

Nebraska Independent

Consolidation of THE WEALTH BARBERS and LINCOLN INDEPENDENT.

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GOV. HOLCOMB'S SECOND INAUGURAL

The INDEPENDENT goes to press as Governor Holcomb is delivering his second message to the legislature. It is a noteworthy document, entirely covering the field of legislative and administrative action. It reviews the past two years, the difficulties that have been thrown in the way of his administration; shows the great saving made in the various state institutions; reviews the fight for the control of the state penitentiary and asks the legislature to define the duties of the board of public lands and buildings; advises economy in all appropriations and moderation in all legislation; advises the investment of the permanent school fund; upholds the state depository law and demands its rigid enforcement; advocates a law to make assessments uniform throughout the state; and in general advises that the state's business be carried on in a common sense, conservative, business-like manner.

The INDEPENDENT is published too early to give the message this week, but we will give it in full in the next issue. All the populist state officers were inducted into office at the same time that Governor Holcomb was inaugurated so that Nebraska is now under the rule of the populist and reform forces.

No action has as yet been taken on the two contingent supreme judges but it is generally believed that they will be seated. We shall have more to say on this phase of the situation next week.

THE VOICE OF A LEADER.

The speech of Hon. W. J. Bryan before the state silver conference in session this week contained two or three remarkable passages. Where he suggested that a law should be enacted making it a penal offense for a corporation to contribute funds to influence elections he struck a key-note. Again his assertion that very many people who did not believe, before election, that bimetalism is necessary for the prosperity of the country, do so believe now, struck a responsive chord with his audience. He referred to the fear that the republicans might steal our thunder by passing a silver bill themselves, was met in a patriotic spirit by Mr. Bryan when he said, "that we will leave our thunder out on the porch over night if the republicans will only steal it." He wanted results and was willing that the republicans bear their part of the responsibility in bringing about those results.

The address was filled with happy hits and was the voice of, the leader speaking to his people.

The conference will be a great aid in promoting the work of bimetalism in the state. A splendid corps of officers was selected, and a plan of organization outlined that ought to be effective.

DOGGING THE ISSUE.

Before election the republican papers predicted an era of prosperity immediately following McKinley's election. The republican committees circulated a great many prosperity cuts. One represented McKinley with a great key standing before the temple of prosperity, saying: "I will unlock this on November 3d," while a property capitalist and laboring man stood off cheering. This was only one of the prosperity policies. There were others. The land was plaearded with them. The goldbug newspapers were filled with them. Well, McKinley was elected. It happened over two months ago; but the prosperity has not come. In fact during these two months there have been a great many business failures. Factories have shut down; banks have closed their doors; merchants have assigned; wages have been reduced; and there has been financial distress throughout the land. It almost reminds one of the beginning of the panic of 1893.

Now these prosperity boomers, instead of frankly acknowledging that they were mistaken, begin the cry that the "pop" papers glory in these failures and this distress. That is not true. No class of men in America more sincerely desire to see prosperity—of the real and not the newspaper brand—than the free silver advocates. That is the reason they are free silver advocates; because they believe that relief will never come except through an expansion of the currency. They believed that before election. They believe it still. The business failures following McKinley's election have proved their belief well founded. The goldbug papers, instead of admitting the truth, raise a hypocritical cry and try to dodge the issue.

POPULISM IN THE LATE CAMPAIGN.

The people's party played a peculiar part in the campaign just closed. No other party in American history can point to just such a record—so unselfish, so thoroughly devoted to principle, so entirely devoid of the usual motives that actuate political parties.

Now that the fight is over, honest, observant men of all parties are recognizing this fact. Shortly after the close of the late campaign one of the national democratic managers told the writer that if the democrats had supported Mr. Bryan with anything like the unanimity and earnestness that was displayed by the populists, he would have been elected. He further said that in all his political life (and he is an old and experienced politician) he had never seen a national party organization display such a spirit of unselfishness and high-minded patriotism as that shown by the populists party in the late campaign.

