

Nebraska Independent

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See the date at which your subscription expired, marked on this paper.

The advance agent has been out four months, but the circus has not made its appearance.

The "honor" of the republican editor is sufficiently preserved by the constant iteration that a 43-cent tariff is free trade.

Sweet are the uses of adversity. They make a sugar bounty unnecessary. Enough adversity and we won't need any sugar.

It is all nonsense to talk about the poor growing poorer. The thing is impossible. When a man has nothing, how can he have less?

If confidence has returned will some one be kind enough to give us an introduction to her. We should be delighted to make her acquaintance.

We unbolted the door, left the latch string hang outside and put up a notice asking Prosperity to come in, but she hasn't pulled the string yet.

It was not patriotism after all that brought the "generals" jangling through the west to tell the old soldiers how to vote. It cost the republican committee \$47,000.

You will find the date at which your subscription expires marked on this paper. Look at it. If you are in arrears, now is the time to pay up. We need the money and you will feel better when your subscription is paid.

The republican idea of a campaign of education is well illustrated by the forged letters they sent out purporting to come from Chairman Edminister. That one act required an expert thief, liar and forger. Some education in that.

Now they say that the reason prosperity hasn't got here yet, is because the advance agent didn't leave home during the whole campaign, but just as soon as he starts out, she'll come booming. Stick a pin in that advance agent and wake him up.

The goldbug eastern press should let up on the slanders of Kansas. The only precinct in the whole United States that gave a majority for Palmer, who was the only candidate running on a straight gold standard platform was in Kansas. The vote was Palmer 3, McKinley 3, Bryan 1.

The bankers laboring under the delusion that they are the government have been conferring as to what should be done with the greenbacks. The majority favor their retirement. It is understood that President Cleveland will recommend this, and the issuing of long term bonds.

The state officers of Georgia after making several efforts to get the returns from Carlton county in that state finally learned that the people in that county had not heard that there was a president to be elected this year and therefore did not hold an election at all and no votes were cast.

Carroll D. Wright says there are over 3,000,000 men with no work and there are nearly 7,000,000 farmers worked half to death who get no pay for their labor. There is the situation. Men who can get no work, and the men who have the work get no pay. The advance agent had better look into this matter.

In other days the republicans looked with horror upon the wicked, vile and criminal portrait of New York who ran up the big majorities there. Now they say these creatures are patriots who helped preserve the national honor from destruction by the ignorant farmers of the west and south. Republican talk would drive a saint crazy.

On our subscription list there are no "dead heads." Everybody that reads this paper is expected to pay for it. We expect the man that takes the paper from the postoffice to see that it is paid for, either by himself or his friend. We hold the man that takes the paper from the postoffice responsible for the subscription price. It is the only way we can protect ourselves. The date at which your subscription expires is marked on the top of this paper.

HOW MUCH REFORM.

The question that will present itself to the next legislature is not how much reform we want, but how much we can get and make permanent. Law makers cannot go further or faster than a majority of the people will go. It is no use to pass laws that will throw the party out of power or enact a legislation that will be repealed after the next election. That would prevent any sort of reform for years to come. Again no party can go further in any line of reform than will be sanctioned by the conservative minority of the party itself. If there are 210,000 voters in the state and the party of reform secures 110,000 of them, comes into power and 100,000 of these voters favor radical reform, while 10,000 of them are conservative, then, if radical reforms are enacted they will go over to the other party, oust those in power, restore power to the opposition and insure the repeal of all the reform laws.

It is evident that the conservative minority will have to receive due consideration if any reform is to be permanent. Let us pull them up as high as we can get them and make them stick. That is the very best we can do. Next time we will pull them a little higher. We don't want to let them pull us down, and put us out of power altogether.

There are a good many pressing reforms that the most conservative will endorse and sustain. Let us get them and make them permanent.

SOMETHING IS WRONG.

