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WATSON ON MCKINLEY

A Verdict Against 16 to 1, but Not Against the Existence of the Greenbacks.

PEOPLE AGAINST THE TARIFF

The President "Will Let the Power Behind the Throne Carry Him Too Far."

Thomson, Ga., March 8.

President McKinley's inaugural address discloses his danger. He is assuming that the election meant more than it did mean. He is going to let the power behind the throne carry him too far.

Mr. McKinley's election looks more like a matter of course now than it did in October last. It is all very natural for the general after his victory, or the mariner safe in port, to think lightly of victories overcome, but it is wiser to reflect soberly concerning that critical moment of the fight when the event seemed to hang upon a thread—wiser to reflect a little upon that tremendous moment when the incoming ship trembled and shivered in all her timbers as she touched the bar.

In the opinion of many competent judges, Mr. McKinley was more dangerously near defeat than any presidential candidate who ever triumphed.

Too much stiffness of neck on the part of democratic managers at the beginning of the campaign; too much contemptuous talk unbecoming upon populists; too much concealment and double-dealing on the part of the senatorial coterie who had charge of the fusion schedule; too much arrogance and intolerance shown by the fusion populists towards those who opposed unconditional surrender of populism to democracy—these were the causes of McKinley's election.

WHAT ELECTED MCKINLEY.

There were sufficient anti-McKinley votes in this country to have defeated him last November. There is a sufficient number to defeat him now were the election to be held again. He succeeded because the anti-McKinley vote could not be concentrated.

The same thing might happen again, but the more opposition he provokes the greater is the probability that his concentration will be effected in 1900.

Mr. McKinley believes that the verdict of the late election was in favor of higher tariff duties. In this he is profoundly mistaken. It may be conceded that the majority of the people of this country favor the raising of necessary revenues by indirect taxation, knowing that even a revenue tariff protects the home manufacturer of the article which the foreigner must pay a license never rendered at the polls which can be fairly held to mean that the majority of our people favor tariff duties which create a monopoly for the sole reason that they do create such monopoly. Prohibitive tariffs laid for protection only create a monopoly, and the people so understand it.

NOT FOOLED BY THE TARIFF.

If Mr. McKinley believes that any considerable number of our people credit the statement that duties upon foreign goods compel the foreigner to pay our taxes for us, he entirely misunderstands the political intelligence of the average voter.

When his lieutenants on the Ways and Means committee shall throw wide open the doors of their room to the manufacturers who demand the monopoly of the American market, and shall invite those manufacturers to write the tariff schedules to suit themselves (as was done when the McKinley bill was framed), he will hear the thunder begin to roll again, and the storm come driving on as it did in 1890, and his monopoly nursed far fall into ruin like a house built on sand just as it did then.

A VERDICT AGAINST 16 TO 1.

If there was any clear meaning in the verdict of last November, it was that there should be no free and unlimited coinage of silver at the old ratio of 16 to 1.

Mr. McKinley would be justified in holding congress and cabinet to this view, but he certainly errs when he assumes that he is authorized to proceed against the greenbacks. It was popular clamor which put a stop to their destruction in 1878. Popular clamor will be heard again if the purpose is shown now.

The pretense that they endanger the treasury by affording to speculators the opportunity to raid the gold reserve deceives no one.

It is well understood that Cleveland could have stopped the raiders at any moment by simply complying with the statute which commanded him to coin the silver bullion purchased, and to use either silver or gold as he saw fit for the purposes of redemption. There is no debt of the government which in law or honor could not have been paid in the standard silver dollar, and the majority of the people know it.

If the greenbacks shall be destroyed, their place will either be taken in bonds bearing interest or by nothing at all, unless it be national bank notes.

If they are funded in bonds, the effect will be that a debt which bears no interest and which benefits the country by furnishing a safe circulating medium is exchanged for a debt which bears annual interest, burdens the country and exempts more millions from taxation.

And even these evils are not so great as those which would flow from a contraction of the currency to the extent of the greenbacks destroyed.

THE CURRENCY PROGRAMME.