Nor is he alone in this opinion. Similar sentiments have been expressed by other leading democrats and free silver men generally in all parts of the country.

The effect of the action of the St. Louis convention and the managers of the populist national campaign has been to immeasurably strengthen the party in public confidence, in the number of officers elected by it and in its organization. There was no opportunity for a general numerical test, but where a fair test was given it showed a great increase in the vote.

Take the matter of officers elected. Prior to the late campaign the peoples party had one governor in the United States. At the present time it has six. We had not a single other state officer in the union. At the present time we have some in nine or ten states and a majority of them in seven. In the congress elected in 1894 we had eight members of the house. In the one elected in 1896 we have twenty-four. And these figures do not, in any case, include the free silver republicans who are nearer to us than any other party. In senators we have held our own and stand a chance of electing two or three additional ones. We have the legislatures in several states and the balance of power in some others.

We have very materially strengthened our organization, and our principles have been pushed forward until, by the returns of the late election, they are accepted by six men now where they were accepted by one in 1892. What have the few middle-of-the-road malcontents got left to kick about? Populism is marching on; and will continue to march on in spite of the whines of a few dreamers or the lies of a few traitors.

MORE PROSPERITY.

This McKinley brand of prosperity is paralyzing. Failures are increasing all over the country. Last Saturday the Omaha Savings Bank closed its doors. This bank has had the deposits of perhaps the bulk of Omaha working people. The president of it is ex-Senator Charles F. Manderson, the republican statesman, chief attorney of the B. & M. railroad and mentioned in connection with the presidency of the United States one year ago. General Manderson makes the usual statement that the bank will pay every dollar. This we hope is true. Time alone will prove whether it is or not. Thus even the supporters of the gold standard are being crushed beneath its juggernaut wheels. But while they go down thousands of poor people go down with them. That is the pitiful part. The gold standard has left a track of desolation, of ruined industries, of failing banks, of broken merchants, of idle workmen, of mortgaged farmers in its wake. One class alone has prospered—the wealthy few. Greed has triumphed over humanity.

What has been will be. These failures will continue until the gold standard is abolished and we return to a financial system that will furnish enough money to meet the demands of the people.

FOR THE NEXT BATTLE.

Those who think alike must get together. There must be a union of reform forces. Relief will never come to this country until the producers unite. Where that union will be, how it will be brought about, under what banner, under what name, we do not know. The future will work out the details. But the union must come. The principles around which it will crystallize are the important consideration and they are already settled. They are the principles of the peoples party. More and more the country is awakening to the fact that not one, but all, the reforms advocated by the populists must be enacted into law. We must have more money, free silver, this is the first; but closely connected to this, so closely that the two cannot be divorced, we must have an increased paper currency issued by the government. We must take from the hands of private banking corporations the purely governmental function of issuing money.

In the late campaign, the free silver forces had no more malignant, powerful and united opposition than the railroad corporations. Every railroad company in America was fighting for the gold standard. Now the free silver forces have awakened to the fact that all these monopolies fight together. They have awakened to the further fact that we must take out of the hands of private

corporations the purely public function of transportation; we must also take out of their hands the immense political power wielded by the allied railway corporations of the land.

Nearly every nation in the world excepting this, has government ownership of its railways in some form or another. We should no longer lag behind the procession. The railways of America oppress the people to an extent second only to that of the great money power. The two are indissolubly linked together and must both be crushed before the people secure relief.

So is it with the telegraph monopoly—so is it with the land monopoly—so is it with all the monopolies—they are all banded together in their unholy effort to fleck from the people.

We have only fought the first battle. The forces of reform must follow the example of their opponents—they must unite. They must reform their lines for the next fight—with free silver the first objective point—but with a farther objective point in view, the crushing of monopoly in all its forms. Let us go forward with the determination never to cease until both points are reached and the people are free.

ABUSE IS NOT ARGUMENT.