In looking over the compiled returns of the late election one cannot help wondering at the discrepancy between the total vote cast and the dwarfed number of votes recorded for the candidates for any of the offices. The total number of voters who went to the polls and gave their names in to the election officers was 330,692. The total number of votes recorded for governor was 217,765. It hardly seems possible that 112,927 voters would go to the polls and not avail themselves of the opportunity to vote their choice for governor. If we take the highest vote on each ticket for electors, it gives a total of 224,174, or 6,518 less than the total vote. Taking the averages cast for the respective electoral tickets, it gives a total of 228,098, leaving 7,599 of the voters who did not express a preference for electors.

It is wholly unreasonable to suppose that any such number went into the booth and came away without voting for governor or electors. The tension was unusually strong in the late election and men prized their privilege of voting. Every effort was being made to swell the vote on governor and electors. So precious was the privilege esteemed that men traveled hundreds of miles to record their preferences, large sums were spent in carrying men into the state from all parts of the country, and many men riaked criminal prosecutions in their zeal to vote for governor and presidential electors. It is unreasonable, therefore, to suppose that from 6,500 to 7,500 men, after they had once entered the booths, did not appreciate the privilege sufficiently to vote.

The figures indicate that there must be something wrong somewhere. Either there is a deficiency in the intelligence of voters, or a defect in our voting methods. The figures show that there were about 3 per cent who failed to record their choice for the two chief offices, governor and electors. We cannot suppose that 3 per cent of the voters who go into the booths haven't sufficient intelligence to indicate their preferences for those offices. If we can, then our statistical showing of illiteracy is defective. It is quite probable that the zeal of election officers is responsible for much of this discrepancy. In their ambition to diminish the vote of the opposition they too often throw out ballots on trivial excuses, when the will of the voter is perhaps apparent. The throwing out of two or three votes in each precinct in the state would cause a shortage of votes such as that shown this year.

It is almost alarming to think that such an incident in each voting precinct in the state could be made to effect such an aggregate result. It opens the way for successful conspiracy and suggests the necessity of measures to guard the elective franchise in this state. Concerted action on the part of any party could easily be made to wipe out a margin of 10,000, or even 20,000, votes.

The coming session of the legislature should devise some means of enabling voters to so register their preferences for election day that their votes may be counted.

HAS PAID HIS DEBTS.

The State Journal points derisively to the fact that Frank Hilton, the ex-oil inspector, has turned populist. This is a specimen of spitefulness that cuts backwards. No one can prevent Hilton from turning populist if he so desires. This is a free country. No one prevented him from being a republican when he wanted to be a republican, and he was therefore a republican good and hard. Now, if he is a populist, he is welcome to be a populist good and hard. But two things are certain. He will not be allowed to get his paws into the public exchequer while he is trying to be a populist, as he did while trying to be a typical republican. Another is that he won't pay any pecuniary debts to populist governors out of stolen state funds. There are lots of men who have adhered to the republ-

ican party as long as that party furnished them the opportunity to steal and encouraged them in it, and who tried to get into some other party as soon as they had stolen all they could.

Frank Hilton may be a fit subject for ridicule when he attempts to pose as a populist. Such as he are certainly more at home among republicans. He was just in his element when he was holding up the state and the people of Nebraska for thousands of dollars with which to pay his debts to Governor Crouse, who appointed him, but it ill becomes a republican to make fun of him. A party that is too tough for Frank Hilton hasn't much to crow over. Hilton will hardly profit from his populism as he did from his republicanism. Possibly he has repented of his evil-doings. If so, he could hardly do else than turn populist. But it was while he was a good enough republican to receive appointment from a republican governor that he got his clutches on over \$12,000 that was not his own, and refused to unbend his grip thereon. And it is said that the reason he refused to unbend his grip thereon was because he couldn't; he had used the money to pay the republican governor who had appointed him the debt that had led to his appointment.

It will be just as well for Nebraska republicanism if we hear less hereafter about Frank Hilton's having turned populist. There is a suspicion that the ex-governor should be made a party defendant in the suit to recover Hilton's shortage.