Evidently, however, the general program is to maintain the gold standard, destroy the greenbacks and supply their place with national bank notes. This is foreshadowed in the selection of Mr. Gage and in the inaugural address of the president.

The "Baltimore plan" will probably come forth again in its modest loveliness. The credit of the government is to be made available to a few bankers, in order that these bankers may accumulate fortunes by lending its credit to the people to whom it belongs.

This is the real marrow of our present national banking law, and it is the essence of the "Baltimore plan." A few bankers wish to exercise governmental power for private profit, and they are not content with the present system, which permits the government to issue a portion of the paper money.

The bankers want a monopoly in this usurpation of the governmental prerogative of creating paper money just as the manufacturers clamor for monopoly in their province, the trusts in theirs, and the railway syndicates in theirs.

The patience of the American people is very great, and the power of party names is still stronger, but in my humble judgment the plutocratic programme which seems to have been prepared by Mr. McKinley and his councillors will divide the voters of the country with a cleavage unparalleled since Jackson's day into McKinites and anti-McKinleites—those who stand for the trusts and the privileged and those who combat trusts and privileges. The majority of our people are not yet ready to acquiesce in policies and laws which will give to our corporations (which do not die) those special privileges and powers which in Europe are held and exercised by hereditary nobles.

THE PAST AND THE PRESENT.

The war which centralized and consolidated political power in the national government and radically changed our industrial and economic systems left the people shackled in absolute servitude to two great political parties. Political education closed. Leaders led and the herd blindly followed. This is no longer so. Education in matters political and economic has made marvelous strides since the days when the brave pioneers of reform, under the name of greenbackers, first flung down the gauntlet to both the old parties, and cried, so that it rang from sea to sea, "A plague on both your houses."

Fusion wrecked them as fusion has, perhaps, wrecked populism—but the sentiment lives; and the principles do not die.

Thousands of our newspapers are sending back and forth the swift shuttles of thought, and the loom weaves on forever. It was not written that this God-favored continent should fall back into the cast-off systems from which our fathers fled and against which they fought.

It was not written that seventy millions of people, born in freedom and nurtured in the strength and inspiration which freedom gives, should sit still and let the cunning spiders of class legislation weave about them the bonds of commercial and industrial servitude.

That is my faith—my unflinching belief. And I have not the slightest doubt that the voters of the republic—14,000,000 strong who have been moving restlessly back and forth between the two old parties for the last twelve years, first trusting the one and then the other, and being deceived both in turn, will in the appointed time spur the professions of both and look elsewhere for a means of escape from industrial bondage.—Thomson as E. Watson in the New York World.

THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

Senator Allen Replies to the Resolutions Sent by the House.

Sometime ago the legislature sent a communication to Senator Allen asking him to support the Torrey bankruptcy act, and asking him to urge the passage of some measure that would afford relief to those men who become bankrupt through no fault of their own. The senator sent the following reply:

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 9, 1897.

Hon. Frank D. Eager,

Chief Clerk, Lincoln, Neb.

Dear Sir:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the resolutions recently adopted by the Nebraska house of representatives respecting the passage of a bankrupt law by congress and in reply to say that I am decidedly in favor of a judicious voluntary bankrupt act, but I cannot support such an act containing involuntary features which will permit a creditor to ruthlessly push his debtor into bankruptcy and dissipate his property without affording him a full and fair opportunity to handle his own estate and realize the full value of his property for the payment of his debts. I am quite confident that the legislature of Nebraska does not desire me to support an act like the Torrey act, drawn altogether in the interest of the creditors of the country, and whose chief support comes from the "creditor's association." A careful examination of the Torrey bill will show it to be vicious throughout.

Very truly yours,

WM. V. ALLEN.

The associated press has given out a very erroneous report of the Torrey bill. The forcing of involuntary assignment is certainly a dangerous procedure and the senator as usual is guarding the interests of the man who needs the protection of the law. His position has met very general approval by those who have examined the bill in detail.

Do not fail to examine carefully our subscription proposition on page 5.

MESERVE AND THE BANKERS.

The State Treasurer did not Obligate Himself to the Banks.

