

Nebraska Independent

Consolidation of THE WEALTH MAKERS and LINCOLN INDEPENDENT.

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Read our subscription proposition on page 5.

Congress will meet in extra session March 15th.

The people should be given a chance to vote on the proposed constitutional amendment allowing the initiative and referendum in state, county and municipal affairs.

The expense of the McKinley inaugural was \$2,500,000, while that of Thomas Jefferson did not cost to exceed \$5,000. This is evidence that this country is fast approaching the customs of monarchies.

The legislature is now getting down to work. The preliminary committee work, etc., is largely over and henceforth bills may be expected to be ground out very rapidly. There is a good prospect that all the reform measures will become laws.

The Nebraska reform press association will hold another meeting at the Lincoln hotel this city, Tuesday, March 16, at 10 a. m. Matters of very great interest and importance to publishers will be considered. This will be strictly a business meeting.

Van der Voort, as a factor in the populist party, is at an end. Washburn's plan seems to have been lost in the shuffle. Coxy's reorganization plan failed to reorganize. The two press associations are making overtures to get together. Peace and harmony once more hover over the party councils. Let populists, with a united front, face about and attack the enemy all along the line.

The stock yards bill has passed the senate and gone to the house. It will undoubtedly become a law. It does not make a very severe cut and yet it makes a very material reduction that will help the farmers and shippers of the state. The corporations made the senate the battle ground, but they were defeated. The people of Nebraska have prayed for stock yards regulation for years. At last they are about to receive it.

Our subscription proposition on page 5 deserves your favorable consideration. It will save you money.

The bill passed by the house for revising the charges in the office of secretary of state was prepared by Secretary Porter and introduced by Mr. Sheldon is a most excellent measure. It is based on laws existing in Ohio, Wisconsin, Colorado and many other states and is intended to make the office self-supporting. It increases the amount of charges for the filing of articles of incorporation and other fees to the state. The amounts charged are still far below the charges in other states, but are sufficient to pay all of the running expenses of the office.

MUNICIPAL FEMALE SUFFRAGE.

By a decisive majority last week the house recommended the passage of a bill to permit women to vote in all municipal elections of the state. The woman's rights advocates have been struggling for such a law a great many years. Their efforts seem now about to succeed.

This was not made a party measure, as the bill for municipal referendum was, yet the bulk of the votes for the suffrage measure came from the populists. All reforms work together and a man who favors one is liable to favor others, even though not bound so to do by a party platform.

MUNICIPAL REFERENDUM.

The bill for the referendum in the municipalities of the state has been recommended to pass the lower house of the state legislature, and in all probability will become a law. "Municipal" as used in this bill is meant to apply to any political subdivision of the state. It may be used in a city, town, township, or county. The law will leave it optional with the people of any such political subdivision whether they adopt the system or not. There is nothing compulsory about the matter.

The referendum is a provision to refer to the people for their approval any ordinance of a city council, etc. The bill states, however, that a certain percentage must petition to have such ordinance so referred. This is to prevent the calling of a special election on trivial points.

BROTHERHOOD.

The movement of the whole world is toward brotherhood. Some people call it socialism, some collectivism, some co-operation, some nationalism, some one thing and some another. I call it brotherhood. That is a broad word. It has a political meaning, a religious meaning, an industrial meaning. Politically it means a pure democracy—equal rights, equal privileges. Religiously, it means love for your fellow man—the highest of the doctrines of Christ. Industrially, it means the co-operative commonwealth—all for each and each for all. Brotherhood means peace—as wide as the world and as long as the ages—no more fratricidal war—no more shedding of brothers' blood. Brotherhood means a universal religion—no more creeds with narrow barriers—no more warring sects—no more lying and tyrannical priests—no more fetters of form—but a religion of the heart—as broad as mankind—that recognizes God over us, Christ in us and a bond of love and union between us. Brotherhood means a republic of the world. No more kings—no more tyranny—no more oppression—but a universal liberty—a union of all the states of the earth, to preserve justice, to curb rapacity, to elevate all the race. Brotherhood means the divinity of toil—the just recognition of the workers of the world; the stopping of the rule of greed; the ending of an idle and vicious class that is a burden on the backs of labor. It means that the state shall not be a conglomeration of warring individuals, but a perfect social organism where every man is free to do what is best for his fellow men, where the aim of each is the happiness of all.

