

Nebraska Independent

Consolidation of THE WEALTH MAKERS and LINCOLN INDEPENDENT.

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Well, who else is a defaulter? Let us know the whole truth.

Really, how long does it take an ex-state official to settle up?

And Russell held up his employes for parts of their salaries. For shame!

If this thing keeps on the whole republican party in Nebraska will turn up "short in its accounts."

A bill prohibiting the printing of the same names on any two tickets has passed both houses of the Idaho legislature.

Major McKinley has been sick the past week. A combination of grip, office-seeking and "good times" was too much for the old man.

A referendum bill has passed the Kansas state senate. That reminds us that there is a similar bill before the Nebraska legislature that might well become a law.

The legislature has appointed a committee of five to investigate the reports of mismanagement at the school for deaf and dumb at Omaha and ascertain the facts, and make report to the legislature.

Hon. H. M. Sullivan of Broken Bow has been appointed district judge in place of Judge Greene, resigned. Sullivan, up to last fall, was a republican, but has since been a populist. He is considered one of the best lawyers in the district.

In the letter from Chief Justice Doster, of Kansas, in last week's INDEPENDENT there was a mistake. He was made to say "I am unalterably opposed to abandoning the issue of silver redemption" when it should have read "silver remonetization."

The grand old party which prated so much about "reputation" in the last campaign had better help its ex-state officials to settle up, or it is liable to be struck by a wave of reputation that will leave it palsied and helpless for twenty-five years.

The Hawaiian government has sent two lobbyists to Washington to work in the interest of annexation. Shall we extend beyond the borders of the American continent? We believe not. A government at home is expensive enough.

What would it cost to conduct another one in the middle of the Pacific?

The firing of Evans (rep.) out of the state senate and the seating of Jeffcoat (pop.) in his stead ends the contests of this session. The same evidence was adduced as in the Douglas county contests in the house. Mr. Jeffcoat is an old-time populist and one of the best informed men on the money question in the state.

Brooklyn bridge is owned by the city of New York. It has earned \$3,000,000 net profit for that city since its construction. Its employes work eight hours a day and are the best paid of any in the state. The service for the public is the finest in the world. No better argument is needed in favor of municipal ownership of public utilities.

Applying the principle of the Monroe doctrine, this government should spare no efforts to secure the absolute ownership of the Nicaragua canal. If owned by individuals it would be the greatest private monopoly in the world. If owned by foreign governments it would be a constant and continual danger and menace to American commerce.

The Savings bank report for the state of New York shows more money withdrawn than deposited, shows a less number of depositors than a year ago, it shows that a few individuals already heavy depositors increased the amount of their deposits, in other language it shows that in New York state the rich get richer and the poor get poorer.

Hon. W. J. Bryan's address before the state legislature last Wednesday evening was eminently fair, discreet and masterly. He took high grounds and talked to the legislators from the standpoint of a statesman. He was especially bitter against the lobby, advised anti-corporation legislation, and reminded the legislators that they must live up to their promises. It is rapidly dawning on the people that Mr. Bryan is more than a mere orator.

WHERE POPULISTS WILL GAIN.

There is a very large and growing free silver republican element in this country. This element is practically without a party. It cannot remain so long. Where will it go? Not back to the republican party, for its opposition to silver is a barrier; not to the democratic party, for the hostility and prejudice of a lifetime bars the way. Then this element must either form into a party of its own, or come to the people's party. Which it does depends largely on the attitude of the people's party itself.

If we go forward as the zealous champion of free silver, adopt a sensible, broad-minded course, stand true to all our principles, and assume a friendly attitude toward this element, it is certain to come to us.

The free silver republicans left their party because it abandoned the principles in which they believed. They will go to that party which they believe is giving the issue they love the most effective support.

Free silver is the magnet which will draw these men. They will not long be without a party. That is unnatural. They believe in the remonetization of the white metal and they will go to the party that is the most consistent advocate of this policy. They are not democrats. Their natural home is in the people's party.

The number of free silver republicans in all parts of the country will rapidly increase during the coming four years. They were cheated into supporting McKinley by the promise of good times and international bimetalism. McKinley will bring neither; and when these men learn this they will break away by the thousands.

The party that gains these recruits will be the party of the future.

Will that party be the people's party? That remains for the populists themselves to determine.

Here is a policy on which populists north and south can unite. Taubeneck saw it three years ago. He realized then that this would be the future field of recruits for populism.

There is only one way for populists to win the free silver republicans—that is by adopting a common sense course and standing firm for free silver as the fighting issue.

