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THE LEADERS HEARD FROM.

THE INDEPENDENT presents this week quite a large number of letters on the proposed abandonment by the populists of the silver issue. Our readers will find dinate one. Along this line he uses the these all well written and interesting, as following language: they are very nearly all from leaders. We are receiving hundreds of these let- for a subordinate one, as the fighting ters, many of which we will never be able to publish; and not one have we received as yet that opposes the paper's stand. Many of the letters will have to go over to subsequent issues.

We beg the pardon of our readers for having devoted so much space to this matter; but it is really important-more important, perhaps, than most of us

THE OPPOSITE IS TRUE.

Those who advocate abandoning the silver issue contend that a further advocacy of that issue will cause the disintegration of the peoples party and destroy the reform press. Strange isn't it? that the very course which has built up the party and the reform press, if persisted in now, will wipe them out.

Exactly the opposite is true. If we abandon silver as an issue, or make any show of so doing, we will not only cease to gain converts from the silver republicans, where we are now rapidly gaining them, but we will lose thousands and thousands of those who have been with us in the past.

Mr. J. Burrows in a letter which appears in another column expresses a fear that there will be a middle-of-the-road party in this state. The INDEPENDENT hardly believes the fear well grounded. We remember that somebody tried to organize such a party last fall. They did organize it in Kansas and it got about a thousand votes. We think a in the Fourth District and it got 114 such language and implications in it if the does not advocate the abandonment gentleman named Bill Dech organized it among Nebraska populists for that.

Fusion with the democrats seems to be the bugaboo that has caused some of tific money and the government ownerour middle-ofthe-road brethren to scare at silver. Advocating silver doesn't necessarily make us fuse with the democrats. Then what about the immense army of silver republicans? Their natural home is the peoples party. They are coming to us, but the minute we quit advocating silver, we cast aside the magnet which is drawing them.

Chairman Butler of the national committee, advises going to Memphis, going into Van der Voort's press association PENDENT believes that the meeting will uses this language: be packed, yet we advise any populist the expense of the trip and shall go to Kansus City.

The cotton mills involving nearly 4,-000,000 cotton spindles have entered into an agreement to shut down two days of each week. It will be remembered that the last congress gave this industry all the "protection" it asked. They have virtually no foreign competition in the home market. Why is this? Will those extreme protectionists please ex-

There seems to be some misunderstanding somewhere. There will be no conference at Kausas City; and no authorized conference anywhere. The "informal, unofficial conference" at Memphis has been repudiated by both the chairman and secretary of the national committee, the only authority for calling a merely quibbles with words. He evidentconference at all.

In his last letter to the editor of this paper (at least the last when we went to not. But he practically admits that he press) Mr. Washburn says that we are does advocate abandoning silver as an who oppose his plan of dropping silver is enough. as a fighting issue. If he will read this issue of the INDEPENDENT, he may revise his op inion. There are others.

The corn crop of the United States according to the report of the department of agriculture for 1896 aggregates 2,-283,000,000 bushels. The greater part of this is still unmarketed. People are starving for the want of it in India and other eastern countries. Why is this? Transportation charges are too high.

Ex-Auditor Moore is short in his accounts nearly thirty thousand dollars. There is a growing suspicion that every thing is not right with ex-Treasurer

BY HIS OWN WORDS Mr. Washburn, in his last letter to the

editor of this paper says:

"I do not advocate the abandonment of silver, or any change in the platform, and my appeal must not be construed to nean that. You do not discriminate between planks and issues.

Really, this is kind. He don't advocate any changes in the platform. We never supposed he did. Only national conventions can change platforms. The gentleman from Massachusetts may be powerful, but he is hardly as powerful as a national convention. We did not expect him to tear up the silver plank and cast it aside. He, or all his conventions could not do that. But he did advocate abundoning silver as an issue, and that is all the INDEPENDENT ever claimed. Now for the proof. In his original appeal Mr. Washburn says;

"The democratic party proposes to continue the silver fight. Two parties cannot exist on the same issue.

Does that not imply that the people's party should abandon the silver fight? He refers constantly to paper money as our main plank and silver as a subor-

"The substitution of our main plank issue for the next four years, is in line with the best sentiment of our party."

If you substitute one thing for another, don't you abandon the latter? If you substitute paper money for free silver as the fighting issue, don't you abandon free silver as a fighting issue?

Then again he speaks about greenbacks and the railroad question as "the two strongest measures of our platform." Then free silver must be a weaker measure of our platform.

Again he says:

"We are now free to act separately on advanced lines and to emphasize the real issue our party was born to advauce.

