

The Nebraska Independent

Consolidation of THE WEALTH MAKERS and LINCOLN INDEPENDENT.

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Address all communications to, and make all drafts, money orders, etc., payable to THE INDEPENDENT PUB. CO., LINCOLN, NEB.

Do not forget that it is always in order to pay your subscription.

Some of our state officials have "fallen among thieves," they are sending patronage to the State Journal.

If you have grain or wool to ship, write to Summers Morrison & Co. at Chicago for prices. See their advertisement on another page.

The international monetary commission will unload sufficient wind to fill several balloons and have a few car loads of reports published—that's about all.

In the United States senate, Senator Allen is a member of five standing committees and several special committees. There are very few senators that have positions on as many committees.

Keep up your populist organizations. Read and study the political issues carefully. The populist party is in a very commanding position at present and should act with careful consideration.

Read Hardy's advertisement on page 3 and send for their catalogue. If you need furniture you can save money by patronizing this firm. It is a thoroughly reliable and responsible house.

Senator Allen always stands up for Nebraska. He has secured the location at Omaha of a depot for the distribution of Indian supplies. Senator Gear of Iowa and Senator Carter of Montana fought hard to have it located at Sioux City but Allen had his forces well organized and turned every attack.

The finance committee in the senate will recommend that the reciprocity clause in the tariff bill be stricken out. This amounts almost to an invitation to foreign nations to pass legislation discriminating against American products. American farmers will be deprived of a foreign market. The farmers of India, Russia, and Argentine Republic will prosper by the mistakes of our congress.

Congressman Sutherland, true to his campaign pledges and party principles, has introduced a bill in congress providing for "the coinage of silver dollars, to coin the Seigniorage, issue silver certificates, fix the legal tender functions, and for other purposes." The bill was referred to the committee on coinage, weights and measures. Mr. Sutherland will push the bill to a vote as rapidly as possible.

Senator Allen has brought up the income tax in the senate. He proposes to put an amendment to the Dingley bill providing for a tariff on incomes. A tariff on everything else is held to be constitutional and the senator claims that the supreme court would hold that such a provision was within the powers of congress. When Senator Allen gets the floor of the senate to defend his proposition there will be trembling and "wailing and gnashing of teeth" among the gold gamblers of New York.

We have a republican sheriff in Lancaster county. Several populist attorneys made application to have legal notices in cases in which they were interested, published in the INDEPENDENT. They were promptly informed that it could not be done, but that they might designate any one of the four or five republican papers published in this city. The sheriff said "I have no choice as to which republican paper you select but you cannot send any of the business of this office to a populist or democratic paper." That is party loyalty and even his enemies must respect him for it.

In the department of labor will be added a free employment bureau. Mr. Kent, the newly appointed commissioner and Mr. J. A. Edgerton, his assistant, will endeavor to make this department one of great value to the laboring people and to the employers as well. Mr. Kent has advocated state employment bureaus for many years. He is a member of several labor organizations and is thoroughly acquainted with their needs. The legislature passed an act providing that the labor commissioner should receive all applications for employment and record the names and addresses and qualifications in a book kept for that purpose, without charge to the applicant. Any one desiring help of any kind and those desiring position should make application, giving the necessary information as to qualifications, to Mr. S. J. Kent or Mr. J. A. Edgerton at Lincoln, Nebraska.

A STATEMENT.

Since the first of the year I have done most of the editorial work on the INDEPENDENT. I have done it without a salary, receiving only such chance orders as could be given through the advertising department. I have been compelled to do this work at night for the reason that my days have been taken up with other duties.

I find my health unequal to the strain thus placed on me. Besides my other work is increasing and it is absolutely necessary that I be relieved of the drudgery of preparing or having oversight over every thing that goes into the paper. I shall continue to write for the INDEPENDENT, however, but hereafter, what I write will be over my initials. For such articles as are thus signed I desire to be held responsible, but for all other matter I, of course, wish to be relieved of responsibility, as I shall not see it before its appearance in print. I shall strive, however, to shape the policy of the paper along the lines of populism and reform.