The greatest teacher of brotherhood was Jesus Christ. He proclaimed the fatherhood of God, the love of neighbor, the forgiveness of enemies, charity, mercy, forbearance, the gospel of good deeds. His ideas, if followed to their logical conclusion, would build up a brotherhood of all the race.

The cornerstone of our present industrial system is selfishness. Our religious and political systems are both warped to fit our industrial system. The ruling factor in all is selfishness.

In politics the rule is to work for self. I am to be elected to office, my interests are to be subserved in legislation—the good of self the first thought, the good of the whole people a secondary matter.

In religion, it is the rule of self again. Every one looks after his own salvation. Each church is built for a class—each striving to make the greatest show—the members purse-proud and selfish—the ministers preaching for a salary and striving not to offend the source from which it comes. All dedicated to the worship of Mammon rather than to the worship of right and love the truth.

In the industrial world, still working for self. Every man cheating his neighbors. Capital beating labor of its wage, Corporations robbing the people, wealth being hoarded by the few, robbery on all sides, every man's hand against all the rest, every one striving for self.

This is a civilization founded on selfishness. Christ taught the opposite. Christ taught brotherhood, which is the subordination of self to the good of the whole people. One or the other is wrong. Is it Christ or the present system? Which?

There can be but one answer: Christ is right. Brotherhood is the divine law. Selfishness has been the bane of the world. It is the worst sin—the root of all other sins. Any civilization that recognizes selfishness as the primal law of its industrial system must either rectify the mistake or must go down. The political, religious and industrial system of the future must be founded on human brotherhood. It will then be in consonance with natural and divine law. It will be a house built upon a rock.

Now at the very gateway of the new century, from some mighty impulse, like a psychic wave, comes a movement in all the nations toward brotherhood. In one country it assures one phase, in another a different one, but it is everywhere present. In Germany, it is a social democratic party, in France and England it is a kindred political organization. In Russia it is a Count Tolstoy spreading his doctrines throughout all the domains of the Czar. In all Europe it is a purpose to blot out the cruel Ottoman empire. In America it is a political upheaval to strike down the rule of Mammon. In Cuba it is a struggle to be free. In all the world it is a movement toward peace and arbitration. In the church it is an effort here and there manifest to get back to the real doctrines of Christ.

With the swiftness of light comes the awakening of the people. The old era of oppression and greed and war is passing away; the new era of liberty, peace and equality is dawning. The spirit of Christ is entering more and more into the hearts of men. The world is seeing more and more the real meaning of the divine truths he uttered. He spoke for the salvation of humanity in this world as well as the world to come. He taught the divine doctrine of love of your fellow man, which doctrine will be the cornerstone of the civilization of the future.

In the ocean of human affairs is gathering a tidal wave. Year by year its height and momentum increases. It is bearing down upon us. Before it will be swept away thrones, priests, standing armies and old lies. Before it will go

down the money power of the world; the vampire that is sapping the life-blood of mankind, the rule of Mammon. In its wake the sun of liberty will arise. After its passing, humanity will arise, re-baptized, rejuvenated, redeemed. And from that time henceforth the divine law of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man will be recognized, revered, obeyed.

A STRONG ENDORSEMENT.