Well, if greenbacks and government ownership are the "real issues," then silver must be a sham issue.

Then, speaking still of greenbacks and government ownership, he says:

'They are issues free from the charge of mercenary motives to enrich a por-tion of our constituency."

Then silver must not be free from this

All these are deliberate attempts to discredit the silver issue. But why attempt to discredit an issue if we do not intend to abandon it? Is the gentleman from Boston in the habit of belittling issues he expects to advocate?

First he says that the silver plank is a "subordinate plank." Then he implies that it is a weaker measure. Then he implies that it is a sham issue. Then he implies that it is not free from the "charge of mercenary motives." Why did the gentleman issue an appeal with

In Mr. Washbnrn's letter of January 21st to the editor of this paper he speaks of "changing the fighting issue to scienship of railroads."

Well, if you change to something, you must change from something. That something is, of course, free silver, as that has been the "fighting issue" in the past. Really, if you change from a thing, don't you abandon that thing? If Mr. Washburn favors changing the fighting issue from silver to something else, don't he advocate abandoning free silver? But there is still more.

Mr. Washburn gathered his symposium of letters for the Boston Herald. and fighting it out. While the INDE- In publishing these letters the Herald

"Two weeks ago this morning the Hereditor who can afford to go to Memphis ald published the first intimation of the to do so. For, our part we cannot stand dissolution of the alliance between the populists and democrats, and of the practical abandonment by the populists of Bryan and free silver.

"The public announcement was made in the form of an appeal to the populists of the United States signed by George F. Washburn."

Where did the Herald get its intimation that this meant "the practical abandonment by the populists of free silver?" It was acting as the organ of Mr. Washburn in publishing his letters. It says this intimation came in the form of an appeal by Mr. Washburn. Evidently the Boston Herald, which has in a way acted as Mr. Washburn's mouthpiece, understood that he advocated the abandonment of free silver.

Really, when Mr. Washburn says he does not advocate the abandonment of silver, and charges us with not discriminating between planks and issues, he ly means to say that he does not advocate abandoning the silver plank by taking it out of the platform. Of course the only populist in the United States issue. That is all we ever charged. That

> British wheat imports-The London Times says: "The subjoined table, which gives the value of our imports of wheat from various countries for the eight months ended Aug. 31, shows that the United States has profited appreciably by the partial failure of the sup-

competitors:	on the ma	uket by its
	1896.	1895.
Russia	£3,412,000	£4,407,000
United States	6,040,000	5,350,000
Argentina	1,331,000	2,735,000
India	512,000	1,539,000
Australasia	2,000	889,000
British North		
America	631,000	326,000
Other Countries.	1,288,000	827,000
Totals	£13,214,000	£16,078,000

The Profits of the Sugar Trust on Its **Refining Business Alone Was** \$236,240,000 IN 10 YEARS

This Calculation is Based on the Sworn Testimony Given by Henry O. Havemeyer, Its President, and John E. Searles, Its Secretary and Treasurer, Before the Legislative Committee That is Now Investigating Trusts.

Both Mr. Havemeyer and Mr. Searles have testified that about 1,500,000 tons of refined sugar are annually consumed in the United States, and that the Sugar Trust controls about 1,200,000 tons of that output and the price.

Mr. Henry O. Havemeyer was called upon to and did give the committee a table showing the margin of profit to the refiner of sugar since 1886. The trust did not monopolize the business of refining sugar until 1887.

The figures given by Mr. H. O. Havemeyer under oath show that in 1886, the year before the Sugar Trust came into existence, the margin of profit to the sugar refiner was .58 of a cent a pound. His figures showed that since the formation of the trust the margin of profit to the refiner has ranged as follows:

me markin or brong	to the tenner mas ranged as it
1887	
1888	1,26 cents per lb.
1889	1.29 cents per lb.
1890	
1892	1.30 cents per lb.
	1.15 cents per lb.
1894	
1896	

Taking these figures as the margin of profit on refined sugar in connection with the statement of Mr. H. O. Havemeyer and Mr. John E. Searles that the Sugar Trust controls the output and the price of 1,200,000 tons of the 1,500,000 tons of refined sugar used in the United States each year, it is easy to make calculations which will show the unnatural profits made by the trust simply on its refining business.

The Sugar Trust refines and puts on the market 1,200,000 tons of sugar a year, according to the statements of Mr. H. O. Havemeyer and Mr. John E. Searles. 1,200,000 tons are 2,-400,000,000 pounds.

