

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

Populists should be up and rustling. Sit not idly down and expect good results for the reform work.

Stul Brothers in Lincoln, the oldest established firm of brokers in the city, are paying par for state warrants. No comment is necessary.

Why does a populist office holder get a better salary than a republican? Because under the rule of populism state warrants are as good as cash.

It will require a long, long time for the republican press of this state to convince the voters and taxpayers that the republican party is a party of purity and honesty of purpose.

Read the advertisements in this paper. Many of them afford excellent opportunities for you to save money. Read them carefully, for saving a dollar is equal to raising ten bushels of corn.

During the campaign we heard great praises of the foreign policy of the republican party. Up to date we have seen very little of it in operation. Theory and practice are two very different things.

Coxey has discovered what many others are destined to discover, viz: that it is a very difficult undertaking to build a better party than the populist party. All roads to liberty lead to the people's party camp.

Those contemplating the establishment of a new political party should consult Jacob S. Coxey for plans and specifications. Though several times a millionaire he found a newspaper and new political party a load greater than he could carry.

Send a list of ten or more names and addresses of responsible farmers or business men in your locality who would be likely to subscribe for this paper and we will send you a copy of S. S. King's book "A Few Financial Facts" to pay for your trouble. We will send them sample copies.

A savings bank in Kansas City failed a few days ago. It owed 8000 depositors a total of over \$2,000,000. That means that at least 8000 persons in Kansas City are in favor of government savings banks. They have paid dearly for the lesson but they have been thoroughly taught, and will remember it until 1900 at least.

Wannamaker predicts the formation of a new party. What is the matter with the populist party? Why condemn all parties because of the rottenness of the republican party? The populist party is not one of the "parties of broken platforms who use national and state patronage in payment of election contracts." If Wannamaker is sincere in his professions he will join the populist party.

The principle of government ownership of public utilities is gaining ground. Perhaps it is anarchy and fanaticism, but it is fast spreading to our larger cities. Many of them are endeavoring to adopt municipal ownership of electric light plants, water and gas works, etc., and that is simply government ownership on a smaller scale. That is not all, wherever municipal ownership has been tried it has proven highly beneficial and entirely satisfactory.

There are some things that do not seem to indicate that confidence has been entirely restored by the election of William McKinley and a congress in full sympathy with him. It was claimed that in the event of his election the banks would renew their loans, the money that had gathered at the centers of trade would be put in circulation and business would revive. That was Hanna's theory and prediction of the results of McKinley's election. Instead the returns from national banks show an increase in their cash holdings since the election of \$80,000,000. The total deposits have also increased about \$75,000,000 which means that there is \$155,000,000 less in actual circulation at the present time than there was before the election. Everyone knows that to lessen the number of dollars in circulation increases the demand for each dollar, increases the amount of property necessary to purchase a dollar, which means lower prices and increased depression in business. The revival is a long way off yet.

WILL CONGRESS ACT?

The present congress and administration has gone into power with great opportunities before it. The country is in a condition almost as bad as can be imagined. If the republican party can bring relief it will win the confidence and support of the American people for a generation to come. If it fails, it fails forever. Grover Cleveland had the same opportunity to have secured the democratic party in power for half a century. He failed. He chose rather to enrich himself and his friends than to win honor for himself and power for his party. His efforts were all in behalf of the aristocracy of the east. The result is known. He was beaten in his own party and is despised and hated by the masses of the people. Will the present administration and congress profit by the lesson? It appears not. The president is following the Cleveland course in regard to Cuban independence in spite of the declaration of his party's platform. The same power and influence that controlled Cleveland, controls now. By the use of patronage Cleveland controlled congress. The same thing is being done now. Congress though in session is not allowed to act. The president and speaker rule absolutely. Legislation is badly needed. The volume of currency should be enlarged. Anti-trust and anti-pooling laws are needed. Banks are failing everywhere and depositors are without protection. Millions of dollars, the savings of the poor, gone in a day and government savings banks are no nearer than ever before. Men pay taxes according to the amount they eat and wear, the poor as much as the rich. Wealth goes untaxed. Sugar, wool and tea are taxed while diamonds come in free. The poor are tried, convicted and sent to jail, while the millionaire robbers of the east go unpunished. Will the present administration change these conditions and bring relief to the common people? We shall see.