Whenever we find a man bent on larceny from the public, with more or less assurance of success, he is always republican, and when he is found declaring allegiance to any other party it may be taken for granted that he has stolen all he expects to be able to steal and has decided to turn honest.

DISGRACEFULLY DECEPTIVE.

The Chicago Tribune has begun its four years' campaign of falsehood leading up to the contest of 1900, and puts in its best licks abusing, alternately, Bryan and Altgeld.

The Tribune is nothing if not untruthful while declaring that "There is nothing to be gained now by concealment or falsification. There is no election impending. There are no votes to be caught by hiding the truth. So why cannot Bryan out with it and let the people know exactly what he was advocating during the recent campaign."

"Bryan's hearers understood from what he said," says the Tribune, "that he wanted the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, but he did not tell his audience in any one of his 600 speeches what the consequences of free coinage at that ratio would be and why those consequences, grave as they were, did not deter him from demanding free coinage. If Bryan really thought the people would be benefited by the abandonment of the gold standard for the silver monometallic half-value standard he should have explained why he thought so. If he had any reasons for thinking that two 50-cent dollars are better than one 100-cent dollar he should have stated those reasons at least once during his campaign."

We submit to every candid student of the issues of the late campaign whether or not, if the writer of the above be a sane and intelligent person, he has not been guilty of an attempt at deception to which the Tribune should be ashamed to stoop.

Don't every honest and intelligent republican know that Mr. Bryan always told what he believed and why he believed it. Don't the Tribune know that Mr. Bryan always said he believed in free coinage of both gold and silver because he believed that under the single gold standard money had become too scarce and dear, and property and labor too cheap? Don't the Tribune and every honest republican know that Mr. Bryan opposed the single gold standard because under it the dollar is constantly appreciating, and that an appreciating dollar destroys commerce, stifles industry and enterprise and precipitates poverty, famine and despair? Don't the Tribune know that Mr. Bryan said all these things over and over again, and that the man who didn't fathom Mr. Bryan's belief on the subject must certainly be very ignorant?

Mr. Bryan certainly did, the Tribune to the contrary notwithstanding, tell his audiences "what the consequences of free coinage at that ratio would be, and why those consequences did not deter him from demanding free coinage?" He told his audiences that the consequences of free coinage at 16 to 1 would be the cheapening of the dollar and the enhancement of all property and labor measured by that dollar. He told them that one of the consequences would be that the hoarded gold, instead of being allowed to fatten by its unearned accretion, would be growing cheaper, and that it would therefore be brought out and invested in property and labor, which would be growing dearer; that as a result trade and commerce would be stimulated and labor find profitable employment. He told them that one of the effects of the single gold standard is to make farm products so cheap that farming is unprofitable, that the farmer cannot buy many of life's necessities and that the prosperity of the country depends upon the prosperity of the farming classes. He told them that if the farmer were made prosperous by

decreasing the value of the dollar as compared with all other property, and thus enhancing the value of all property and labor, the entire country would be made prosperous.

It is true that he did not once during the campaign state his "reason for thinking that two 50-cent dollars are better than one 100-cent dollar." He had no reasons for such belief and believed no such a thing. The Tribune knows it if it knows anything. The Tribune knows that Mr. Bryan did not believe that there could under free coinage be any such a thing as a 50-cent dollar. If it does not know that it has not read Mr. Bryan's speeches, especially the Madison Square Garden speech, wherein he explained his belief that free coinage would, by increasing the demand for silver, enhance the value of silver bullion, and by decreasing the demand for gold, depreciate the value of gold bullion, and that the one would go up and the other go down until they had reached the natural level maintained before the value of silver was depressed and the value of gold enhanced by the legislation that demonetized silver. Can the Tribune fail to have known Mr. Bryan's beliefs in this respect, and if it did know them, is it honest and fair with its readers when it asks why Mr. Bryan did not give his reasons for thinking that two 50-cent dollars are better than one 100-cent dollar?