A word as to my connection with the INDEPENDENT. I favored Mr. Tibbles for editor when he was first chosen to that position. When I returned to Lincoln after the last campaign, I found a misunderstanding existing between the editor and business manager. This, the friends of both generally tried to heal over, but the breach seemed to grow. Finally the editor, Mr. Tibbles, submitted several definite demands on the business manager and these were endorsed by several others, among them myself. The demands were refused by the business manager. Mr. Tibbles then quit. There seemed to be nobody else, who was satisfactory to do the work and I then agreed to fill up the gap and do what writing I could, out of a sense of duty to the paper and to the party. I have a lively interest in the welfare of the INDEPENDENT and desire its success. I have been identified with it at various times since it was founded, in 1890. It is the populist state paper and must be upheld by the friends of populism, if it succeed. The mission of the people's party has only begun. The party must be kept distinct and aggressive on its own lines, to do the work that is before it. In the future as in the past, the INDEPENDENT will strive to be the organ of the party in doing this work. It will strive to unify and build up the populist organization. It will strive to teach populist principles, as contradistinguished from all others, and while keeping in an attitude of friendship to all reform organizations, it desires to distinctly state that it is a populist paper, believing that the fundamental truth of populism is advocated by no other great party in America; and that that is the truth which will make the people free.

The INDEPENDENT stands for every plank of the St. Louis platform. It stands in an attitude of loyalty to the populist national organization. It stands in an attitude of support to the splendid men, nearly thirty-five in number, whom the party has placed in national congress.

It stands in an attitude of support to the efficient populist state administration in Nebraska. It stands true to the principles of free silver, through clouds or sunshine, through victory or defeat, because it is a populist principle, first brought into prominence by the people's party, and because it is right. It stands for the public ownership of public utilities. It stands opposed to the alien and speculative holding of land against the needs of those who wish to settle and till it. It stands for direct legislation. It stands for scientific money, a dollar made good by the sovereign power of the law, the will of the people. It stands opposed to the issuance of money being farmed out to private banking corporations. It stands for honesty and economy in state and national governments. All these constitute populism and here the INDEPENDENT stands.

At least here I stand, and so long as I remain connected with it, the paper will stand with me.

I have been a populist since before the people's party was born. I have never any other ticket. I have given all the years of my young manhood to the support and propagation of this cause. Here, nearly eight years ago I took my stand because of the conviction that was in me; and here I shall remain standing until the battle is won.

The fight of the future will be between the forces of selfishness and the forces of brotherhood; between the disciples of greed and those of humanity. It will be

a long and bitter contest. We will need all our courage, all our resources, all our strength.

Let us reunite our forces, let us heal up all breaches in the ranks, let us draw up into compact form our splendid young army and then let us march forward; ready to bear all and dare all for the cause we love; for though the night may be dark and long, the dawn is coming; and the victory will be all the more glorious when we win it.

God still reigns and truth still lives, and the era of the brotherhood of man, with all that means, is as surely coming as the rising of tomorrow's sun.

J. A. EDGERTON.

NEBRASKA LEADS.

One state in the union has enacted into law the populist principle of the initiative and referendum. That state is Nebraska. The late session of the legislature passed the municipal referendum bill, which applies to any political subdivision of the state. It probably would have been applied to state legislation as well, but this would have required an amendment to the constitution. The law that was passed goes into effect the first of August. Nebraska is the first and only state in the union to adopt such a measure.

This naturally calls to mind the prominent part Nebraska has played in the populist movement. It is the only state in the union which elected a populist governor in 1890. True, he was counted out but that he was elected is generally admitted by all parties now.

It is the state in which the first populist national convention was held. The Omaha platform had its birth on Nebraska soil.

It is the home of the populist giant and leader, Wm. V. Allen. Senator Allen was elected to the U. S. senate by the Nebraska legislature of 1893. From the first session in which he served until the present time he has been the acknowledged leader of his party in the national congress.

It is the only state which elected a populist governor in 1894, the year of the republican landslide; and in 1896 it gave to the same man the largest plurality given to any populist candidate for governor in the union. The second national convention of the party was not held in this state, but Nebraska furnished the permanent chairman of the convention and its nominee for president.

During the campaign of '96 while southern populists could justly find fault with Kansas, Colorado and other northwestern states in regard to the arrangement of the electoral tickets, they could not justly find fault with Nebraska, for she remained true to the compact entered into at St. Louis, and gave Mr. Watson half of her electors. While speaking in this state, Mr. Watson himself said that he never received better treatment than that accorded him in Nebraska.

And now Nebraska is the first state to pass a law for the initiative and referendum. Really, without boasting, but enough has been said, Nebraska is in line. The eighty thousand populists of this state, who have made so many hard fights in the past, are ready for as many more; and propose to keep in the van of the great battle for human rights.

J. A. E.

THE FRUITS OF VICTORY.