Since assuming the duties of his office State Treasurer Meserve has collected and paid out over \$700,000, most of which has been paid in from county treasurers for taxes collected and due the state. He has issued another call for \$50,000 worth of state warrants for March 20th beginning with warrant No. 31531. The treasurer is using every effort to reduce the debt of the state and is saving all the interest charge possible.

In regard to his relations with the banks in connection with his bond Mr. Meserve said:

"I am not in the habit of making statements in my own behalf, but I hear it so repeatedly charged by members of both the house and senate that the state treasurer's hands are tied because there are parties upon his bond who are interested in banks that I feel like settling this matter now and forever."

"I have collected and paid out over 700,000 since I came into office and not one dollar has gone through banks where any of their people was on my bond, nor will they until those banks get in line with my policy, which I am glad to say they are trying to do."

"I refused signers on my bond to the amount of \$500,000 because those parties wanted conditions, and each party who went upon my bond did so with the express understanding that he sign the same as any other citizen and must depend upon my judgment for any courtesy extended him, considering capital and other surroundings of the bank, and that his interest must be secondary to the state."

"By the time I have been in the office one year those who have not done so by this time will discover that the state has no money to loan, but is simply a business institution which pays its debts as fast as it can and all the money it has on deposit are its current balances which it must carry day to day."

If Mr. Meserve could get the money from his predecessor due the state he would apply it to the payment of the state's obligations and state warrants would not sell at a discount of 3 and 4 per cent. Since the change in administration the price of warrants has raised from 95 cents to 97 cents on the dollar. The credit so much boasted of by the preceding administration seems to have been preserved, in fact improved by the election of an honest official.

REFORM PRESS MEETING.

A Business Corporation Organized.

About forty of the reform editors gathered at the Lincoln hotel Tuesday. A close business corporation was formed with about thirty members. The object of this corporation is to provide for reform ready prints, advertising, Washington news etc. It is a practical move and in the right direction.

Hon. W. J. Bryan was present and made a short address, which was received with appropriate enthusiasm. Mr. Bryan was elected an active member of the association by a rising vote. R. L. Metcalf, editor of the Omaha World-Herald and J. W. Cutright, editor of the Lincoln Evening Post, were also present and joined the association.

The business association formed yesterday will meet again on the second Tuesday in April. All reform editors in the state should become members of the corporation before that time.

REED WILL BE SPEAKER.

Republican Members of Congress Unanimous in Their Choice.

The republican members of congress met in caucus March 12th with 192 of the 203 members present, and selected Thomas B. Reed for speaker without a dissenting vote. Mr. Payne of New York placed Mr. Reed's name before the caucus. Mr. Grosvenor of Ohio, the chairman, called for other nominations, but there were none. The chairman designated Mr. Payne of New York and Mr. Cannon of Illinois to bring Mr. Reed from his private office and notify him of his selection. Mr. Reed appeared in their company and accepted the honor in a short but grateful and appreciative speech.

Chairman Dingley of the finance, ways and means committee of the last house explained his labors on the bill to be introduced at the extra session and expressed the hope that it would meet with favorable consideration. He said that it had been framed with two objects in view, to raise sufficient revenues to run the government and the encouragement of American industries.

A resolution was passed requiring the chairman to call a caucus upon the written request of twenty-five members, after which the remainder of the house officers were elected as follows:

- Henry Goudon of Michigan, chaplain.
- Alex McDowell of Pennsylvania, clerk.
- Benjamin F. Russell of Missouri, sergeant-at-arms.
- W. J. Glenn of New York, doorkeeper.

PECULIAR ACCIDENT.

Son of Peter Burgess Smothered to Death in a Strange Way.

On the cattle ranch of J. K. Baker near Shelton, Nebraska, Peter Burgess had charge of a power feed grinder. The grinder was located in a basement, over which was constructed a large bin for receiving shelled corn, and from which, by means of a trough, the shelled corn could be run into the mill hopper. Mr. Burgess noticed that the corn was not

feeding into the mill in a proper manner and thrust his hand into the corn to find the cause. To his surprise it came in contact with a shoe and he realized at once that someone had fallen into the bin. The side of the hopper was at once torn out and the body removed. It was the 13-year-old son of Mr. Burgess. He had been suffocated by being buried in the corn and could not be revived. It is not known how long he had been in the corn or how he happened to fall in.