TO BUILD THE PARTY.

When a political party has won a victory it is entitled to the legitimate spoils. The new administration is charged with the responsibility of carrying out and putting into operation the pledges and principles of the party. It is proper that it should surround itself with assistants in full sympathy with the party and its principles. Members of other political parties should not be retained or employed. They are usually jealous of the success of a new party and generally are tale bearers, if not directly, indirectly through their former associates and friends, to the headquarters of the opposition party. As a rule persons who have been active and interested in building a political party are better custodians of its welfare than those who have been active in opposing it. Of course all of the republican clerks and officers will use every means to hold over. Many of them will experience sudden conversion. Others will point to some distant relative who has some time in his life been a member of the populist party. They will make any kind of pledges and promises of future support for the privilege of "holding over." Others claim to be indispensable which is about the thinnest excuse of any. There are ten and more thoroughly reliable and competent populists for every appointive office in the state. Others do not like to be "thrown out of work." That is certainly not a worse condition than "to be kept out of work" by your friends. Those who have held state positions ought to be able to rest for a time without suffering while there are many who have been unable to get work of any kind in the past five or six years to take their places. We are opposed to all "hold overs."

A CHANGE IN POLICY.

The republican party in all parts of the country is finding that if it is to again serve the people it must change its policy in regard to corporations. They will attempt to be restored to power by pretending to favor anti-corporation principles. The Chicago Tribune, one of the most radical republican papers published has suddenly taken a stand in defense of populist principles and populist officers. It is offered by the Tribune as advice to the railroads but it has quite a different ring from the language it formerly used in referring to Kansas populists. It admits that the people have been imposed upon by the railroads and upholds the board of transportation in reducing the rates. As soon as the new law goes into effect the Nebraska commissioners are expected to take a similar course to that of the Kansas commissioners. The law under which they will proceed was drawn by Hon. J. W. Edgerton, now a member of the board and passed by the last legislature. The Tribune says editorially concerning the situation:

HIGH FREIGHT RATES IN KANSAS.

The state board of railroad commission...

...of Kansas is about to send a letter to the Kansas roads asking for reductions in the freight rates on certain articles. They will be requested, for instance, to charge 5 per cent less on cattle, 15 per cent less on grain, and 20 per cent less on coal. A Topeka dispatch states it is not expected that this proposition will be accepted by the roads. Probably not. They will not lower their rates until they are forced to do so. There is no doubt, however, that these rates are too high now. That is the case with rates generally west of the Missouri. In the Dakotas, in Nebraska, and in Kansas the roads aim to charge all the traffic will bear. Sometimes they make a mistake and charge rather more than the traffic will bear. That is one reason why the Kansans are seeking so eagerly now for new and cheaper outlets for their products. It costs so much to reach the Atlantic that they are endeavoring to reach the Gulf of Mexico. They hope for a north and south road to traverse their state, the Dakotas, Oklahoma and Texas, which shall give them cheaper transportation. If the people do not get relief from oppressive rates in one way they will in another way. Therefore the roads should yield gracefully. They should remember what happened in Illinois and neighboring states over twenty years ago. The rates charged were too high. The roads were offensively dictatorial. The granger party sprang into existence. It dictated legislation which was far harsher than the railroads would have been subjected to if they had been only half decent.

COMMANDS RECOGNITION.

That Congressman Stark is making himself known and felt in congress is well shown by an article which appeared in the Washington news letter sent out weekly to all parts of the United States by the National Information Bureau. His labors in the interest of the Omaha supply were as fruitful as those of any congressman in the state. He is always on the lookout to protect the interests of his constituents. The National Information Bureau says of him: "Hon. William Lydyard Stark, of Nebraska, had to be almost pulled off the bench to run for congress, but the staunch old Pilgrim blood in his veins is the best assurance of those qualities in a man that should fit him for the life of a legislator. It is well to listen to, and have in congress those brilliant men who flash across the horizon of our history, sometimes for the better, again for the worse. Yet if it were not for the cool, analytical minds of such men as Judge Stark it would be most dangerous to the interests of our country to allow the orator to take full sway. It is the right kind of conservatism that acts as the balance wheel to our ship of state."