For the future the INDEPENDENT will try never to use personal abuse in place of argument. It will strive to find a higher plane of journalism than that. Abuse is the weapon of the charlatan, of the tyro, of the man who cannot rise to a discussion of principles, who cannot get above the region of personalities. Abuse is a brutal weapon, an unjust weapon, a cowardly weapon. An editor who will abuse a man through the columns of his paper is essentially a coward, because he hides behind his newspaper to strike the blow.

Truth is eternal, right is eternal, principles are eternal—men are the creatures of a few years. Men are fallible, they all make mistakes, they need charity, not abuse.

Battles should be made against causes, not against individuals; against policies not persons. Public officials are open to criticism, as public officials, not as persons. A man's private affairs should be kept sacred.

Calling names never won a cause. Abuse defeats its own object. The INDEPENDENT will fight policies, parties, public actions, not personalities.

GOOD ELECTIONS.

The election of J. G. Gaffin as speaker of the house and Frank D. Eager as chief clerk and Frank T. Ransom for president pro tem of the senate and W. F. Schwind as secretary are all selections that reflect credit upon the legislature and the peoples party.

James N. Gaffin was speaker of the house in 1893 when he made such a creditable record that he was very nearly nominated for governor in 1894 and did make the race for lieutenant governor on the ticket with Governor Holcomb. Mr. Gaffin was a good parliamentarian, a firm presiding officer and eminently fair and courteous to all. He will make a splendid speaker.

Frank D. Eager is the publisher of this paper. He was secretary of the state central committee in 1895 and assistant secretary in 1896. He is a bright, active young man and will make a good chief clerk.

Frank T. Ransom is a free silver democrat from Omaha, a man of pleasing address and commanding presence and will preside over the senate with dignity and intelligence.

W. F. Schwind, the newly elected secretary of the senate, was once in the law firm of W. J. Bryan and acted as Mr. Bryan's secretary during the late campaign. He is now publisher of the Evening Post of this city. He usually has been classed as a populist and was at one time populist candidate for police judge of Lincoln. He will be active and efficient in his new office.

The minor officers are not all known to us, but so far as known lead us to believe that excellent selections have been made throughout.

A WASTE OF WND.

About the most unpromising political venture recently heard of is the undertaking of Senator Wolcott to secure an international agreement for bimetalism. Possibly Senator Wolcott's visit to Europe may lead to an international conference, but nothing further will result. England will never consent to the rehabilitation of silver at anything like the proper ratio, and to fix the ratio at any other figure would be about as well as to leave it alone entirely.

Possibly Senator Wolcott's visit to Europe may result in further inventions of false pretenses that may blind the American people, but it will certainly never result in an agreement on the part of England to restore silver to free coinage at the natural ratio. England has gained too much by the debasement of silver, and has too much to gain thereby hereafter, to ever consent to relinquish the advantage it has secured. Neither will any other European country that is dominated by the influence of the Rothschilds.

A new state administration goes in today. Things are popping.

Nebraska is redeemed. The republican barnacles have pried loose.

Will someone please explain why the republican legislature of New York need go to the trouble and expense of electing a successor to Senator David B. Hill? None that can be found will be more in sympathy with the administration and the political tendency of the times, and none more able to be found. David was a pretty good goldbug in the past and under a republican administration would shine superbly as such.

"The Popocrat is the latest addition to the newspaper world. It is a 3x4 sheet (three columns, four pages) and is printed at Hamburg, Illinois. It is edited by the irrepressible Will C. Thorn-ton and its motto is: "William Jennings Bryan and victory in 1900." It is not a very large paper, but like Artemus Ward's kangaroo, "is a most amouss little cuss" what there is of it.

Governor Holcomb, Lieutenant Governor Harris, Secretary of State Porter, Auditor Cornell, Treasurer Meserve, Attorney General Smyth, Commissioner Wolfe, Superintendent Jackson, Speaker Gaffin: Gentlemen—You are today presented with the safe keeping of the state of Nebraska. Guard it well. Make your administration such that your party and your people will be proud of you.

The official returns from all the states have been tabulated. The total vote was 13,888,762, of which 7,101,401 were for McKinley, 6,470,656 for Bryan, 135,956 for Palmer, 130,560 for Levering, 14,392 for Bentley and 33,539 for Mchettte.

