

The Nebraska Independent

Consolidation of THE WEALTH MAKERS and LINCOLN INDEPENDENT.

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STATE CONVENTION PEOPLE'S INDEPENDENT PARTY.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, July 8, 1897.

By order of the State Central Committee of the People's Independent Party of the State of Nebraska, we hereby call a State Convention of the electors of said party to meet in the city of Lincoln on Wednesday, the first day of September, 1897, at 2 o'clock p. m.

The purpose of said People's Independent Party Convention is to place in nomination one candidate for judge of the supreme court, and two candidates for members of the University of Nebraska, and to transact such other business as may properly come before said convention.

The representation is based on one vote for every 100 voters or major fraction thereof cast for Governor Siles A. Holcomb at the election of 1896, which makes the following apportionment by counties:

Table with columns: COUNTY, DELEGATE, COUNTY, DELEGATE. Lists counties and their respective delegate counts.

It is recommended that each county elect delegates corresponding in number to their delegates and it is further recommended that the delegates present be allowed to cast the ballots of their counties and that no vote be allowed.

J. H. EDMISTON, Chairman, B. B. WENK, Secretary.

Peoples Independent Party Lancaster County Convention.

The voters of the Peoples Independent party of Lancaster county are hereby called to meet in county convention, by their delegates, in the city of Lincoln, at 10 o'clock a. m., on Friday, the 25th day of August, 1897, and to select a county central committee for the purpose of placing in nomination candidates for the following county offices: Treasurer, sheriff, county clerk, judge, register of deeds, superintendent of schools, county assessor, county commissioner and coroner; and to select 20 delegates to the state convention of the Peoples Independent party to be held at Lincoln, September 1, 1897, and to select a county central committee for the Peoples Independent party, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the convention.

The basis of representation for the convention will be one delegate at large from each ward and precinct, and one delegate for each fifteen votes or major fraction thereof cast for the Hon. Siles A. Holcomb at the last general election.

Delegates from Lincoln will meet in convention immediately after the adjournment of the county convention for the purpose of placing in nomination those candidates for the offices of assessor, county clerk, register of deeds, superintendent of schools, county assessor, county commissioner and coroner; and to select 20 delegates to the state convention of the Peoples Independent party, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the convention.

The various wards and precincts will be entitled to representation in the convention as follows:

Table with columns: Ward/Precinct, Delegates. Lists various wards and precincts with their delegate counts.

NEWTOR BUSHNELL, Chairman, J. Y. M. SWANSON, Secretary.

And still Schlagel lives and draws his salary.

"The cause of silver is the cause of humanity."

It is always in order for you to pay your subscription.

If you pay your subscription today we'll be happier tomorrow.

One of the best positions in the Land Commissioner's office is held by a republican.

What did McKinley and his followers promise to do for Cuba? What have they done?

Pay your subscription today. The chances are you will forget if you put it off until tomorrow.

The bond holders, bankers and trusts have passed the tariff bill. They will now turn their attention to a "sound currency" bill.

Read the letter written to J. W. Johnson by his old friend from Barney Center. You will find it in the column headed "Voices of the People."

Schlagel's salary is \$1300 per year. There are many good, worthy, capable and deserving populists in Nebraska who are not earning as much as that.

THE AUDITOR'S FEES.

The evening Call of Lincoln seems to be greatly worried lest the present state auditor will not follow the letter of the law in the collection of fees charged for the services rendered by his office. The Call insists that the fees for auditor's certificates and similar official papers should be paid to the state treasurer and that the auditor should issue the certificates and furnish the official papers to the party presenting the receipt of the state treasurer showing that the proper fee had been paid. In other words the Call thinks the money ought to be paid direct to the treasurer and not to the auditor, and by the auditor to the treasurer. It involves only a matter of form in the conduct of the office. The taxpayers are only interested that the money gets into the treasury. It is immaterial to them whether it is paid direct to the treasurer or first to the auditor and by him to the treasurer. Auditor Cornell has collected and turned over to Treasurer Meserve \$14,100.