It is a well known fact that all state and county officials have it in their power to place a certain amount of legitimate state and county business such as printing, draying, legal notices, and supplies of all kinds. The precedent long established and persistently adhered to by the republican party, has been to keep ALL of this business among their own political friends. They carried it to an extreme and joined in a system of wholesale robbery of the people. This last feature all honest, citizens condemn, but the first part, the principle of always remembering their friends, every American must admire. A state official is the guardian of the peoples interests and should prevent any over-charge or fraud in connection with state business, but he is also the guardian and servant of his political party and is in honor bound to protect its interests in all cases when not in conflict with his oath of office to perform his honest duty as an official. The public official who either willfully, carelessly or maliciously furnishes business to his political enemies, deserves the contempt of his political friends and should be repudiated by them at the earliest opportunity, and some individual equally honest as a public official, but more zealous in defending the rights of his political friends should be chosen in his place. The INDEPENDENT will not countenance the slightest infringement of the rights of the public by members of the populist party. It will not hesitate to expose them as pirates upon the community, enemies and traitors to the interest of the party. Neither will this paper defend and uphold any political officer who dare to send the legitimate business of his office to parties outside his own political party, in exchange for "courtesies" they may see fit to temporarily extend to him. Such an official is too selfish to deserve favorable recognition at the hands of any political party.

TURK AGAINST GREEK.

History repeats itself. The Grecian-Turkish war is but a fresh outbreak of a hatred that has existed for centuries. It is a contest between barbarism and Turkish Mohammedanism against christianity and Grecian civilization. On the side of the Turk is all that is base and vicious, a record of vile persecution without a parallel in the history of the world. The American atrocities are but a modern exhibition of this same Turkish lust and brutality. On the other hand the Greek nation has always led in statemanship, civilization, patriotism, and love of home and country. It can point with pride to the greatest thinkers of ancient times. Plato, Homer, Sophocles, Herodotus, Bozzaris and many others will always be remembered in history.

No one can tell who will be the victor in the present contest. There is no crime known that the Turks would not commit. They outnumber the Greeks a dozen times, and their armies are better equipped. But history has proven that numbers do not always prevail when pitted against Grecian valor. Thermopylae, Marathon and Salamis are well known instances. Besides there are other factors in the present contest. The course that will be pursued by the "great powers" is as yet unsettled. If we may judge the future by the past their policy will be one of plunder. Part of the powers will urge one side and part the other. They will loan money at exorbitant rates of interest and furnish supplies at several times their cash value to each of the combatants, and plaster bonds and mortgages upon generations yet unborn. The condition and circumstances of Egypt will be repeated in both Greece and Turkey. These are features as much to be deplored as the war itself. The money kings of Europe care nothing for bloodshed, butchery, rapine and plunder if it only turns gold into their coffers. Their selfishness baffles description, and there can be no doubt they will avail themselves of present opportunities.

Congressman Stark has introduced a bill in congress "granting a service pension to soldiers, sailors, marines and their widows and orphans and for other purposes." It provides that every honorably discharged union soldier shall receive a pension of \$16 per month, not to effect those receiving more than that at this time, but to raise all of those who receive less than that to the amount of \$16 per month. It provides for the issue of government legal tender notes (greenbacks), to pay the increase, the said notes to be known as pension money. In this way the volume of currency could be speedily increased and put into circulation, in addition to being a just and honorable reward to the soldiers of the great war.

In the Journal April of 19 Mr. Bixby says:

"You can't always tell by a man's politics whether he will steal or not, but if a pop you know he will bear watching." It is entirely unnecessary to watch republican officers. They have demonstrated, that they have both the ability and inclination to steal.

The Journal must be nearly devoid of any sense of political shame or it would not have the audacity to insinuate that the officers of the populist party are thieves, without producing one scintilla of evidence. With the record of thirty years of stealing and defalcation by state officials of its own political faith it would seem that a sense of honor and discretion would prompt it to let the subject of stealing pass unnoticed. The Journal should not forget that it has an unbroken record of defending all of the thieves, criminals and defaulters of the republican party. The man who cries "thief, thief," without producing any evidence in support of his accusation is generally a fit subject for investigation.