Wharton Barker is one of the brainiest free-silver republicans in the United States. He is editor of the Philadelphia American, the leading free silver republican paper of the country. Lately he came out for three things:

- 1. Free coinage of silver. 2. The issue of paper money and the regulation of the volume thereof by the national government. 3. Government ownership of railroads and telegraphs.

And he says: "These are paramount to all other questions and I believe a large majority of the people will support in 1900 any political party that proclaims them honestly."

There is only one party that can do this. That is the people's party. Never was such a glorious prospect before any new political organization as this. We assumed a high-minded, unselfish attitude in the last campaign. Let us continue to stand firm and true, and ours is the coming party in American politics.

MORE LIGHT.

A friend has just sent us a copy of the Boston Herald containing Washburn's appeal, comments, and a long interview from the gentleman himself. Quite a number of side-lights are thrown. Here are the first two of the flaming headlines announcing the thing:

"POPULISTS TO GO IT ALONE." "WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN AND FREE SILVER ABANDONED."

Here is a comment on the matter: "The united silver forces of the democratic, populist and republican parties, which together cast 6,500,000 votes at the last election have been split, and the leaders of the populist army of 2,000,000 have determined to abandon the cause of Bryan and free silver and strike out on new issues, under other leadership."

Here is a comment prefacing Washburn's interview:

"It means that they (the populists) deliberately sidetrack the issue of free silver, which Bryan has selected for his battle cry for the next four years, and select new issues."

In his interview Washburn says: "The democratic organization with Mr. Bryan at its head, has already announced its position, and has declared that the campaigns of the next four years shall be fought on the issue of free silver. While that may be a perfectly proper position for them, it would be unwise for us to continue on that same line, as our main issues, to which we stand pledged, will soon be fully before the voters of the country."

O, it would be unwise for us to "continue on the line," "the issue of free silver." And free silver is not one of our "main issues." That language is plain, isn't it?

At the bottom of the Washburn interview, we find:

"It is already assured that the meeting of the reform press association at Memphis will endorse it (Washburn's plan)."

"Letters received from Paul Van der Voort, president of the press association have indicated this action."

Bear in mind that this was published

at the same time the appeal first saw the light. How did Van der Voort know that such an appeal was to be issued, so that he could write these letters? Evidently in but one way: Washburn must have written him about it. And there were letters. Evidently this correspondence must have been going on for some time. And he pledged the approval of the reform press association in advance.

WHERE WILL IT END?

More republican rottenness is coming to light. The committee which has visited the several state institutions has unearthed some peculiar transactions at the soldiers' home at Grand Island and at the industrial school at Milford. The result of the discoveries will lead to an investigation of the peculiar transactions of the board of public lands and buildings under the last administration.

At the soldiers' home at Grand Island a new building for which the state two years ago appropriated \$12,000 has been erected and accepted. The committee ascertained that the building cost about \$2,000 more than the appropriation warranted and that the excess was drawn from another fund. The building itself was constructed in the most careless manner. Already over half of the plastering has fallen from the walls. One large room on the first floor has never been plastered at all, although the contract clearly called for plastering. It is charged that the board of public lands and buildings accepted the building with a full knowledge of all its defects, and over the protest of the commandant and the visiting board.

For the Milford industrial school the legislature of two years ago appropriated a sum of money necessary to install a new boiler plant. Three boilers were set under contract. Last week two of these boilers fell in. As fortune had it, no steam had been generated in the boilers at the time, otherwise an explosion must inevitably have accompanied the accident and the lives of 100 persons would have been jeopardized. The visiting committee discovered that the boilers, instead of being mounted on solid foundations of brick and mortar, had been placed upon the flimsiest kind of a base. A single layer of veneer of brick had been built and the cavity filled with broken brick and loose dry mortar. No arch had been constructed beneath the boilers.

As a result of these discoveries an investigating committee will be appointed and the responsibility located in the proper place.

THE REFORM PRESS MEETING.

By a mistake of the printers, all mention of the reform press meeting at Grand Island last week was omitted.

It was a splendid meeting. About twenty editors were present. Resolutions were adopted denouncing any conference not called by the regularly constituted authorities of the party; roasting Paul Van der Voort; opposing the scaling down of printer's fees and favoring a law against the rake-off system now in vogue among many county officials and attorneys, favoring a liberal appropriation for the trans-Mississippi expedition, provided that half of it is furnished by warrants issued on the plan of the Soderman bill, and it is all under a board of managers appointed by the governor. A resolution was also adopted favoring the organization of an association, or rather the enlarging of the present association, so as to include all the free silver editors in the state, and a meeting was called at the Lincoln hotel, Lincoln, March 2, of the free silver editors, to perfect such an organization.