The National Reform Press Association will meet in Memphis, Tennessee on February 22. Every populist editor in Nebraska, who can possibly attend that meeting should do so. There must be no more men like Paul Vandervoort placed at the head of so important organization.

Marvin Warren of Fairbury, this state, has gotten out a small book entitled "A Money Chart" which is receiving notices in the reform press all over the country. It is for fiat money, pure and simple.

For the first time in the history of Nebraska the state government is completely out of the hands of the republican party. And the capital still stands.

Hon. John C. Bell, the populist congressman from Colorado is a nephew of the John C. Bell who ran for president in 1860.

Man is born in the image of his maker. That is the reason why McKinley cannot be better than Mark Hanna, his maker.

It is well to remember that Mr. Bryan, defeated, received nearly a million more votes than Grover Cleveland did in 1892 when he was elected.

1897. We are ending the century at a gallop.

SCISSORS DEPARTMENT.

There are many things we do not like to see, and one of them is an advertisement for the Seat-Journal in a populist paper,—Minden Courier.

Most men, no matter how selfish they may be in some things are too generous to keep more than one or two of the ten commandments.—Rochell (Ill.) Free Lance.

Men who voted for the preservation of "the existing gold standard" should not complain that the attendants remained with the standard.—New Era (Springfield, Ohio).

Word has been sent out from Canton that it will not be necessary for citizens of Nebraska to apply for federal positions outside the state limits; that we did not vote right at the late election, and the 700 offices in the state is all they will get.—Geneva Gazette.

The populists, Bryan democrats and free silver republicans of Iowa held a convention this week at Des Moines and organized a co-operative free silver campaign during the next four years. They also named W. J. Bryan as the inevitable candidate for 1900.—Boone County Outlook.

Gentlemen of the "Far East!" We refer you with pride to the "populistic" state of Nebraska; the brightest, safest, most intelligent, highest in morality, and most intensely populist state in the union. You poor sound money jabberers of the east, how do you like the cut of the job? No repudiation here.—Allen News.

Senator Butler has introduced a resolution asking for the appointment of a committee to inquire into the feasibility of applying the principle of direct legislation through the initiative and referendum to the legislation of the United States. The report of such a committee would be awaited with interest.—Progressive Home (Mt. Vernon, Ill.).

Next week is when Mr. Bartley will be asked to count over the state money. It is rumored that he only intends to point to the banks that he deposited it in and let the newly elected treasurer scramble for it. It will be well for our prominent statesmen to remember what was promised at the state convention last fall in Hastings, and see that the cold cash is all counted over.—Red Cloud Nation.

We have in the past, entertained the highest esteem and regard for Hon. Thomas E. Watson, as well as admiration for the grand work he has done for the populist party in the south, but it does seem as though his nomination for vice-president turned his head. He does not write and act as the same man. He is evidently sore from the soles of his feet to the top of his head, and devotes too much time in airing his grievances. Now he seems to take more delight in

fighting populists than the common enemy. This is not as it should be.—Wahoo New Era.

Coxy's new party won't hurt the populist party in this "neck of the woods"—not much. The sober thinking class of populists are onto such reformers as Coxy with both feet. Coxy only wants notoriety and he has had about all of that that the people are going to give him.—Nuckolls County Herald.

Don't be fooled by the specious pleas or the dismal wails of wealth and greed when they are at bay. Never in this world can both millionaires and paupers dwell together in a great country, for a country cannot be great if it sanction the rule of wealth and the ruin of industry.—North Platte Era.

It seems that the old populist sub-treasury plan has struck Russia favorably and that country is now seriously asking for an international agreement to fix the price of wheat, and when necessary, to extend to the holders of wheat a loan on their wheat stored, says the Paola, Kan., Times. Certainly, anarchy and repudiation has broken loose in the land of the czar.—Facts from Irwin.