We predict that before the session closes the National Information Bureau will have occasion to mention our judge from the Fourth district again. The money power maintains its supremacy principally by bribery. It takes many different forms. In the time of Andrew Jackson the national bank attempted to secure a renewal of its charter by wholesale bribery of congressmen and senators. Had it not been for Andrew Jackson it would have been successful. The method adopted in that case was to make loans to congressmen and never call for payment. The following figures taken from the records of the bank after its close indicate the extent of the practice. In five years time the bank "loaned"

Table with 3 columns: To 52 Members in 1830, 1831, 1832, 1833, 1834. Total \$1,605,781.

The total is greater than the combined salary of the members of both houses of congress during the five years. None of this was ever repaid. That was the method in vogue in Jackson's time. The method at present is a little different. First, place all important appointive positions in the hands of the president and speaker of the house. This done the rest is easy. Elect a president and buy the speaker of the house and have them refuse to distribute any patronage to congressmen or outsiders except for value received in services. The plan succeeded admirably under Grover Cleveland, and apparently meets with the same success under the present administration.

The millionaire sugar kings allowed the case of E. R. Chapman to be submitted to a jury to be fairly and honestly passed upon. As a result he was convicted, and the judge could do nothing but pass the sentence as required by law. Of course he was given the lightest sentence possible. In the case of the millionaire president, Havemeyer, the lobbyists and attorneys took a different course. They prevailed upon the judge to exclude the jury from the case by instructing them to bring in a verdict of acquittal. It is a little strange that other criminals must submit their case to a jury, but the organizers of trusts and monopolies go free on an order of a court. There is no justice in it. "Equality before the law" is only a fairy tale.

If the Merchants' bank at Lincoln had had a few thousand of the green-backs which Treasurer Lyman Gage is laying aside and refusing to re-issue, it would not have been necessary for it to close its doors. A bank cannot run without cash, and if we have only a little cash circulating through the country we cannot expect to have very many banks. If the amount of money gets less, the number of banks doing business will be correspondingly lessened.

When bilious or constive, eat a Concord candy cathartic, cure guaranteed, 10c a box.

In discussing the failure of the Merchants bank in Lincoln, the Evening News, (rep.), says:

"The immediate cause of the suspension is laid to the hard times which prevent the collection of debts. The result in Nebraska at the election last fall shut off the supply of eastern money that would otherwise have been available. Besides this there has been a gradual withdrawal of deposits, from \$110,000 in '93 to the present figure \$38,000. Much of this money, Mr. Crawford says, has been and is being used by its owners in the purchase of warrants, city and school and state, which has sent up the price of those warrants and tied up in them the money that formerly was at the disposal of the bank and taking the place of eastern money, which was formerly invested in these kind of warrants."

There are several important admissions in the above article. First prosperity has not yet been restored, for debts are more difficult to collect than ever before. The statement that the result of the election in Nebraska has driven eastern money from the state is not borne out by the facts, for the price of state warrants is controlled by their price in New York and eastern cities. The demand for Nebraska state warrants under the present state administration has been greater than ever before. The withdrawal of deposits is due to the depressed condition of business. Money has been withdrawn by many to be used for living expenses, by others to pay debts due in the east. Work has been scarce, business dull, prices low, and the people have no money to replace the deposits which they have withdrawn. We would suggest to the News that the present banking system, republican system, "the best in the world" has remained unchanged. People can deposit their money in banks the same as ever. The change of the administration of the state's affairs has been from republican to populist. If the News statement be true, it simply means that people prefer to invest their money in securities under populist control than to invest it in "the best republican banking system in the world."