To adopt the method advocated by the Call would necessitate the duplication of a large amount of work and necessitate the employment of several extra clerks in the treasurer's office. The fees paid to the auditor are paid in small amounts and the records of the receipts are now kept in the auditor's office, and all the records the treasurer keeps is a record of the total amount received from the auditor. If fees were paid direct to the treasurer he would have to keep a complete duplicate of the books kept in the auditor's office, and be to a very large expense in doing so. Such was not the intention of the framers of the constitution and laws of Nebraska. No one complains at Eugene Moore because he collected the fees. That was proper. The complaint arises from the fact that he put the cash he collected in his pocket instead of turning it over to the state treasurer.

PRINTING OF COURT REPORTS.

The State Journal Company has secured a temporary restraining order enjoining the state printing board from receiving bids or letting contracts for the printing of the supreme court law reports. The Journal company is now doing the work at a price of \$1.85 cents per page under a contract made with the preceding state printing board composed of Moore, Bartley and Piper. The same quality of work can be done profitably at about \$1 per page. As there are about 1000 pages in a volume the Journal company cleans up on each volume from \$600 to \$900 over and above the usual and reasonable profit on work of that character. The old printing board entered into contract with the Journal company for the printing of ten volumes of the reports. As the books cannot be printed faster than the court decisions are rendered, this contract would require about four years for completion. The point raised by the present printing board is that the acts of a state officer cannot bind his successor in office. Their position is certainly correct. If the old board could contract for the publication of ten volumes extending over four years it could as well contract for a hundred volumes, extending over a period of forty years. The principle involved is against public policy. A corrupt set of officials under such a ruling could fasten a contract upon the state that would cost the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars. The contract made by the last corrupt printing board was designed to rob the state of from \$6,000 to \$8,000. If the position taken by the present board composed of Cornell, Porter and Meserve is sustained and they are allowed to award the printing of the court reports during their term of office it will mean the saving of several thousands of dollars to tax payers.

COL. BUSHNELL'S HUMOR.

Col. Bushnell, who was in the state treasurer's office during Bartley's administration, and who undoubtedly knows the present location of a large part of the money that was stolen, writes a funny column for the State Journal every Sunday. His last and funniest statement will be found in the August 1st issue of that paper, in which he reasons out to his own satisfaction why state warrants are at par under a populist administration and why they were below par under a republican administration. According to Col. Bushnell the populists were to blame for warrants being below par when the republicans were in power, and the republicans are entitled to the credit of bringing the warrants back to par since the populists have had control of the state treasury. Ye gods and little fishes! Hold our sides while we laugh!

Since McKinley's election wages have fallen steadily, and it has become impossible for laborers especially in the eastern states to get work. Many manufacturers have put their men on half time and it seems only a miracle will keep thousands of families from going hungry. Nearly all the coal miners in the country, unable to live on starvation wages, are out on a strike, and if they should not win, their condition will be worse than that of the laborers of foreign countries. Nearly all of these men voted for "McKinley and prosperity" and to say that they are now sorry they did so but feebly expresses their feelings. They will know better next time.

Nominations for regents this fall should be made with unusual care. It is not enough to select well intentioned men. We must have men who are quick to see the right thing and then strong to execute the right action. It is possible men who already know the workings of our State University from the inside should be selected. Our candidates should accept this trust with the sole purpose of saving the pride of the state from the spoilsmen who are already on her track. There is abundant room for reform in correcting abuses that have crept in since the masterful hand of Chancellor Canfield left the helm. We need a few regents without a governor's bee in their bonnets, and above all, some who are not in the employ of the B. & M. R. R. Our regents should also know something of the inside of the school and of its legitimate needs. Two hundred thousand a year to be administered by a man without the confidence of one-tenth of the 1600 students in the school is a great risk. The strongest testimonial ever given in favor of the present head of the school was given by his close friend some months ago. "You can't expect to get much of a man to come to Nebraska."

We have men in Nebraska whom we can at least trust and who have ordinary common sense and good judgment. It is not likely that an importation will serve us better than our home product. The university must be rescued from politics, and the only way to do it is to nominate for regents this fall men of the highest attainments and character, men who will not be gulled by the platitudes and slick phrases of an autocratic aristocrat. They should also be men who have interest in the university and who have no axe to grind in the politics of the state. It is quite possible that men of this character will be able to find several loose boards in our State University.