The margin of profit in 1887 having been .673 of a cent a pound, the Sugar Trust would make on its output of 1,200,000 pounds.......\$ 16,152,000 00 The margin of profit in 1888 having been 1.26 cents a pound, the trust would make The margin of profit in 1889 having been 1.29 cents a pound, the trust made.. The margin of profit in 1890 having been

.709 of a cent a pound, the trust made. The margin of profit in 1891 having been .804 of a cent a pound, the trust made. The margin of profit in 1892 having been 1.3 cents per pound, the trust made ... The margin of profit in 1893 having been

1.15 cents a pound, the profit on output was The margin of profit in 1894 having been .884 of a cent a pound, the trust made .. The margin of profit in 1895 having been .882 cents a pounds, the trust made.....

The margin of profit in 1896 having been 908 of a cent a pound, the trust made ... Total for ten years, using Mr. Havemeyer's figures as to the margin of profit per pound, and Mr. Havemeyer's and Mr. Searles' state-ment as to the trust's annual output being 1,200,000 tons, or 2,400,000,000 pounds...

This on a capitalization that, in spite of excessive watering for speculative purposes, Minimum valuation of experts on the real value of all Sugar-Trust properties Maximum valuation of experts on the real

value of all Sugar-Trust properties

31,200,000 00 27,600,000 00

21,216,000 00 21,168,000 00 21,792,000 00

30,240,290 00

30,960,000 00

17,016,000 00

19,296,000 00

236,640,000 00

74,000,000 00 10,000,000 00

20,000,000 00

LET THE PEOPLE KNOW,

Six weeks have now elapsed since the new state treasurer was inducted into office, and beyond the fact that several questions relating to depository banks have been submitted to the supreme court, the public knows very little more about the condition of the treasury than

The INDEPENDENT respectfully suggests that it is about time to let the people know what has become of their the election of Mark Hanna's man. money. Has it been turned over or has Pritchard, to the United States senate it not?

before.

We have been reliably informed that it has not. Outside of the depository banks, there seems to be yet a sum of half a million or more that has not been turned over.

The law provides that this money shall be turned nover at once. But in this case six weeks have elapsed and still it is not in sight.

The bad feature about this is that if Mr. Bartley should be short three or four hundred thousand dollars in his accounts, this delay might furnish a loophole of escape for his bondsmen and the state be left to hold the sack, as it was in the Capital National bank failure.

The people would like to know the truth about the state treasury. Turn

WILL BE HELD IN NEVADA.

The legislature of Nevada has repealed the law forbidding prize fighting in that state, and as a result the great Corbett-Fitzsimmons battle will be held at Car-

TURN ON THE LIGHT.

In last week's INDEPENDENT we referred to a certain "middle of the road" populist who aided in the election of the goldbug Pritchard to the United States senate from North Carolina, when a populist might have been elected.

We have now investigated far enough that we are absolutely satisfied as to the truth of the statement. The prominent populist is Thomas E. Watson.

We have it from three sources. 1. It is openly charged and denounced by the Caucasian, of Raleigh, the populist state paper. 2. We have it in a private letter from Hon. John M. Devine, formerly of this state, now of Washington, D. C. 3. We have it in an interview from Senator Butler.

Mr. Devine's letter charges that Mr. Watson wrote a number of letters to

members of the legislature in Pritchard's interest. The Caucasian article is similar to the statement of Senator Butler, which is given below:

"What," the senator was asked, "do you think of ex-Vice-Presidential candidate Watson's course in the contest?' "Mr. Watson's course," he replied, "does not surprise me in the least. It is perfectly natural for a man who preerred the election of McKinley to that of Bryan, and so proved his preference by failing to vote for Bryan, to favor

in preference to the election of a straight populist senator, especially when the vote of that senator determines whether the gold men shall have a majority of the senate or the peoples party shall have the balance of power in that party to protect the interests and welfare o the people. It is very noticeable that nearly every fellow who posed as a middle of the road populist in the last cam-paign—every fellow that was such a straight and conscientious populist that he could not afford to vote the joint electoral tickets, when enough such votes would have meant the election of Bryan instead of McKinley-has been howling and working for the election of Pritchard and against the election of a straight populist for senator from North Carolina. This is true of nearly every one of the few middle of the road populists in North Carolina; and even of certain prominent so-called middle of the road populists in other states, who were so anxious for the election of Pritchard that they wrote letters and sent telegrams to Raleigh in Pritchard's interest, endorsing the action of the bolters, and advising them to vote for Hanna's candidate instead of for a straight populist for United States senator. And chief among these was one Thomas E. Watson. Developments in the near future may throw some light on this meddling and strange procedure on Mr. Watson's part. But suffice it to say, that these facts throw some light on Mr. Watson's character and the motives that prompted him to pursue the strange and foolish course that he did in the last

Cause of Insomnia.

campaign.

