestion of Mr. Bryan. The following officers of the union were elected: W. M. Morning, president; H. W. Hardy, vice president; W. F. Schwind, secretary; C. W. Hoxie, treasurer. These officers, and S. B. Whiting, James Manahan, G. L. Laws, L. C. Chapin, E. A. Rogers, G. W. Barge and Dr. King will officiate as the executive committee. A list of vice-presidents will shortly be prepared to comprise prominent free silver men over the county. W. M. Morning, Frank Eager, O. P. Davis and G. G. Bullock were appointed a committee on by-laws. The meeting was decidedly interesting and showed a determination on the part of the members and other free silver men to keep up the war against the single gold standard. There will be another meeting of the union on Monday night next, when the organization will be further perfected and many new members admitted.