Have you observed the price of sugar? Watch it climb. The trust won and you will be compelled to pay your share of the \$15,000,000 of profit which the trust will gather in during the year. You were getting twenty pounds of granulated sugar for a dollar, now you get about sixteen. Under our new and advanced system of taxation people contribute to the support of the government according to the amount they consume. The income tax advocated by the populists, under which the people would contribute to the government according to the benefits received and their ability to pay was held unconstitutional. Senator Butler, a populist, introduced a resolution providing for an amendment to the constitution which would make such a tax constitutional beyond question. All of the republicans voted against the bill and it was defeated. The government will continue to raise revenue by taxing sugar and other necessities and thus compelling the poor man with a family to pay as much to the support of the government as the rich man. The greater part of the revenue is used in maintaining the police, army and navy for the protection of the property rights of the rich. But this is immaterial to the present administration. Its policy is to make the rich man more prosperous and entrust to him the duty of restoring prosperity to the poor and oppressed.

Does a tariff increase the price of goods to the consumer? The following is a sample of the letters which are being sent to all dealers in the United States. Dornan Bros. Monitor Carpet mills are the largest manufacturers of carpet in the country. This is the second notice sent out by them since the Dingley tariff schedule was fixed.

The letter as received by one of the largest dealers in Lincoln is as follows: Office Monitor Carpet Mills, Howard Oxford and Mascher streets, Philadelphia.

Prices of wool and cotton chain three-ply and extra supers are hereby advanced 2 1/2 cents per yard, to take effect on orders received on and after August 2nd, 1897. Very Respectfully, DORNAN BROS.

There has also been a similar rise of 5 cents a yard on Brussels carpets and 10 cents a yard on Wilton's. The increase in price already announced amounts to a rise of 10 per cent. Carpet dealers are expecting further increase in the prices as soon as the manufacturers can get together and agree upon the amount.

State warrants are at a premium. Mr. E. C. Rewick, steward at the Lincoln hospital, has been offered one eighth of one per cent premium for the \$1600 monthly salary warrant issued to pay the salaries of the employees of that institution. A prominent broker in Lincoln has given notice to Auditor Cornell that he will pay one eighth of one per cent premium for all warrants of \$100 or more. The same broker will pay par for warrants under \$100 in amount. Nebraska is at present under populist rule. As the Journal used to say, "the hogs are in the parlor."

Everyone in Nebraska should attend the G. A. R. reunion to be held in Lincoln September 13 to 18. It will be a grand success. Half fare rates.

Every issue of the gold bug press stoutly maintains that prosperity is here. Well, if it is here, why make so much noise about it. If it is here don't everybody know it?

The Dingley tariff bill has brought about the rule of 16 to 1 in some things. For example, sugar is now 16 to a \$1 whereas it was 20 to 1. One of the great blessings the new tariff law is bringing to the people.

Dr. Andrews, the recently deposed head of Brown University is a western man. Nebraska has sent one chancellor to the Providence institution and we should be glad to furnish another in exchange for Dr. Andrews.

T. V. Powderly was for many years an able advocate of the cause of the people. But Mark Hanna's money was too great a temptation and he betrayed the cause for which he had fought so long, and McKinley has requited.

Land Commissioner Wolfe used to preach the good doctrine "turn out the republicans." He fails to practice what he preached. Thirteen hundred dollars per year of the patronage of Wolfe's office goes into the pockets of a republican.

More than 5000 of our subscribers are behind on their payments for subscription. They are respectfully requested to make a payment at this time. The date at which the subscription expired is marked with the address on this issue of the paper.

Judge Field is already setting up his stakes for the nomination for congress a year from this fall. Senator Talbot is said to be a candidate also. But we have authority to state positively that the next congressman from this district will not be a republican. This is final.

It is the school house campaign that wins victories for the populists. The principles of the populist party and the records of its public officials will bear study and investigation. The more you study them the more you believe in them. Organize a populist club in your school district.

The republicans have called their state convention for August. They are beginning the fall campaign early and will make a hard, bitter fight. But it will be a case of "love's labor lost." All of Mark Hanna's money poured into Nebraska will not elect a republican supreme judge this year.

The republican party has always presumed on the ignorance of the voters; but the game won't work any longer. The people have been compelled to post themselves and will hereafter be able to cast an intelligent ballot, which means that the republican party will never again win in a national campaign.