If the Dingley bill in its present form becomes a law, and for the benefit of the sugar trust imposes a high duty upon all imported sugar, and in this way surrenders the control of the sugar market of this country to the trust, enabling it first to rob the consumers by increasing the price, and second to exclude the products of foreign countries that refuse to submit to pay tribute to its coffers, we may expect retaliatory legislation from foreign countries. Germany will exclude American wheat, pork and beef from her markets. She will buy her products from Russia and Argentine Republic and deprive American farmers of nearly one-half of their foreign markets. The exports to Germany amount to nearly \$100,000,000 annually. It is the price paid for export products that fixes the price to the producer. Deprived of the German market the American shipper is crippled. He must look for other fields for export. The products of our farms will accumulate and continue to fall in price. Farmers will be unable to meet their obligations. Business will be stifled. The sugar trust alone will be benefitted. It will fix the price of sugar to the American consumers as its greed may dictate. It will charge the importer a commission for handling his products regulated only by its own inordinate desire for gain. This is the kind of legislation that is expected to bring a return of prosperity.

Patronize the Reform Press Business Association. Write Warwick Saunders for particulars.

Last week representatives of the republican league conferred with President McKinley concerning the civil service extensions made by President Cleveland. They claim to have secured a promise from the president that the last order of Mr. Cleveland's would be abrogated. This will mean that some 40,000 offices will change hands in a short time.

There is a general demand among the people of this country for a system of postal savings banks similar to those in operation in other countries. There is no law that would prove more beneficial to the great body of farmers and workmen. It would stimulate and quicken their desire to save, for the danger of loss from bank failures and dishonest bank officials would not exist. It would keep the currency of the country in circulation. Panics would be unknown and safety deposit vaults would be useless.

Great Britain adopted the postal savings system in 1861. The first year the deposits exceeded \$8,000,000. At the present time they exceed \$500,000,000 a year. Canada put the system in operation in 1867. In 1895 there were 120,628 depositories and over \$27,000,000 on deposit. It is strange that this country must be last to put into operation a system that has given entire satisfaction in every state and nation where it has been tried.

The legislature of Kansas passed a law taxing judgments. The law will bring about the same results as a bankruptcy law. A party who has a good judgment will pay taxes upon it as upon other personal property, and it is right that he should. If he has a valueless judgment he will release it, or let it be sold for taxes. In either event it will become operative against judgment debtors and will enable them to again engage in business. The only reason anyone keeps a worthless judgment alive is one of personal spite and the law should not uphold any man in securing revenge in that manner. The Kansas law is giving very general satisfaction.

The bill that it is claimed repeals the newspaper law, we are informed by its author Mr. Sheldon was not intended to repeal the newspaper law, but simply to provide for the manner of letting contracts for state printing. Mr. Sheldon was not aware at any time before the act was passed that it repealed the newspaper law. It was never a part of Mr. Sheldon's tactics in the house to cover up or attempt to "sneak through" any legislation, no matter how important he might consider it. He was always ready to explain fully the object of any bill that he introduced. We do not think that "anyone either, member of the legislature or outside, knew of the effect of house roll 571 until it was pointed out by Governor Holcomb.

REFORM PRESS BUSINESS ASSOCIATION.

The reform press association met in Lincoln last Tuesday evening and perfected the reorganization of a corporation to be known as Reform Press Business association. The object and general nature of the business of this corporation as set forth in the articles of incorporation shall be "to contract for, publish, furnish, or print ready print newspapers; to solicit and contract for advertising; to buy, sell and furnish all kinds of paper, stationery and printers' supplies." The members present subscribed and paid for 106 shares of stock. This was more than sufficient to meet the requirements of the articles of incorporation for purposes of organization, and as soon as it was subscribed and paid for, the officers were elected. Mr. Eric Johnson president; Warwick Saunders secretary and business manager; R. D. Kelly treasurer, and a board of six directors one from each congressional district. Mr. William F. Schwind was first elected president. He stated that he did not desire to serve and asked that someone with more experience in the newspaper business be chosen. The association insisted that he accept the place but he positively declined.

The principal mover in effecting the organization has been Warwick Saunders, of Columbus, who was elected secretary and business manager. The principal place of business will be in Lincoln. Mr. Saunders will give the business careful attention, and under his management the success of the undertaking is assured. All populist and reform papers should write him for particulars at once. By doing so, they will get a better quality of ready-print service at a greatly reduced rate.

Buy your ready prints from your friends, the Reform Press Association. For particulars address Warwick Saunders at Lincoln, Nebraska.

Now is a good time to pay up your back subscriptions.

HARDY'S COLUMN.

Surprise—Omaha Defaulter—Floods—Present standard Tariff—War—Chickens—Literature.

We are somewhat surprised to hear of John Powers displacement for he was one of the forerunners of populism and among the first to leave the old sinking ship and pull for the shore. It may be he is to have a better place. For our

sakes we hope it won't be heaven quite yet.