The position of this paper and its editor in opposing any proposed change of the fighting issue has met with an endorsement from leading populists in all parts of the United States. Among those who have sent letters supporting our position are such men as the following:

- Gen. James B. Weaver, populist candidate for president in 1892.
Gen. James G. Field, populist candidate for vice-president in 1892.
Hon. Marion Butler, chairman populist national committee and U. S. senator from North Carolina.
Hon. W. V. Allen, U. S. senator from Nebraska.
Hon. Wm. A. Harris, U. S. senator from Kansas.
Hon. Wm. M. Stewart, U. S. senator from Nevada.
Hon. Henry Heitfield, U.S. senator from Idaho.
Hon. Geo. Turner, U. S. senator from Washington.
Hon. W. A. Peffer, ex-U. S. senator from Kansas.
Hon. John W. Leedy, governor of Kansas.
Hon. Silas H. Holcomb, governor of Nebraska.
Hon. Andrew E. Lee, governor of S. Dakota.
Hon. John R. Rogers, governor of Washington.
Hon. Robert B. Smith, governor of Montana.
Hon. John C. Bell, congressman from Colorado.
Hon. C. A. Barlow, congressman from California.
Hon. James Gunn, Congressman from Idaho.
Hon. J. E. Kelley, congressman from South Dakota.
Hon. W. L. Stark, Congressman from Nebraska.
Hon. R. D. Sutherland, congressman from Nebraska.
Hon. W. L. Green, congressman from Nebraska.
Hon. W. D. Vincent, congressman from Kansas.
Hon. E. R. Ridgely, congressman from Kansas.
Hon. M. S. Peters, congressman from Kansas.
Hon. J. Y. Callahan, delegate to congress from Oklahoma.
Hon. O. M. Kem, ex-congressman from Nebraska.
Hon. B. O. Flower, ex-editor of the Arena.
Hon. Wharton Barker, editor of the American.
Hon. Gordon Clark, distinguished economic author.
Hon. J. R. Sovereign, gen. master workman K. of L.
Hon. Frank Doster, chief justice supreme court of Kansas.
Hon. T. M. Patterson, editor Rocky Mountain News.

The secretary of state, state treasurer and state superintendent of Kansas.
The lieut.-gov. and state supt. of Montana.
The state auditor of Washington.
Chairmen of the populist committees of the following states: Montana, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Connecticut and Maryland.
One or more members of the national committee from each of the following states and territories: Massachusetts, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, North Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Arkansas, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Montana, Idaho, Utah, New Mexico, Iowa, California, Oregon and Washington.

The following distinguished Nebraska populists outside of those already named: John M. Devine, W. A. Poynter, C. N. Mayberry, A. H. Weir, John M. Ragan, George A. Abbott, P. H. Barry, J. Burrows, Geo. W. Leigh, Dr. L. J. Abbott, Prof. W. A. Jones, B. R. B. Weber, J. E. Harris; several members of the present senate and house, and many others from all parts of the state and nation. Among hundreds of letters secured on the subject, not half a dozen have opposed our stand.

Many of these letters came in answer to a short note from us asking an opinion. Many more came unsolicited. Some are marked private or personal so that we cannot publish them. Altogether the answers form an authoritative symposium that ought to be conclusive on this point. They seem to us to settle beyond any future cavil the one point, that the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1 is to remain "the fighting issue" of the people's party until that question is settled.

Another thing is shown by these letters: That while the fighting issue must remain as above stated, there is more and more a tendency to push the fight on the whole platform, and especially on all the money question. And yet another thing is shown—that the people's party must be preserved and its identity kept separate from any and all others.

And yet another thing is shown—that there is a surprising amount of vitality and aggressiveness displayed by every populist leader.

These are all encouraging signs. Let the people's party, determined and united, move forward against the enemies of the people, against false systems; and teaching the truth that shall make us free.

SUGAR TRUST PROFITS.