The republican press of the country was for a long time exercised over the fact that Jerry Simpson wore no socks and now it is getting frantic over the report that W. J. Bryan wears silk night-shirts. It had better concern itself over the fact that if the "Advance Agent of Prosperity" don't hurry that "ware" along, very many people will be unable to wear shirts of any kind.

When Senator Butler characterized the making and selling to our government of defective ship armor-plate as treason he was not wrong one iota. There are today within our borders men whose betrayal of their country by abuse of legislation and official power would put to shame the much quoted Benedict Arnold. These mercantile lecherists are but a different sort of the same thing.

Governor Holcomb issued a proclamation Tuesday reciting the facts which led up to the passage and approval of House Roll 93, appropriating one hundred thousand dollars for a state exhibit at the Trans-Mississippi exposition, and asks that "all citizens of the state of Nebraska, all organizations, societies, and other municipalities, lend their assistance and best efforts in behalf of this worthy enterprise."

President Andrews will not suffer on account of gold bug persecution. The state universities are not dependent upon trusts or upon millionaires. The state schools are generally controlled by the people, and any attempt to introduce undemocratic policies will be rebuked as soon as exposed. Several of the western states have already awakened to the fact that aristocrats are at the head of their highest schools.

The Independent has always been a warm friend of Tom Watson. It has admired his ability and believed in his integrity. But it cannot approve of the course Mr. Watson is taking in attacking such men as Bryan, Senator Allen and Butler and a host of other reformers who have proved by work well done that they are the friends of the great common people. Mr. Watson's course is a real grief to the party that gave him loyal support in the last campaign.

Under the rule adopted by the state auditor in the payment of the salaries of officers and employees of the state, the payment of those paid monthly will begin on the 25th of each month and will continue until the 10th of the following month. Payments made quarterly will begin on the 20th of the last quarter and will end about the 10th of the following month. This rule extending the time of payment over several days has been adopted to avoid the great rush and confusion occasioned by attempting to pay all on a single day. It will greatly facilitate the business of the office. The republicans may be expected to begin an attack upon the auditor for allowing the payments to begin before the last day of the month. But as usual they will simply be "cutting wind." There is no substance upon which they can base an attack.

Observe the date at which your subscription expires, marked with the address on your paper this week. Take notice of the day, the month and the year, and if in arrears make a remittance. The price of the paper is \$1 per year. Buy a postoffice money order for the proper amount and mail to this office. Do not entrust the sending of it to the postmaster. Send it yourself, then you know it has been sent. Not only this but if you leave it to the postmaster he frequently retains 25 cents to pay him for his trouble. It is a useless expense which our patrons can prevent if they will only do so. Do not neglect to attend to the payment at once, as we do not wish to be put to the expense and inconvenience of mailing a bill to each of our delinquent subscribers.

State Superintendent Jackson has appointed Miss Jennie B. Adams of Fullerton to the position of assistant in his office formerly filled by his wife. The change would have been made a month earlier except for the fact that Miss Adams desired to attend the Christian Endeavor meetings in California. Mrs. Jackson was employed in her husband's office for only four months, April, May, June and July, and it was not the superintendent's intention that she should hold the position permanently. Miss Adams is a college graduate and has had much experience in school work. She has been highly recommended by the leading members of the populist, democratic and silver republican parties. In her selection the superintendent has chosen wisely.

It is a great thing, this payment of \$28,000,000 of indebtedness. It means that there have been 28,000 foreclosure cases of an average of \$1,000 each. There was not one case in ten where any actual money changed hands. It was merely a transfer of the title to Nebraska real estate from Nebraskans to bankers, and bond holding mortgagees in the east. It is a great evidence of prosperity. About 28,000 of our citizens formerly home owners, reduced to 28,000 tenants by the operation of the gold standard by which the value of the dollar appreciated to such an extent that they were unable to meet their obligations.

After Judas betrayed Christ he had decency enough left to go and hang himself. But the republican party, after betraying the people of Nebraska in the most shameful manner, adds insult to injury by heaping all kinds of slander and insults on the populist officials who have in a few short months, brought state warrants back to par and made the credit of the state once more good. The republican party hasn't as much decency left as Judas had, and will live on as long as it can, but an outraged people will see that it is laid away under the roses at the next election.