WON'T GET SEATS IN THE SENATE

Both Parties Against the Men Appointed by Governors.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—Conferences held by senators of both parties render it certain that the men appointed to the senate by the governors of Kentucky, Oregon and Florida will not be admitted.

The republican managers say that it would be a fruitless waste of time to bring the cases before the senate, as even after a debate, of which no one could predict the duration, it is not at all likely that a favorable vote could be expected.

MUST PAY THE TREASURER.

Banks Holding State Funds Must Pay The State Treasurer.

An interesting question was presented to Attorney-Gen'l Smyth by his decision by the Lincoln banks. Ex-Treasurer Bartley had deposited money in those banks in his own name, J. S. Bartley or Joseph S. Bartley. The question presented by the banks was as to whom they should pay the money, Bartley or the present treasurer, J. B. Meserve. The attorney-general replied that all money deposited to the credit of J. S. Bartley of right belonged to the state of Nebraska and must be paid to the present treasurer. The same instruction was sent to all of the national banks in Lincoln.

GOLD STANDARD FOR JAPAN.

Adopted by the Lower House of the Imperial Parliament.

LONDON, March 12.—A dispatch to the Times from Yokohama states that the house of representatives of the Japanese parliament has adopted the gold standard currency.

DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTION.

The Committee on Asylums Makes Their Report to the Legislature.

The committee on insane asylums made a careful investigation of the charges preferred against the management of the institution for the deaf and dumb located at Omaha, by those who had been formerly employed in the institution. They submitted the following report to the legislature, which seems to indicate that that institution has been conducted in a very creditable manner. There seems to have been no corruption and the errors in the books are certainly small when compared with the usual defalcations.

THE REPORT.

Mr. Speaker:—Your committee appointed to investigate the deaf and dumb institution at Omaha, submit the following report:

Charge 1. An addition was built to the house on the superintendent's farm in the year 1883, by the state employes in the amount of \$12.00 which was not credited to the state until February 8th 1897, which should have been credited to the state December 1st, 1893, the superintendent does not deny the charge, but claiming it an oversight.

Charge 2. In the spring of 1896, one of the employes was sent by the superintendent to seed his farm, which was not credited to the state until February 8th, 1897, the amount being one dollar.

Charge 3. Other work done by the employes of the state in different departments which the state has no credit for. Not sustained by the evidence.

Charge 4. Money has been drawn from one appropriation to pay deficiency of another, we find it was no loss to any person or the state.

Charge 5. Your committee find where contract has been entered into for dry goods specifying amount and quality the same has been approved by the state. The Matron purchased a very superior quality of table damask and napkins, and took enough less in quantity to make the amount.

Charge 6. We find on the book that the matron owes the state a sewing bill of \$129.00, one hundred and twenty-nine dollars, which has been an open account for over two years which we believe should have been settled up, and the state given credit for the same.

The committee finds in the children account book where some children having accounts with the state have left the deaf and dumb institute, showing credits to such children on the book, which has never been called for as the law does not provide for disposition of such money. Your committee recommends there should be some rule adopted by the board of public lands and buildings whereby children having such credits, said money uncalled for shall in certain length of time become escheated.

The superintendent usually visits the school every day, but not so often the cottage school. He is very kind to the children and in our judgment the educational departments are conducted successfully and the children seem to take great interest in their studies.

- PETER UERLING,
- D. S. WOODARD,
- S. S. VAN HORN,
- JAMES CASEBEE,
- GEORGE U. JONES.

THE RECOUNT CASE.

The Legislature Appoints a Committee to Take Charge of the Ballots.