Is not this a fair specimen of the cunning deception and unfairness that marked the goldbug discussion of the money question all during the late campaign, and don't it justify the remark of Mr. Bryan that the single gold standard never conducts an open fight. Don't the republicans know that the Tribune is lying when it says that Mr. Bryan never told the people what he was advocating during the late campaign, and don't they know that the Tribune lied when it intimated that he had any conception of a 50-cent dollar?

Are we to have four years of such villainous falsification from papers of once acknowledged fairness, truthfulness and respectability, or has the metropolitan press become so thoroughly debauched by the gold standard, trust and corporation power as to be incapacitated to tell the truth?

NEEDS FRIENDS IN THE SENATE.

As much sensational fuss is being made over a suspicion that an effort is to be made to prevent confirmation of the appointment of W. D. McHugh to succeed Judge Dundy as if some one had discovered a foul conspiracy to murder him. And yet if W. D. McHugh is not confirmed it will be because of the opposition of those with whom he allied himself in the recent election. He did his level best to aid in the election of McKinley, and if republican senators do not rally to his confirmation, upon whom can he logically rely? Certainly democrats and populists can't be expected to be bound up in his cause to any alarming extent. It would seem that something must have come of Senator Thurston's recent trip to Canton to ascertain whether or not McKinley desired to see Grover's appointments to the five vacant federal judgeships rejected, so that republicans could be given these life jobs. If McHugh is not confirmed, he can certainly not charge democratic or populist senators with treason. His allies are republicans, and he can in reason only look to them.

Now let the advance agent get a move on himself.

The pop editors and the farmers were the main body of the fighting force that won the battle in this state. How much will they get out of it?

The best way for a reformer to stop all reforms is to denounce and clamor night and day for everything at once. Then he will never get anything.

The American Thanksgiving was celebrated in London with great eclat and swell Londoners participated with great zeal and relish. The Englishman can find a great deal for which to be sincerely thankful in recent American history.

If there is to be but one populist secretary of the board of transportation, that one must be a man in whom the whole populist party have perfect confidence, or there will be a storm in this state that will destroy a good many political palaces.

It is strange that all these inquiries from foreigners who contemplate investments in beet sugar factories only float in upon us just before the legislature meets, and it is also strange that just as soon as the legislature has adjourned these foreigners lose interest and are never again heard from.

WE KNOW HOW.

Down in Boston, in the home of the goldbugs, where they claim that all the culture and all the patriotism abides, the press reports say that "a recount of votes in one of Boston's districts showed that the Hub's election officers are either grossly ignorant or grossly careless. Scarcely a precinct tallied with the original summary."

Those arrogant declare that the people of Nebraska are ignorant, wild and woolly, but we not only know how to count votes but we know how to cast them as the result of the recent election demonstrates.

IT WAS TRULY AWFUL.

The Lawrence, Kansas, Journal (rep) printed the most astounding editorial the morning after election that was ever published in these United States of America. We advise the officers of the Nebraska Historical Society to get a copy and preserve it in their archives as a specimen of the wail of a Kansas republican who was just notified that he could no longer feed at the public expense. The last paragraph of this sad and sorrowful wail is as follows. Don't undertake to read it until you have supplied yourself with half a dozen fresh handkerchieves with which to wipe away your tears. Here it is: "So far as Kansas is individually concerned, it would have been better for us had McKinley been defeated and the republican state ticket elected. Outside people, outside capital have been suspicious of us for years. Their worst suspicions are confirmed. Not the border ruffian raid, not the droughts, not the grasshoppers, not all the calamities that have visited us in the past all taken together have done us one-tenth the harm that the report of this election will do us. The state has disgraced, dishonored herself; has smirched the record of her glorious career, and has turned her eye away from the stars to contemplate the depths of darkness and perdition. It is an awful fate. What, in God's name, has Kansas done that she should fall so low? For us there is no balm in Gilead. For us there is no consolation. While the nation rejoices over its redemption, Kansas grieves over her own destruction, and must weep in the caves of the forsaken. May the Lord in his infinite pity and mercy look upon us with compassion and forgive us the awful crime we have committed."