"Insomnia is caused by a surplus of blood in the brain, and the only way to cure it is to remove the cause, says a very wise doctor. "Long-continued mental labor should, of course, be avoided. It keeps the blood vessels of the brain constantly filled, and when it is over they cannot contract. Tight clothing tends to throw the blood to the brain, and it should be avoided. The feet should be kept warm, since cold extremities interfere with circulation. Unless the malady results from moral causes, a little care and common sense are all that are

TO RAISE REVENUE.

The plan of the incoming administration to raise additional revenue is beginning to take form. It will fall principally upon the necessities of life-upon coal, lumber, wool, and sugar. Coal is produced in this country in larger quantities than any where else in the world. escape, for they are to be treated in the same manner. The poor man eats as contribute as much as the latter to the the court. support of the government. Do you How? By raising the price on sugar.

MR. GAGE'S VIEWS.

McKinley's new secretary of the treas--he is an opponent of all sorts of gov ernment paper money. He favors only one kind of paper money, viz., national the bill holder. We don't like the idea bank notes. It might be incidentally of taxing one banker to make up the mentioned in this connection that Mr. stealings of another one We might call Gage himself has been a national banker all of his life. He therefore voices the II we should, by any lightning stroke, demanding that they have an absolute we have been having the last eight years, monopoly of the paper currency of the country.

Here are Mr. Gage's views on the different kinds of paper currency as given

"The greenback controverts the principle of paper money, viz.: That every note injected into the commercial system should represent an existing commercial

"The treasury note is a standing evimarket of a commodity for which the just charge of being both idiotic and im-

money, but the unreasonable requirements of security paralyze its efficiency and operate to destroy its elasticity.

"The silver certificate encourages the use of silver to a larger extent than is consistent with the safe preservation of that metal on a parity with gold."

Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad. Not satisfied with having destroyed silver, the gold-bugs now propose to go a step further. They now propose to destroy the government paper money.

REAL HARMONY.

One or two of the letters published in this week's Independent urge harmony. We agree with them. We always favor harmony, but never at the expense of principle. The "re-organizers" have forced this issue. By their calling of conferences over the protest of the chairman and secretary of the national committee; by their attempts to retire the silver issue; by their furnishing necessary votes to elect a gold-bug republican senator from North Carolina, when a populist might have been elected; by their persistent attacks upon Butler, Allen, Weaver and others; by their con--these people have brought on the fight. Now is the time to settle it, beus have the matter over while we are about it. Then, when it is over, we will have real harmony.

IN THE AUDITOR'S OFFICE.

When the Hon. Eugene Moore turned over his office as auditor to his populist successor, Hon. John F. Cornell, it was supposed by every one that the books of this office would prove that there had But such was not the case. Mr. Cornell and his deputies Mr. Lichty and Mr. Pool proceeded at once to make an investigation and determine the exact condition of the affairs of the office. Their work is not yet completed. At this time there is due the state of Nebraska according to his own books, the sum of \$27,482 of which amount Mr. Moore has paid into the treasury the snm of \$1,500 leaving a balance due the state of \$25,will make this good, but if he does he will be the first state official short in his accounts that ever did. Nine weeks have passed since he turned over the office to ernor? Will he have boodle enough left Mr. Cornell and \$1500 is all he could raise in that time.

THE SUGAR TRUST.

The examination now going on before the Lexow committee is bearing great fruit. In another place we give a statement of the profits of the great concern.

The Havemeyer's by their own testimony are guilty under the laws of the state of New York, where they live, of "conspiring to monopolize a necessary of life and to control its supply and price." The punishment prescribed by the laws of New York for the crime is "a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or by imprisonment not longer than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment." Do you think the Havemeyers, who have look up and answer questions if we can. confessed their guilt, can or will be punished by either fine or imprisonment? What a spectacle it would make, a sugar trust magnate in jail! Our jails and prisons are well filled, but not with this class of thieves and robbers.

HARDY'S COLUMN.

Laws for the Masses and Not for the Classes-A Long Row of Repub-I can Defalcations.