William Shaw Bowen, correspondent for the World, states that he has information from a United States senator in a position to know, that the sugar trust contributed \$300,000 to the McKinley campaign fund. It was given with a condition as to the tariff on sugar in case of his election. This explains the increase of tariff to 15-8 of a cent a pound on sugar. This new duty will raise for the government from \$65,000,000 to \$75,000,000 annually. The present duty is 40 per cent ad valorem which is equivalent to about 1 cent per pound. In addition to this there is a differential protection of 1-8 of one cent per pound on refined sugar. The last will amount to about \$5,000,000 and as four-fifths of all refined sugar is controlled by the trust \$4,000,000 of it will go into the coffers of the sugar trust.

MCKINLEY'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

It is a very ordinary state paper. There is no attempt to be brilliant, no effort at display. The reverent spirit shown in the opening and closing paragraphs is commendable. The references to taxation are moderate, and are somewhat toned down from former McKinley utterances. The utterances against trusts are very similar to those made by Cleveland four years ago. We sincerely hope that they will not be carried out in the same way. The references to the financial question are unsatisfactory. The silver question is dismissed in a single sentence. The president pledges himself to do all he can to bring about an international conference. Well, Cleveland recently went as far as that. He signed the joint resolution favoring such a conference. He evidently did not believe that it would do anything for silver or he would not have signed it. Is it possible that Mr. McKinley shares that opinion and that his brief reference to the question is merely perfunctory?

The president's reference to paper money is vague. Does he favor the retirement of the greenbacks or does he not? Can anybody tell from his address what stand he takes on that question? He says that the issuance of paper money must still remain under "the supervision of the government." Mr. Gage the man Mr. McKinley has appointed secretary of the treasury, favors retiring the greenbacks. Does McKinley agree with him? If not, why did he appoint Mr. Gage? It is safe to say that he does, and that his whole involved reference to this question is evasion.

The demand for a monetary commission is not new. The same thing has been recommended by the money power for years. Such a commission probably would be composed of bankers and those in sympathy with the bankers.

Taken all in all, the president proposes nothing new. He dismisses the silver question with a sentence, he evades the question of retiring the greenbacks, his references to the trusts are good if carried out, his reference to the tariff is outspoken and on the whole such as we expected. The remainder of the address is rather tame and platitudinous. There is an evasion as to Cuba. No one can tell where the new administration will stand in relation to the struggle going on there.

THE NEW CABINET.

John Sherman is secretary of state; a millionaire; the man who engineered the demonetization of silver; with no special distinction in handling foreign affairs; evidently appointed to make room for Mark Hanna in the senate.
Lyman J. Gage is secretary of the treasury; also a millionaire president of a national bank and formerly president of the national bankers' association; until recently a gold standard democrat.

Russell A. Alger, secretary of war; also a millionaire; at the head of a great lumber company in Michigan; accused by John Sherman of buying negro delegates in the republican national convention of 1888.

Cornelius N. Bliss, secretary of the interior; another millionaire; business man of New York city; unfitted by location to understand the affairs of the interior department which almost wholly concerns western affairs.

John C. Long, secretary of the navy, ex-governor of Massachusetts; not much known in national affairs.

James Wilson, secretary of agriculture; formerly a congressman from Iowa.

James H. Gary, postmaster-general; prominent republican from Maryland.

J. J. McKenna, attorney general, formerly congressman from California, also on the United States district bench; a good lawyer; reported to be a millionaire.

Every member of the cabinet is a wealthy man. most of them millionaires. In the make up the business element predominates.
The cabinet is an index to the administration.

Preserve this paper and take advantage of the opportunity offered in our subscription proposition on page 5.

YOUR OPPORTUNITY.

Readers should examine carefully the subscription proposition to be found on page 5. It affords an opportunity to secure any and all of their reading matter free of cost. There is no "catch" or "deceit" in this proposition. The firms with whom we have made the arrangement are all responsible. They desire to secure your patronage. In order to secure it they will give you a subscription ticket good for five cents for each one dollar's worth of merchandise purchased by you. We will accept those tickets in payment for subscription to this paper and any paper in the clubbing list. If you desire papers not contained in that list, write us and we will give you terms. You can save money by doing so.