The recent discoveries of frauds in Armour plate manufacture should arouse congress to some definite action in the matter. It should not stop when it has finished with the Armour plate thieves. In case of war (however unlikely it may be) we would confront a greater set of robbers than the Armour plate men. The great transportation corporations would combine in exorbitant charges, on the excuse that they were only levying "war prices." We understand that the army could and frequently would forcibly take charge of railroads or trains and transport itself, but it must be done by experienced men and the risk of life and danger and loss of property would be greatly increased. That is not all. The government would be compelled to pay dearly for it in the end. The railway corporations would make out a bill for damages, many times their actual loss; and by a system of lobbying bribing and booting would get it allowed by a congress years afterwards. Think how much easier and more efficient it would be to have the government operating and in full possession of the double transportation lines. It would lessen the effectiveness of an army, and double the cost of a war to an amount beyond comprehension.

The recent frauds and robberies of the government in connection with the manufacture of armor plate have started the thinking apparatus of the eastern papers. They denounce Carnegie and his associates and defend Senator Chandler in his position that the government should take possession of the armor plate works and manufacture the plate for its vessels without the intervention of private individuals. This is a healthy sign. It is right in line with populist doctrine. It is public ownership of public utilities. Under existing conditions, in case of war, this nation would be robbed of millions and millions of dollars by those who control the manufacture of armor plate. It is but little different from what it would be to have the standing army owned by a set of individuals. Mercenary soldiers afford but little defense in time of war. They are usually arrayed on the side of wealth, for it is money they are after. A government should have its own army and navy and all the shops and manufacturing necessary to build, equip, and keep them in repair. If Mr. Carnegie will not sell to the government, and it should seem improper for congress to take charge of the works under the law of eminent domain, there is another way out of the difficulty, it can construct and equip new factories with the most modern improvements and in a short time the savings would more than repay the expense of construction. The people have been robbed by the armor plate thieves long enough. It is time congress came to their relief.

The members of the state board of transportation have been busily engaged in examining into freight and passenger schedules. As soon as the new law goes into effect they will begin operations to bring the railroads to time. The new law becomes operative July 9.

The citizens of Lincoln have another illustration of the beauties and excellencies of "the best banking system in existence." The Merchant's State bank failed last Tuesday. The depositors will be paid in full, as usual. Florida's new senator is for free silver and against the trusts. The corporations of the state were united in their opposition to him. He is a young man, a little past forty, and fearless in his defense of the rights of the common people. Do you suppose the prosecuting officers expected to convict Searies, the secretary of the sugar trust? Four of the jurors that had been ordered by the court to return a verdict of not guilty in the Havemeyer case were allowed to sit as jurors in the Searies case. Of course it made no difference as the court ordered them to return a verdict of not guilty as in the Havemeyer trial, but if the prosecution had been anxious to convict, we do not believe they would have accepted jurors from the Havemeyer panel. Such trials and acquittals only lessen the respect the people have for the courts.

The populist legislature appropriated an amount equal to \$2.69 less for each voter in the state than the preceding republican legislature. Treasurer Meserve has so handled the permanent school fund that the receipts from its investment amounted to \$1.03 for each child in the state. Under the republican administration it amounted to only 66¢ for each child. The board of purchase and supplies, composed of Holcomb, Wolfe, Porter, Meserve, Smyth is not yet ready to report, but we will predict that their saving in the purchase of supplies for the state institutions, when compared with the purchases made by the republican board, will show a saving of a great many thousands of dollars for the taxpayers of Nebraska. Populism is beginning to bear fruit in Nebraska. The seed is planted in other states and is rapidly growing.

Congressman Cochran of Missouri has introduced into the House a constitutional amendment to place the legality of an income tax beyond question. It should pass. The wealthy of the United States do not bear their just proportion of the burden of taxation. The revenue of the government is raised entirely by taxing articles of consumption. The system in force is unfair. Men should not pay taxes according to the amount they eat and wear, but rather in accordance with the benefits they receive. Every other enlightened nation has an income tax or its equivalent. Why should this country wait longer.