The new alignment of forces appears to be permanent. The silver republican congressmen refuse to go into the republican caucus and the gold democrats refuse to go into caucus with the silver democrats. Those who believe in a government of, for and by the people will eventually flock together from now on, while those who believe in plutocracy will consolidate on the other side. Party ties are all broken, and the people are aroused, oil and water won't mix, and better government is an assured thing for the near future.—Farmers' Tribune.

Coxy expects to launch a new party on Jan. 12 and a man named Tim Hooper proposes to reorganize the Peoples party Feb 22. Atkeson proposes a meeting in March for the same purpose and Judd Long wants the work done in May. If these worthies would "reorganize" themselves sufficiently to harmonize their respective schemes they would not only save hall rent but would appear less ridiculous to the rest of the people. But there are eight other months left in which notoriety-seeking reformers (?) could call meetings—go in gentlemen.—Industrial Leader. (Lamar, Mo.)

The investigation of the legislative election in Douglas county is developing some interesting disclosures of rottenness and corruption in the republican methods of conducting a campaign. Through one agency alone \$20,000 was expended to carry the election in the interest of public credit and national honor. C. H. Morrill, regent of the state university, signed an order of \$7.20, for 36 pints of whiskey. Twenty cents per pint whiskey ought to produce a splendid quality of national honor.—Nemaha County Herald.

Hon. Frank Burkett, editor of the People's Messenger and a prominent candidate for the place of Hon. Thos. E. Watson, and hundreds of other editors of populist newspapers not so prominent, have declared in favor of a new party name, if by so doing all monetary reformers could be united in favor of monetary reforms that will put money into the hands of the idle millions of our land whose labor is their only capital and who have no security for money they so much need to restore confidence and bring prosperity and happiness to our whole people.—Falls City Populist.

If the editor of the Schuyler Quill is a republican, he had better Vandervoort and be done with it. During the campaign, he was doing all that he could to elect republican congressmen by calling attention to the fact that the populist nominees were all lawyers, though he had himself been largely responsible for the nomination of Maxwell in the only district where he had any voice in the matter. He is now jumping upon Holcomb, Allen and the state officials, and by way of variety, this week makes an unprovoked and unfounded attack upon G. L. Laws, who is a better man than the editor of the Quill every day of the year. If Mr. Sprecker belongs to the enemy, let him join their forces and fight fair. We think no more of a political than of a military bushwhacker.—Hamilton County Register.

The contest now on in this, the 12th judicial district, for the appointment to succeed Judge W. L. Green, will, we believe and hope, be decided in favor of Sherman county as there is no question as to her deserts. The populists of Sherman county have worked early and late for the party and success has always crowned their efforts. Governor Holcomb's majorities in this county, in this as in previous years prove that our people honor him. The 12th judicial district comprises the four counties of Buffalo, Custer, Dawson and Sherman. Buffalo has the congressmen elected and the judge at present; Custer has had the congressmen, judgeship and now has the governor while Sherman has been content to wait and roll up populist majorities. The judiciary is one of the, if not the most important offices of government, and what we would like and what the situation demands is the appointment of a true and tried populist. One who has been a loyal and constant supporter of the party and its principles. One who is opposed to the issuance of bonds, corporation schemes and syndicates and who is fearless and yet not conceited. The following named gentlemen are openly seeking the appointment. W. Hand, E. E. Moore and W. D. Oldham, of Buffalo county, H. M. Sullivan, of Custer county, H. M. Mathew and R. J. Nightingale, of this county.—Times Independent.

Manifest itself in many different ways, like gotre, swellings, running sores, boils, salt rheum and pimples and other eruptions. Scarcely a man is wholly free from it, in some form. It clings tenaciously until the last vestige of scrofulous poison is eradicated from the blood by Hood's Sarsaparilla. Thousands of voluntary testimonials tell of suffering from scrofula, often inherited and most tenacious, positively, perfectly and permanently cured by

Scrofula

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Hood's Sarsaparilla

The One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. \$1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. Hood's Pills act harmoniously with Hood's Sarsaparilla, 2c.

SNAP SHOTS.