MUST KEEP OUR PROMISES.

The populists in the present legislature must remain true to our only principles. There must be some legislation for the relief of the people. Corporation rates must be cut down. Freight charges must be reduced. Telephone, telegraph, and stock yards prices, are exorbitant. They must be made lower. The aggregations of capital should be made to bear their just portion of taxation. There should be no delay about this matter. We have the majority, and are responsible. We must act. This legislature has it in its power to retire the republican party for twenty years in this state, or to retire our own. Which shall it be? There are plenty of good bills. The only thing lacking is to press them forward and enact them into law. There should be less chaffing, less quibbling over non-essentials, and more effort to enact some legislation of real benefit to the people of the state. All that is required of us is that we stand to our promises, that we be honest with the people.

GENERAL GRANT'S SON.

Jesse R. Grant, the youngest son of Gen. U. S. Grant is to be the populist candidate for mayor of the city of San Diego, California at the coming election.

Kyle's re-election decides the number of populists in the next senate. There will be eight as follows: Wm. V. Allen, of Nebraska, Marion Butler, of North Carolina; Wm. A. Harris, of Kansas; Wm. M. Stewart and John H. Jones of Nevada; J. H. Kyle, of South Dakota; Henry Heitfeld, of Idaho and George F. Turner of Washington. There are four senators independent of any party: Henry M. Teller of Colorado; Frank J. Cannon, of Utah; Lee Mantle, of Montana and R. F. Pettigrew of South Dakota.

THOSE SHORTAGES.

Ex-Treasurer Bartley is short over a half million in his accounts. Ex-Auditor Moore is short \$25,000. And now it transpires that Ex-Land Commissioner Russell is short, but it cannot be determined how much, as the books of original entry are gone. A committee, has also reported that clerks in his office were required to sign vouchers for much larger sums than they received. The state superintendent's and attorney general's offices have not yet been investigated. It also transpires that the two republican members of the board approved a number of depository bonds on the last day the republicans were in office, over Gov. Holcomb's protest; and this was for the purpose probably of covering up more rottenness. This is the dishonesty of the great party of "honest money" slowly coming to light.

POPULISM IN DULUTH.

In the recent election in the city of Duluth, Minnesota, the peoples party elected the city treasurer, collector, and six out of eight aldermen. The accessions to the populist ranks came from the republicans and were due to the failure to keep promises made to the working men in the great coal regions near that city. They voted solidly for McKinley with the promise of more work and better wages. Since election the works have closed down or wages have been reduced until destitution and suffering is greater than ever before. These men showed their resentment in the city election, and openly declared that the McKinley campaign was a fraud.

TAKING A TUMBLE.

We clip the following old telegram from Coxe's paper.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Populist members of congress do not as a rule take kindly to the proposition of National Committeeman Washburn of Massachusetts that the party abandon the silver question and fall back upon the two questions of government issue of paper money and government control of railroads. Chairman Butler said today that the populist party is committed to free silver as the main issue until that issue is disposed of. "The logic of the situation will not permit the party to cut adrift from the silver question," said Representative Ken of Nebraska, Senator Allen is emphatic in all of the above.

Well, how is this? On January 25 Washburn in the Boston Herald headed his "symposium" with letters from Allen and Butler. Something must have happened between January 25th and February 3d to cause these gentlemen to change their minds. Wonder what it was?

HAS IT COME TO THIS?

Free silver is only one of the planks of the populist creed and, though important, about the least important of the whole creed.—Missouri World.

Has Washburn's appeal borne such fruit as this, and so soon?

One of the most frequent objections urged against government ownership of railroads is that the employes would be compelled to support the party in power and thus a change could not be brought about. It could not be worse than the railroad kings are organized and their power and influence is tremendous, and is always cast for one political party. It was railroad influence that defeated Altgeld. Where was co-ercion most practiced among the postal clerks and mail carriers or clerks and employes of railway companies? A little investigation will show that government employes under civil service vote their convictions with much greater safety than the employes of our great corporations.

The report of United States consul to New Zealand, John D. Connolly shows the great progress of that new country. They have some good laws there, populist in principle. He says, "by law the government advances money to the farmers at 4 per cent interest and has no direct system of taxation except for local purposes, and even in such cases no taxes are collected from persons who are worth less than \$2500. No ill effects are yet apparent, the country is more prosperous than it was under the old regime, and the government is honestly and economically administered." This is evidence written by the enemy in support of populist doctrine.

Prices are low on account of under-consumption rather than over-production. Millions of people are living on the verge of starvation. Parsimony is practiced by all. Increase the money volume; furnish the means with which to transact business. This will cheapen the dollar until men would rather own property than dollars. They will convert their dollars into property, either real estate or manufactured articles, business will revive, labor will be employed, suffering will be less, and we will ship the products of American labor to all parts of the world.