SOMEWHAT ASTOUNDING.

The Washington (D. C.) Post is considerably wrought up over the result of the election in Ohio. After stating the facts, it asks several questions as follows: "This year Ohio, responding to the clarion call of necessity, produced 259,404 more voters than it produced in 1895, when it astonished the world by its achievements in the voting line. Where in the name of reason did these 259,494 extra votes come from? Did Ohio increase its population 1,000,000 within a year, or does Ohio depart from the one to five rule, and show, instead of that one to three and two-thirds as the proportion of her voters to her population?"

Mark Hanna is the only man who can answer those questions. Better ask him and remember that "necessity" knows no law.

CO-OPERATIVE COLONIES.

Reports from a large number of co-operative societies reach this office in various ways. The organization of such societies is certainly largely on the increase in every part of the country. One of the most successful is at Ruskin in Tennessee. There are others in North and South Carolina, in Alabama and in other southern states, some in Colorado and on the Pacific coast. It is an honest effort made by honest, hard-working people to escape, in some degree, the hardships imposed upon us by the gold standard.

The principles on which these societies are based so far as we are able to learn are in the main correct and if the business of the societies is managed with honesty and good business skill they will succeed.

The society at Ruskin, Tennessee, is

most widely known. Its basis is a co-operative joint stock company, with shares at \$500 each. They engage in manufacturing as well as in farming. The high price of shares gives them a strong capital and their "profits" or increase in wealth will come from the elimination of middlemen and many salaried and useless officials.

The queer thing about this Ruskin colony is that their officials persist in calling this co-operation "socialism," when it is as far from socialism as understood by scholars and thinkers or the standard authorities as it well could be. Co-operation as practiced at Ruskin is in accordance with the science of political economy as taught and accepted by all the great minds the world over. But socialism—that is an entirely different thing.

NEBRASKA'S GRET DONKEY.

Nebraska's cabinet donkey has evolved another brilliant idea. In his annual report, he recommends the repeal of the homestead laws. He says the fall in farm lands is entirely owing to these laws. It is because the government gives away lands to actual settlers that other lands are cheap? He, however, does not tell us why farm lands continued to rise from 1866, when the laws were passed, for many years, and that, too, at the very time when most of these lands were given away.

Morton could not go out of office until he had one more blow at the farmers, and so he administers this last cowardly stroke just to exhibit his spite. That is, he will know no danger that congress would follow his advice. If ever a man's name becomes a hissing and a by-word among the common people of this land, it will be the name of Nebraska's great donkey cabinet member.

HOW IS IT?

The Wall street newspapers, like the N. Y. Tribune, Times, Post and the rest, have jointly begun a most vicious, vindictive and passionate assault upon the newly elected Kansas supreme court, and these are the same editors, who, a few weeks ago, denounced as anarchy the mildest criticism of judges or judicial decisions. "Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth, but how is it that ye do not discern this time?"

PLUTOCRATIC SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Teacher—Who made the trusts? Little Boy—God. Teacher—How do you know? Little Boy—Rockerfeller says that God gave him his money and he got it from the Standard Oil trust. So God must have made the trusts. Teacher—Good little boy. You'll go to Heaven when you die.

As the republican farmer husks his ice covered ten cent corn he stops every now and then and casts a weary look toward the east and wonders, "When oh when will that wave of prosperity get here". Never, until money is so debased that it will not buy so much corn, and you are opposed to debasing our currency.

H. W. Rusk assaulted the editor of the Courtland Herald, inflicting a deep wound under the right eye, which a doctor closed up with two stitches. Mr. Rusk didn't approve of an item that had appeared in the Herald. If that editor is the man we think he is, our sympathies will have to be extended on various occasions to Mr. Rusk.

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