Considerable excitement in the house was stirred up on Wednesday afternoon when Mr. Sheldon introduced a motion in relation to the recount of the ballots for supreme judge. The motion as read was as follows:

Moved that the committee heretofore appointed to confer with a like committee from the senate relative to the recount of the ballots cast for the constitutional amendment, be and is hereby authorized and empowered to at once proceed to the office of the secretary of state, and in conjunction with him, the said secretary of state, take possession of all and hold until further order of the house all the ballots, poll books, tally sheets, abstracts now in possession of the said secretary, under and by virtue of an act to recount the ballots cast on the constitutional amendment relating to the judges of the supreme court and their term of office on November 3d, 1896, to compare said ballots, declare the result and fix the penalty for violation of the provisions of this act, which act was passed by the twenty-fifth session of the legislature and approved the 20th day of February, 1897. Said committee is hereby authorized, empowered and directed in case of resistance to summons to its aid the sergeant-at-arms of this house, and to use all force necessary to gain possession and hold possession of said ballots, poll books, tally sheets and abstracts until further order of this house.

It had been reported during the afternoon that the judge of the district court of Lancaster county had issued an order to the sheriff directing him to take charge of the ballots and poll books etc., and this motion was introduced to have the ballots in the hands of the legislature before they were secured by the sheriff and in this way beyond the reach of that officer. After a short and exciting discussion the previous question was moved and prevailed which brought the house to a vote on Sheldon's motion. It prevailed by a vote of 59 to 26 and the committee retired to take charge of the ballots as directed. What disposition the legislature will make of the ballots is as yet unknown.

THE UNIVERSITY BILL PASSES.

An Appropriation of \$30,000 to Construct a Building for Mechanic Arts.

There has been great interest manifested by the citizens of Lincoln and friends of the state university in the passage of house roll 203, providing for the construction of a new building on the university campus for the school of mechanic arts, and the appropriation of \$30,000 for that purpose. That the building was badly needed none denied, but there was strong opposition by those who argued that the state's financial condition would not warrant the expenditure. The bill came up for final passage on Wednesday afternoon. The roll was called and a majority had failed to vote for the bill. Two more votes were needed. The friends of the bill moved a call of the house which showed three members absent and unexcused, Messrs. Wiebe, Jenkins and Rouse. The sergeant-at-arms brought the three before the bar of the house and the roll call was completed. Messrs. Jenkins and Rouse voted for the bill making the necessary five votes and the speaker declared the bill passed.

WORTH REMEMBERING.

A Plan by Which You Can Easily Secure Your Reading Matter Without Cost.

You can get a ticket good for 5 cents in subscription to this paper for each one dollar you trade at the following firms:

- Harpolaheimer & Co., dry goods, department store.
- The Hub clothing store, dry goods, boots and shoes.
- Fred Schmidt & Brother, dry goods, boots and shoes.
- Webster & Rogers, boots and shoes.
- Hardy Furniture Co., furniture.
- H. W. Loughton & Co., books and stationery.
- Hamphrey Brothers, hardware and implements.

When in Lincoln call on the above firms and do your trading. Ask for subscription tickets and they will give you one ticket for each dollar you have traded. These tickets are good for 5 cents each in subscription to this paper. Five tickets will pay for three months subscription, ten tickets will pay for six months subscription and 20 tickets will pay for a year.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO OTHER PAPERS.

In the same manner you can secure subscriptions to any of the papers contained in the following clubbing list upon presentation of the number of tickets named.

CLUBBING LIST.

- THE NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT together with
 - The Silver Knight, both one year.....35
 - The Nebraska Farmer " " ".....40
 - The New York World " " ".....40
 - The Nonconformist " " ".....40
 - The Weekly World-Herald " " ".....40
 - The Weekly Bee " " ".....40
 - The Semi-Weekly Journal " " ".....40
 - Your local paper " " ".....40
- This is a good opportunity to get your reading matter without cost, by trading with the firms named. Address all communications to the NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT, Lincoln, Neb.

SALARY BILL PASSED.

Shows a Decrease of \$22,475 From The Amount Appropriated Two Years Ago.

NO PAY FOR COURT COMMISSIONERS

The Bill Passed Nearly as Recommended by the Ways and Means Com.

Superintendent's Salaries Reduced.