Every man and woman must buy clothing, groceries, and furniture. By trading with the merchants named in our proposition and securing the tickets you get your newspapers free.

For example, if you buy \$5 worth of merchandise of Herpolsheimer & Co. and get 5 tickets, \$5 worth of groceries of the Alliance Store or Fred Schmidt's and get 5 tickets, and \$10 worth of clothing of the Hub and get 10 tickets, you will then have 20 tickets, which is a sufficient number to pay for a full years subscription. Suppose you bought a \$20 cultivator at Humphrey Bros., you would also have a year's subscription free on the 20 tickets you received on the purchase. If you do not care to trade so much as that at once, you can turn in whatever number of tickets you may secure and receive credit at their face value of 5 cents each. Five tickets would pay for three months, 10 tickets for six months, etc. In all cases in trading with firms named it is necessary to ASK for the tickets. For this reason it is a good plan to cut the list out and take it with you.

The goods cost you the same price without the tickets as with them, and if you do not ask for the tickets when you have made the purchase, you simply lose their face value.

In the matter of the recount on the vote for and against the amendment increasing the number of supreme court judges. The ballots from all counties have now been sent in and the recount will be finished in a short time. The republicans got out an injunction against the county clerks of Douglas and Lancaster counties complying with the law, but in Douglas county the injunction was knocked out by the district court and in Lancaster it was withdrawn. It is not yet known whether the recount is showing any material changes or not. From the bitter opposition of the republicans, they are evidently fearful of the result.

Graham has been renominated by the republicans as mayor of Lincoln. He is a weak candidate. He can be beaten. The silver and reform forces of the city should unite on some strong candidate for mayor and, if they do, they will elect him. The people are tired of the dishonesty and incompetency of the gang with which Mr. Graham stands. Let there be a union of the reform forces in the city and strong campaign made and the republican ring of Lincoln will be beaten.

On final passage the stock yards bill passed with a vote of 25 to 7. It looks as though some of the senators are trying to "hedge a little." It is about time some of them did something.

Delinquent subscribers are respectfully requested to remit.

HARDY'S COLUMN.

New President and the Money Question—Government Steal in a Steel Contract—War Cloud Darkens—Liquor Inspection Bill—Lecture, How to Successfully Farm.

A new president with a new cabinet are on the throne, also many new senators and congressmen are ready to take their seats. The greatest need seems not to be more protection but more revenue. Nobody thinks of spending less, but more, and the common people must be taxed to meet it. It won't do to tax the millionaire any more than the day laborer. His fine broadcloth and foreign mine must not be taxed as much as sheeps gray and whiskey. There is no reason why prosperity should not precede McKinley as much as adversity preceded Mr. Cleveland. But failures and foreclosures, reduction of wages and strikes are yet of every day occurrence. A special session is called. It is well for they have only twenty months to work their tariff and gold standard racket before another congressional election comes. If prosperity is not here before that, look out for a silver congress. Four years ago Cleveland called an extra session of congress for the single purpose of knocking out silver and bringing out prosperity. But prosperity went with silver as it always has. McKinley is not so much to blame, he has tariff on the brain and has had it so long that, in all probability, he will die with it. But the gold standard, with him, was not an hereditary disease, as he took it from contact with the presidential bee. Lots of men get tariff on the brain. There are probably 50,000 people in Nebraska who think it will be a real blessing to pay two dollars a thousand tariff on lumber, no matter whether we buy in Wisconsin or Canada, then ten per cent a pound on the wool we buy, will make our clothes warmer. Lightly as the inaugural passes over the money question, still that is what is going to bother this administration more than all other questions. Mr. McKinley wishes they had retired the greenback long ago, but still thinks they must be retired. He dare not propose that silver take their place. Bank notes

then are the only substitute. But how can the banks increase their circulation if required to redeem in gold? Will not the endless chain be worked on them the same as on the government. The supply of gold can not be increased to fill the gap and silver must not be used unless the payee requests it. The only way out of the dilemma is to make bank notes irredeemable legal tender money.