PLANTS and Small Fruit NURSERY and STOCK.

Millions of Strawberry Plants. Largest stock in the state. Have the best standard varieties for the west, and many of the newest sorts. Our plants have been irrigated, are unusually thrifty, well rooted and more valuable for planting than those stunted by drought. A full line of nursery stock at hard times prices. Get the best near home and save freight or express. Send for price list to NORTH BEND NURSERIES, North Bend, Neb.

Every spring in this state large quantities of water run to waste. Rains are plentiful in the spring and early summer. How many ponds containing from one to five acres of water could be constructed in this state at very little expense? It will be dry at times next summer. If the breezes and hot south winds floated over lakes and ponds instead of dry land, they would not be nearly so destructive. Every farmer with a suitable location should construct a lake. A few well selected fish would soon multiply into a valuable "product of the farm."

The NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT believes in mutual insurance. It is anxious to see mutual companies flourish, but there are certain methods of doing business in some of them that we think ought not to prevail. All members of a mutual company should be treated alike. The practice of taking promissory notes in payment for insurance should be abandoned. In these times no man's note is as good as cash. If it is practiced to any extent losses are certain to occur. Some men would then have secured insurance for nothing, for as long as the company holds the notes, it is liable for losses covered by the policies.

In the business of the state, we object to the state treasurer accepting the promissory notes of banks (certificates of deposit) as a part of the state's funds in settlement with his predecessor but insist that he should have the cash. The same thing should be required of the treasurers and officers of mutual insurance companies. It is the only way that members can protect themselves from imposition and loss.

HARDY'S COLUMN.

Prison Reform. Credit of the State Arbitration Treaty. War Cloud. Cheap Iron Duello and Foot Ball. Fast Train.

The penitentiary needs a little attention. The contract system should be done away with and a more complete sanitary system adopted. We do not put men in prison so much to punish them for what they have done, as to prevent them from doing the same things over again. We hang for the same reason, so they can never murder again.

Prisoners should work or get sick and crazy. They have to be fed, clothed and sheltered. They can and should be allowed to pay all their expenses by their labor. I much rather they would earn their own living than for me to earn mine and theirs too. Labor is a blessing and not a punishment. They should work for the state and not for a contractor.

Let them make articles such as common laboring people use, brooms, shoes, clothing, harness, farm implements and so on. Instruct them to make the goods so well that the prison stamp will be a recommendation. If they work faithfully eight hours a day give them a small bounty, each day, to start business with when they go out.

It is objected that prison goods are sold under price. The laboring classes will get them that much cheaper then. It is better to pay five cents less for a broom than to be taxed one cent for the support of the prisoners. Again it is urged that criminals do the work that honest men ought to have. They do no more work inside than they ought to do outside, so the relation of labor to laborers is not disturbed. Give them machinery to do all they can. Cheap goods to those who buy is no detriment to the laboring class, there is enough else, for all to do, that prisoners cannot do. The number of prisoners is only one to five hundred voters. The five hundred do not do much, if one can do work enough to throw very many of them on. Many prisoners learn trades in prison and lead honest lives after they are discharged. This should be one of the chief aims of prison discipline.

We now can see clearly why the republicans thought the credit of the state was ruined as soon as it was known that the populists had carried everything from top to bottom. They knew that their dark deeds would be brought to light. And sure enough the credit of the state has never received such a shock. If the republicans had carried the state everything would have gone on lovely. Taxes would have been collected, state debts doubled up and millions would have gone to enrich the ring. They called us repudiators because they knew we would repudiate republican robbery.

The arbitration treaty, with England, seems to hang in the senate. There don't seem to be very much objection to the treaty but if its ratification is postponed till after the 4th of March then it will be called a republican or McKinley measure. The republicans, seemingly, have abandoned all hope of doing anything meritorious themselves and are seeking to steal what little glory Cleveland has left. The treaty arose out of the venezuela boundary diplomacy. It was agreed to leave that question to disinterested arbitrators. Then it followed England and the United States would hereafter settle all questions of disagreement by arbitration of men rather than to that of the sword. The treaty is only an advanced step of modern civilization.

A small war cloud hangs over the island of Crete, in the Mediterranean Sea. Greece on one side and Turkey on the other manifest an interest. The island is a Turkish province though a large proportion of the inhabitants are christians. There has been no little uneasiness manifested all through the island ever since the Turkish massacre of the Armenians commenced. A few days ago the christians of the island took the initiative and murdered about two thousand Turks, men, women and children. They next declared themselves independent of Turkey and annexed themselves to Greece. Greece sent over soldiers and took possession of the island. See Europe now standing to help the Turk.