On Wednesday afternoon the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole to consider the salary appropriation bill. The bill was read through and Mr. Clark, the chairman of the finance ways and means committee, made certain amendments agreed upon by the committee since their report on the bill. They all related to the reduction of the salaries of the superintendents of the different state institutions. Those institutions when the salary had been \$2500 were reduced to \$2000 per annum and those formerly \$3000 were reduced to \$1800. The salary of the superintendent of the fish commissioner was reduced from \$1200 to \$1000 per year. There were other minor reductions. When the chairman of the finance ways and means committee had submitted all the amendments agreed upon by the committee, Mr. John A. Robertson of Holt county introduced a motion to strike out the \$2500 appropriation intended to pay the salaries of the supreme court commissioners. He made a good argument in support of his motion and was supported in his position by Mr. Hull. The motion prevailed and there will be no fund from which to pay the court commissioners and their services will be dispensed with. If the state cannot have real judges it will have none at all in preference to republican makeshifts.

The following comparative table shows the appropriations of this year compared with those of 1895:

| | 1895. | 1897. |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Governor..... | \$ 15,400 | \$ 14,800 |
| Adjut Gen..... | 2,000 | 3,600 |
| Com of Lab..... | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Sec of State..... | 15,600 | 15,000 |
| Auditor..... | 27,400 | 25,800 |
| Treas..... | 18,400 | 17,200 |
| Supt Pub Instruc'n. | 9,200 | 10,200 |
| Atty Gen..... | 9,600 | 9,600 |
| Com Pub L. & Bids. | 28,200 | 27,200 |
| District Court..... | 224,000 | 224,000 |
| Supreme Court..... | 53,000 | 35,200 |
| State library..... | 5,400 | 4,800 |
| Banking Dept..... | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Home of Friendless | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Board of Trans..... | 12,000 | 13,600 |
| State Normal..... | 33,500 | 40,000 |
| Lincoln Insane As... | 10,400 | 9,400 |
| Hastings " " " " " " " | 8,000 | 7,000 |
| Norfolk " " " " " " " | 8,000 | 7,000 |
| State board irrigat | 9,600 | 11,200 |
| State Uni..... | 196,295 | 197,000 |
| Kearney In. school. | 20,400 | 17,400 |
| Gonova " " " " " " " | 10,400 | 9,400 |
| Omaha deaf & dumb. | 26,500 | 23,000 |
| Bentrice Feeble M'd | 13,000 | 13,200 |
| Neb. City blind inst. | 15,600 | 14,200 |
| Fish Com..... | 2,400 | 2,000 |
| Indus Home, Milford | 6,500 | 5,500 |
| Grand In. Sol. home | 9,800 | 9,720 |
| Sol. Home, Milford.. | 1,800 | 3,680 |
| Total..... | \$908,475 | \$786,000 |
| Decrease..... | | 22,475 |

The largest furniture and hardware firm in the west have an advertisement on page three. You should read it and write for their catalogue.

CANVASSING THE BALLOTS.

The District Court of Lancaster County Issues a Restraining Order.

The republicans are desperate in their efforts to cover up their acts in relation to the constitutional amendments during the last election. Now that it has become evident that the result of the recount will be to seat two populist judges they have had the county attorney of Lancaster county, a republican, make application for a restraining order against W. F. Porter, C. J. Bowby, Frank M. Ross and J. N. Campbell and prevent the further progress of the count. The application was made before Judge Charles L. Hall, a republican district judge in Lancaster county who issued a temporary order preventing further count until a hearing can be had, and set Monday, March 15 as the day for the hearing. If the restraining order is made permanent the count cannot proceed. Lambertson and Whedon are the attorneys who have the matter in charge for the republicans.

The canvassing board is composed of secretary of state, and two populists, two democrats and two republicans, appointed by the governor. It is considered a fair and impartial board, representative of all of the political parties, and there is no valid reason why the count should not proceed.

FOR FARMERS.

The farmers of this state should exercise care in the selection of seeds of all kinds to get that which is free from weeds and of a quality certain to grow. A little care in this line saves a large amount of cultivation and replanting. The Nebraska Seed Co., located at Omaha, Neb., the oldest and largest seed house in the state exercise particular care in these lines. Farmers and growers should write for their catalogue before buying elsewhere. See advertisement on another page.