What a steal there must have been in the government contract for armor plate, \$400 a ton, and now that the trust is broken the first bid is \$200. No wonder that Tillman charged that Carnegie had an agent in the United States senate.

The Mediterranean war cloud is thickening. Plucky Greece does not back down worth a cent. The "powers" constitute a congress of all the empires and kingdoms of Europe, and this authority bears about the same relation to the people that our congress does to the people of the United States. It amounts to a rebellion when a king does not toe the mark.

A bill has been introduced in our legislature for the purpose of organizing a whisky and beer inspection bureau similar to that for the inspection of coal oil. It provides for a commissioner and five deputies. A dollar a barrel is to be charged for inspecting whiskey and a less sum for beer. Pure liquor is wanted, so men can drink more of it and live as long as they did fifty years ago. Then they would not get drunk, pound each others faces or go home and abuse their families. As well might they ask for pure scarlet women, so married men would not carry diseases home to their families. Fifty years ago men who drank liquor acted just as they do today. The wife and children were clad in rags and suffered from cold and hunger. Men died of delirium tremens just as early in life. We were there and know. Then most of the drugs are put in by the saloon keeper. He buys a barrel and makes two or three. We are told it will furnish a revenue to the state, besides paying the inspectors. We do not want a revenue from vice. The greatest mistake ever made in the temperance law was the adoption of the high license law. Good church members, deacons and preachers vote for the saloon. Then it is a question whether it is not better that the drunkard go to his grave by the strychnine route rather than live longer to curse his family and community.

HOW TO SUCCEED ON A FARM.

The army life of the boys started little from that of thousands of other boys who enlisted. It was hard tack and much most of the time. Jim's pledge, not to drink liquor, was a safe-guard against one of the worst evils of army life. Many a boy went into the army with a clean record who came home a moral wreck. Not so with Jim and Joe. While on the Potomac they often heard from home and the boxes of good things were duly appreciated.

Mary and Sue were not idle. They were both teachers and the money earned was saved for future use. They were also raising geese, picking geese for beds and pillows. Other bed clothes, sheets and comforts were made and laid away for the time of need. We had heroines at home as well as heroes at the front. The girls were bankers for the boys. Every few months a small government bond would come home for sale-keeping.

While on the Potomac the boys chanced to camp along side a regiment of regulars. Of course they became acquainted and told each other their experience. The regulars had been on the frontier fighting Indians. They had much to tell about their march from Fort Omaha to Fort Kearney and thence to Fort Leavenworth. During the last march they were three or four days in the Blue river valley in Nebraska. They described that valley as the most beautiful country they ever saw. They gave such a glowing account that the boys determined, between themselves, if they lived to get home, that they would see the Blue river valley in Nebraska and settle there if it filled the bill.

The three years enlistment had well nigh passed by. They had been in the hottest of the Gettysburg and Wilderness battles, but were now in winter quarters before Petersburg. The question of re-enlistment must be decided. It was generally thought the heavy fighting was nearly done and that six or eight months more would finish the war. Then they wanted to know what was what before they moved to the Blue river valley, so they concluded to re-enlist. They could have had ten days furlough, but they concluded they would not go home until they went home to stay, so they sent their bounty money and stood at their posts.

The officers of their company had been killed and Jim made captain and Joe lieutenant. More than half of those who started from Pennsylvania had been killed or wounded and sent home, but the company and regiment had been recruited two or three times.

The winter passed with more digging than marching and much less bloody than the summer. Spring came. Lee surrendered. From shooting each other yesterday they went to feeding each other today. They ceased to be enemies, became friends, shook hands and rejoiced together. Johnston surrendered and most of the boys started for home.

[Continued on 8th page.]

Why

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