William A. Jones, commissioner of Indian Affairs advertised for bids for supplying sugar for the Indians. He received seven bids. Six of them were alike, the price asked was .0441 per pound. They were from six different firms doing business for the trust, and sent in their bid as directed by the head officers of the trust; Each of the firms desired the contract but the trust would not allow them to out bid the price, not even reduce the commission allowed by the trust. If they were to get the contract they must secure it through other influences than the price of sugar. The seventh bid was from Gustave A. Jahn, a German importer, and amounted to 16 cents less per hundred pounds than the bid of the trust. The commissioner accepted Mr. Jahn's bid and a great battle is on. The trust will try and secure legislation that will enable it to crush him. This is the only case known where the trust has been "turned down" by a government official. Republicans urge that the acceptance of the bid of a foreign importer is not in accordance with the republican policy of protection, and with that argument in stock the trust will appeal the case to Secretary Bliss.

Some papers are complaining at the action of the state printing board in rejecting all bids submitted for the state printing. It is claimed by some that the board ought not to have opened the bids and then rejected them, but that if it intended to reject the bids it should have done so without opening them. How ridiculous. What right had the board to reject bids before it knew what they were. The board had reserved the right to reject any and all bids if unsatisfactory. It chose to reject them all because of indefiniteness. The secretary of the board, Mr. Porter, has sent a letter and a sample of the paper and quality of the work required to be done to each of the bidders and has asked them to bid again, with the better understanding of what they are bidding for. The only object of the board is to get good work at the lowest possible figures. It is not surprising that the Journal and other institutions that have been "holding up" the state for printing under republican administrations for the last quarter of a century should feel considerably aggrieved at the economical methods adopted by the present state printing board.

The state printing board will save the state several thousands of dollars in the expense of printing. They have taken the matter in hand and will regulate the style of printing and will demand that the charges be reasonable.

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It appears that Attorney-General Smyth understands the prosecution of a criminal case. Bartley and his attorneys have been beaten at every turn. Smyth has piloted the case through all the preliminary intricacies and has it set down for trial in the courts of Douglas county. Bartley preferred to be tried in Lancaster county where no public thief has ever been convicted, but the attorney-general would not have it that way. If the courts will stay with the attorney-general, Bartley will soon be doing duty under Warden Leidigh, where he will receive the same, but no more courteous treatment than other convicts. Warden Leidigh treats all comers alike. A burlesque imprisonment like that given to sugar broker Chapman would not be tolerated in the Nebraska penitentiary.

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE. In this column we will publish communications of a worthy and suitable character, received from subscribers to this paper. No communication should contain more than 300 words. Manuscript will not be returned. Persists in Perverting the Facts. EDITOR INDEPENDENT—I notice that the State Journal persists in misrepresenting the facts about the new law governing the Millard industrial home. Its course is perniciously false and misleading, and its editors know it, for they have been personally presented with the facts and also with an article stating the facts for publication, which they refused to place before their readers, but on the contrary the columns of the Journal one day last week contained the following: "Under the law passed, by an unscrupulous gang of mercenary partisans this home comes under the control of the board of public lands and buildings, and no hapless girl will be admitted until she has gone before men and published her disgrace to the world." If the writer of this has examined the provisions of this bill, then he deserves the condemnation of every woman loyal to her sex who labored earnestly and honestly for its passage for a willful misrepresentation of the facts therein contained. On the contrary the new law provides for the appointment of "a visiting and advisory board of five women who shall formulate, recommend and submit rules for admission to said home and by-laws and regulations for its government." The law further provides that this board of five shall recommend one woman in each county in the state to whom applications for admission may be made, who shall correspond and give all necessary information. The intention of the provision is to relieve the applicant from appearing before the county judge (as provided for applications to the Geneva home) or any other man or board of men. It further provides for the utmost secrecy as to name and identity of applicants and inmates, "which shall not be divulged except upon requirement by a court of justice upon compulsory process."

We trust the public will withhold its verdict as to the merits of this new law until its practical workings have been tested, knowing that the object of its advocates was for the best interests of its unfortunate inmates and not for furnishing a palatial home for a superintendent drawing an exorbitant salary at the expense of the taxpayers of the state. Mrs. D. G. KING.

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