The republicans of Omaha are running as candidate for mayor a fifty thousand dollar defaulter, with all bravado usually attached to that party. Have they got nothing left but thieves and robbers to run, or do such characters run best in their party? Bartley is the coming man for governor and Moore his lieutenant.

The present season has had more than its share of floods and destructive winds. So far the destruction of life and property in the Mississippi valley, is reported more than ever before. Under the present system of management the floods are likely to increase in years to come. There are many miles where the surface of the river in low water is ten or twenty feet higher than the surface of the country for miles away. Millions are spent every year in piling dirt upon the banks to keep the water inside the channel. At the same time the river itself is filling up its own channel with millions of tons of mud brought down from the Missouri and Ohio. There is talk of making a new channel, through the lowest ground for the river in many places.

"We must maintain the present standard of value" is the wall of every scared republican. But the present standard of value cannot be maintained with gold alone. The standard of value is now changing every day. It is higher than it was one year ago, and will continue to rise. It is because gold does not increase as fast as the business and population of the world do. Raising the money standard means lowering the prices of property. If the present gold standard is persisted in property of all kinds will steadily decline. That is what the money sharks want. They will rejoice when a gold dollar will buy a good horse or a hundred bushels of wheat. When the population of the world is doubled the money of the world ought to be doubled.

What will be the effect upon the price of property should the government issue bonds, take up all the greenbacks, treasury notes and silver certificates and burn them? Every honest, intelligent man will admit that property of all kinds and wages must go still lower. Then if they melt up all the silver and sell that as bullion everything must go another notch lower. In eighteen months more another congress is to be elected and if the goldbugs are as successful as in '96 we can depend upon all these things being done for the money loaners and bankers. This is not just. Money should bear the same relation to property that it did twenty or fifty years ago and it would if the volume increased as fast. Gold and silver both together would increase just about as fast.

The senate at Washington is hard discussing the question of how to make western farmers pay eastern factorymen higher wages and not get any more themselves. All the McKinleyites want the New England laborers to get higher wages and not be compelled to work in competition with European pauper laborers, but they want the western farmers to pay the bill. Not one of them think of trying to raise the wages of the western farmer. No he must be made to pay and not receive. A double price for cloth does not mean a double price for wheat. What the McKinleyites want is a higher price for manufactured goods and a lower price for farm goods. Then the right men can get rich. Then the eastern fellows who are protected are the ones who furnish millions to elect republican presidents.

War in Europe has not yet been formerly declared and yet several quite sharp battles have been fought between Greeks and Turks. European nations seem to dread war worse than they did once. A small war will not affect this country very much but if England and Russia become involved, bread stuff and provisions will advance in price. During the Crimean war between England and Russia, wheat brought in New York \$3.50 per bushel and everything else nearly as high. There is nothing that they can shut out of the country during the rebellion that will trouble us as much as shutting out cotton.

The chicken season is at hand. Every farmer boy and girl can go into the chicken business. In the first place don't think you need a hen house. They are the worst things to breed disease and vermin. Not more than ten or fifteen should roost together under one shelter. During the summer old hens should be found to roost on trees or fences. Dry goods boxes are better than houses. They can be had for a tenth part of the money that a hen house would cost. Put sticks through the box, a hole in one end, then turn the box open side down so you can clean out by just moving the box. You want a corral. A bunch of lath will make two. Make them four feet square and twenty inches high with a door on each side big enough to admit a hen. Get four nest boxes for each corral. Place them so a hen can easily pass from nest box to corral. The first hen that wants to set put her in one of the boxes on some round, white stones, so the next, till you have four, all settled setting. At one time put eggs under all. When hatched give all the chicks to one hen and let the others go to laying.

Rules of expression not found in books are quite numerous. When two objects or incidents are mentioned their natural order should be observed. We should say spring and summer and not summer and spring; lightning and thunder and lightning. The place of honor should always be given to others and especially to the opposite sex. Gentlemen should say ladies and gentlemen, while ladies should say gentlemen and ladies. In speaking of another with ourselves we should say John and I, and not I and John, but when confessing a fault we should say, I and John played hooky. In serving at table or in other company gentlemen should wait upon the ladies first and on the other hand ladies should wait upon gentlemen first.

To reduce stock we will retail carriages, surreys, buggies, phaetons, jump-seats, road-wagons and spring wagons at wholesale prices for thirty days.

BILLYMYER & SADDLER, 1135 M Street.