The iron and steel trust has busted. The time came when some iron and steel must be sold at some price. The members of the trust had a quarrel and every

man went to selling at his own price all he could. Fifteen dollars a ton was the lowest point reached. Several hundred thousand tons were sold to be delivered within the year. The price is about half the average for the last ten years. How much revenue will McKinley get should he put the old seventeen dollar tariff on again?

There is a reason for cheap iron. Within the last few years they have discovered an iron ore bed in Minnesota, a few miles north of Duluth, which beats anything of the kind any where in the world. It spreads over several thousand acres and goes down fifty to seventy feet in thickness. It is mined with a steam shovel and loaded to flat cars as cheap as gravel or sand. It is hauled to Duluth, there dumped into steamboats and taken to Chicago and Cleveland, where it meets the coal and is reduced to the best of iron and steel. It is estimated by one writer that with the present price of labor all that is received above ten dollars a ton is clear profit. It seems to be a war of the giants, Carnegie on one side and Rockefeller on the other. Already the Chicago giant has outbid the Pennsylvania giant a hundred dollars a ton for armor plate to the government.

Dueling and fist fighting were popular years ago. The old duel grounds in the suburbs of New Orleans are as plain to be seen today as the foot-ball ground in Lincoln. More pains were taken to fit it up. Two rows of trees were planted about thirty feet apart and the trees in the rows ten feet apart. Between the center trees of each row is where the duellists met, shook hands, turned their backs together, marched out to the dead line, turned at the word and fired. Then if no harm was done, the most approved ending was to come together and finish the entertainment with swords. Surgeons and ambulances were in waiting just as at our foot ball games. So popular was the sport that our vice-president went out shot his man and still held his seat, president of the United States senate, without objection. Congressmen, judges, preachers, and all classes came out to witness the contest. We once elected a president who had fought six or eight duels and killed six or eight men.

At length, as Skiles would say, "a lot of old women" got into congress and the legislatures of the different states and dueling was outlawed.

Then followed the first fight test of strength and endurance. Men would come into the ring, close shaven and shorn, after being led, rubbed and greased for a month. This was called training. When the hour arrived they would shake hands and then pound each other till one was dead or laid up for repairs. The "rough features of the game were eliminated." Contestants were forbidden to hit below the belt or to strike a prostrate foe. But after a while this fist game became unpopular and it was outlawed.

The state of Texas called her old women together in special session to outlaw the game in that state. In Nevada alone the manly sport can go on.

Football is more hazardous to health, limb and life than pugilism and why not stop it by the strong arm of the law. It is not a healthy exercise.

Who has not heard of the fast train from Chicago to Denver? 1026 miles in less than nineteen hours. Henry J. Mayhan, of Denver, while in New York received a dispatch that his only son was at the point of death. He at once started on the Pennsylvania limited but the regular train was too slow. At Pittsburg he bargained with the Burlington, by telegraph, to carry him from Chicago to Denver in twenty-four hours for one thousand dollars. But death was too fast for the fast train. The boy died while his father was sailing through west Nebraska and had been dead three hours when his father arrived in Denver.

TAXES PAID BY THE SUGAR TRUST

Sworn Statement by H. O. Havemeyer of the Amount Paid in New York State.

The committee secured a statement of the taxes paid by this great monopoly to the state of New York and handed it to Mr. H. O. Havemeyer when on the witness stand. He swore that it was correct. Most of all of the real estate and actual property, raw and refined sugar is located in the cities of Brooklyn and New York, and is in the most valuable locations. The taxes paid were as follows:

Table with columns: Year, New York City, Brooklyn. Rows: 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896. Total: \$33,615.54

Think of that for a company that pays average dividends on \$75,000,000 capital of 9 per cent as well as occasional cash dividends and accumulates a great surplus, and which does more than half of all its business in the state of New York.

Of course the trust does not wear woolen clothes, or eat sugar, nor does it use tobacco or playing cards and as an income tax is unconstitutional it therefore pays no tax whatever to the national government.

Nerves

Are the Telegraph System of the body, extending from the brain to every part of the system. Nerves are fed by the blood, and are, therefore, like it—weak and tired if the blood is thin, pale, impure—Nerves are strong and steady, there is no neuralgia, brain is unclouded—the blood is rich, red and pure. Nerves find a true friend in Hood's Sarsaparilla, because it makes rich, red blood, gives good appetite and digestion.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. Hood's Pills cure all Liver Ills and Sick Headache.