Everybody expects the present legisla ture to pass a few straight out populist It will be taxed, and men will contribute laws. The republicans are going to be to the support of the government accordisappointed and so will be the corporading to the amount of coal it takes to tions, trusts and blood-suckers if it is keep them warm. If they try to keep not done. It has always been easy to warm with woolen clothing, there is no legislate for the classes against the masses, but to turn things around is like pulling a cat backward by the tail. The responsibility is upon the party in power, much sugar as the rich man, and there-for a tax upon sugar compels him to government is in their hands, excepting

We want a law to protect a mortgageor from deficiency judgmeats. When think the trust will pay the tax? Yes. a man borrows money, gives a mortgage on property, that property should pay the debts. Hundreds of our best business men are now tied up and weighed down by judgments which can not be paid. They should be released and set ury is not only a pronounced gold-bug, free to dive into business again. Next time they will be more careful.

it an honesty insurance system. But then what will we do with the money? sentiments of the national bankers in get the same kind of state officers that every dollar would be in the first bankthat broke, or in some worthless gold mine. The better way would be to require security, the same as for the bill holder. Our state, county, city or shool district bonds might answer, and even farm mortgages. The banker could collect the interest on the mortgages and bonds just as well as he could if they were in his own possession. There would be no more runs on banks

It is expected that the expenses of government will be reduced by reducing dence of a foolish operation—the creation salaries and dismissing unnecessary emof a debt for the purchase on a falling ployees. The people want to know that market of a commodity for which the taxes are not going to be any higher purchaser has no use; it lies open to the than they are now. We want to be able to say that to new comers proposing to settle in the state. Of course we have got "The national bank note nearly con- to fight office holders and office seekers, forms to the true principles of paper for, as a rule, taxeaters are not taxpayers to any great extent.

The farmers will be greatly disappointed if the South Omaha stock yard charges are not reduced. Other state legislatures are working on that line.

Our election laws as applied to corporations need a thorough revision. The idea of railroad companies furnishing money and giving free transportation to one party and charging full fare for the other party is unjust. What the road gives away must be made up by those who pay. Give us a stringent law and if it is not respected cut down the fare to two cents a mile two years from now. Then keep on cutting till they can't afford to carry any body free. The maximum freight law is still in the balance, so it would not be best to legislate any further

on that line yet. Our registry and ballot laws are altogether too expensive in cities. One place of registry for four or five voting precincts is sufficient. Two dollars, or three at the outside, is pay enough for a clerk or judge of any election.

Give us legislation on these points. entiemen; if not, we will give your seats to girls and let them make our laws and you wear the curis.

Some plan should be adopted to more equally tax our people according to property possessed. Poor mens' houses in cities are assessed nearly what they will sell for, while palacial residences are not assessed 10 per cent. The money stant talks of "reorganizing" the party loaner generally goes scott free. Every registered bond and every recorded mortgage should be taxed as much as live stock on farms or merchanfore this fall's conventions. Let us turn dise in stores. But it will take sand to on the light and get at the truth. Let pass and enforce such a law. It is still more unjust, the system of collecting revenue for the United States government. Men whose income is less than \$300 a year pay more than Vanderbilt or Morgan. Their millions are in no way taxed for the support of the national government. A hundred millionaire ought to pay more than a dirt shoveler

on our streets, but he don't.

have got into, here in Nebraska. Four years ago the state treasurer put out of sight, in one chunk, a quarter of a milheen at least one honest state official. lion, besides numerous small pieces hid away by penitentiary and asylum management. Several other thousands disappeared in trying to impeach and convict the rascals, but it was of no use as long as every city, county and state official had some of the boodle. Now it is still worse and the boodle runs up into half million chunks. Another treasurer has gone wild and the school fund suffers, sacred as we have always held it to be. Will the Journal or some responsible, republican tell us why our last republican state treasurer put the state's money into banks as fast as he got it instead 932. Mr. Moore's friends insist that he of paying off state warrants? Is there any other reason, only that he got a rake off in every such transaction? they also tell us whether ex-Auditor Moore is an available candidate for gov-

A pretty row of republican stumps we

The Twenty-eighth Charter day of our state university has come and gone. New lines of advancement have been drawn and new and far out stakes of progress struck. We are proud of our university. President Carter's address was scholarly, but it did not tickle the nerves of reform as did the address of Prof. Herron two or three years ago.

to carry him in?

We would like to become acquainted with the boys and girls on the farms of this state. We were born, raised and educated on a farm. We used to get bothered once in a while and send questions to Greeley's Tribune, and never failed to get helpful answers. Now we would like to help some one else as much. Send in your questions. Lincoln has several extensive libraries and we will Did you ever know that every April fool pullet you can hatch is worth an acre of corn to make money. Try it. Go into the chicken business. It is a good business for boys and girls.

Windmill Cheap.

We have on hand a good new windmill steel tower, with anchor posts complete, which we will sell at a bargain for cash or will take a cow for part payment.

J. Y. M. Swigart,