O, the pops they are a-popping, And the heads they are a-dropping, And you bet there'll be no stopping Until every rep shall die; We will make the dry bones rattle We will drive them forth like cattle, For we surely won the battle, And we'll surely eat the pie.

Tom Majors, Church Howe, Jack McCall, "Col" Russell, A. Sylum Churchill, Johnnie Watson, what a pity, it is all over with them. But yesterday their word was good for Hanna's boodle anywhere, now he they here without a pull or a prospect. And there are others. Look at Tom Cook and Meiklejohn and Van der Voort and the classic features of Captain Payne and Lambertson. O, they are a sweet looking lot of political corpses—beautiful even in death.

We were all for Jack McCall. Did you hear our gentle bawl, When we warbled in the fall, Sweeter than a linnnet? But our music shortly stopped, When the shower of ballots dropped, For the whole creation popped And we were not in it.

Came upon us like a blight, Smote us in a single night, We were in a sorry plight, All as mad as thunder. How we chewed the rag and roared, When the other fellow scored, Silas Holcomb swiped the board And our Jack went under.

Churchill, Russell, Piper, Tefft, Corbett, Casey, all got left Peter Hendlund looked bereft, When they knocked his eye out. Now the pops who all got in Rub it in on us like sin, For they look at us and grin, While they hand the pie out.

Some men are so generous that they give themselves away at almost every opportunity.

Deacon Wanamaker of Philadelphia, who some years ago made an immense contribution to the Harrison campaign fund and was afterward given a place in the Harrison cabinet, is a candidate for United States senator from Pennsylvania. Lately it has leaked out that he has been trying to bribe some of the members of the legislature to vote for him. The good deacon having bought himself a place in the cabinet, evidently did not understand why he could not just as well buy himself a place in the senate. This pious brother is superintendent of a Sunday school. Have the religion of Jesus Christ and the republicanism of Abraham Lincoln come to this?

There once was a man that was good, so good, That he went to church three times on Sunday; This very same man he was good, so good, That he cheated his neighbors on Monday. He would pray long and loud, this good pious man, He possessed such great soul yearnings, But he stole his heart 'gainst the cries of the poor And he robbed his men of their earnings. At last he grew great this religious good man And was one of the ruling plutocracy; But he afterward died and sad to relate, To the devil was sent for hypocrisy.

It has been suggested that when the late republican officials leave the state house today their steps should be accompanied by the music of a funeral march. We would respectfully suggest "The Rogue's March" as more appropriate; or a few bars from that touching melody "They May have seen better days."

When the long procession starts, sad and slow, Let us cheer their heavy hearts as they go, With some sad and solemn ditty That will drive them from the city; Something melancholy, dreary, That will make their systems weary; Something gruesome, grave and grievous, That will make them want to leave us; That in some way will assure them That we can no more endure them, And 'till we our best endeavor That they stay away forever.

An open letter to the legislature: Gentlemen—The republicans in past years sent legislatures here to loaf around high priced hotels, help the prohibitionists destroy liquor (by putting it down,) draw their salaries, look wise, hold up corporations, work in a lot of useless employes, make more appropriations than there were taxes to pay them with, enact laws that the supreme court was compelled to declare unconstitutional, and generally to make themselves a burden upon the body politic. The people expect you to turn over a new leaf. If you don't, they will turn you over at the next election. Follow not in the ways of the ungodly. Keep not in the foot prints of Church Howe and Tom Majors, for behold they are both statesmen out of a job in their old age. Run not after the festive pass dispenser, or the man who wants a special franchise, even though he has boodle to pay for it. Broad is the way that leadeth to destruction and a whole lot of people got into it by being members of legislatures. There be snares and pitfalls and all manner of devices for the unwary. Beware of them. They are set to entrap you so that you can be used, and be whipped into line by the threat of exposure. Finally you are here for the good of the state and not to have a private jollify. You are mostly pops. Be worthy of the party that sent you.

Age 40 a widower, have but little property, good standing in church and society, temperate, good health. W. W. WORKMAN, Grand Island, Neb.