Under the decision of the attorney general concerning the fees allowed to county treasurers for the collection of state funds the tax payers will be saved about \$15,000, or about \$50 per day for each business day in the year. It is decisions and opinions of this kind that strengthen the credit of Nebraska. The matter of over payment was first discovered by the state auditor and it was upon his request that the attorney general investigated the matter and gave his opinion.

Very remarkable that the republican press, which a few years ago talked so wisely about mortgages being "an evidence of prosperity," now gives us the astounding information as an evidence of returning good times that the old time credit system, under which they (the farmers) used to run up big accounts, has almost disappeared in Nebraska. For mental contortionists commend us to the average republican editor.

The Journal company has completed the work of publishing the 1897 session laws and has delivered them to the secretary of state. The volume is a little larger than usual, containing 498 pages.

Mr. Heiser is on the right track in demanding the reduction of telephone rates. There is no reason why rates in Nebraska cities should be twice as high as in other states, and several times as high as they are in European cities of corresponding size.

DELEGATES TO THE CONVENTION.

The state convention to be held at Lincoln in September will be one of the largest ever held in the state. County conventions selecting delegates should select men who will attend. The delegates elected should be given credentials to the populist convention alone. That is, the same men should not be chosen to be delegates to the populist convention and also a delegate to one of the other conventions. In case a party presents credentials to the populist convention who has already presented credentials to either of the other conventions to be held in the city on the same day, his right to a seat will probably be contested. The conventions of the democrats and free silver republicans which are to be held in Lincoln on the same day as the populist convention have no connection with the populist convention whatever. They are three separate and distinct organizations. In making up the list of those entitled to seats in the populist convention persons holding credentials to either of the other conventions, should, and undoubtedly will be declared ineligible to a seat in the populist convention.

It is important the three conventions should correctly represent their several political parties. It is proper that the conventions should agree upon a course of combined and harmonious action if the conventions so desire, but any amalgamation of the party organizations should be avoided.

JUDGES AND CLERKS OF ELECTION

The last legislature passed an act providing for the appointment of judges and clerks of election by the county judges of the different counties. The law is now in full force and effect and will govern at the coming election. All judges and clerks of election must be appointed by the county judge at least ten days before election day.

The law provides that there shall be nominated at the precinct primaries three judges and two clerks of election for the precinct. The chairman and secretary of the precinct primary meeting must make up the list of persons selected to act as judges and clerks of election, certify that it is correct and send it to the county judge. From the lists sent in by the chairmen of the precinct primaries of the several parties the county judge must make his selection, choosing for each precinct one judge of election from the party polling the highest number of votes in the precinct at the last election, one from the party polling the next highest, and one from the party polling the third highest. He is required to appoint the clerks of election in the same manner.

It should be observed that it is necessary for the precinct primaries to nominate three judges and two clerks of election and that the chairman and secretary of the meeting must certify to the list and send it to the county judge.

The New York Mail and Express says "If the popocratic managers want to avoid trouble they should take immediate measures to demonize the Klondyke gold field."

It will not be necessary for the popocratic managers to take the initiative in the matter. If by any chance gold should be discovered in sufficient quantities to materially lessen its value (which is not at all probable) and in that way lessen the purchasing power of the dollar, the gold standard advocates and bond holders would be the first to advocate the demonization of gold. They did it in the early fifties in Austria, and advocated its demonization in many other countries. The men who hold the securities that call for dollars will see to it that the value of the dollar does not grow less. After the election this fall the Klondyke will not be heard of.

Nebraskans are delighted when an opportunity presents itself for boasting that the percentage of illiteracy is less in Nebraska than in any other state in union. Even the prison records show very few convicts at the penitentiary who cannot read and write; but a convict received recently from Nemaha county presents the anomaly of having been born in Nebraska and being unable to read and write. He is a man 25 years old, has lived all his life at Auburn, and is a republican. The query arises, which is cause and which is effect? Is he a republican because he cannot read and write, or is he unable to read and write because he espoused republican ideas first and allowed blind prejudice to govern him?

The attempt of the goldbug press to make the people believe that Nebraska had "paid" off \$28,000,000 of debt in six months did not succeed in all cases. The Southern Mercury says:

"The plutocratic sheets all over the country are exulting over the statement that Nebraska has paid off \$30,000,000 mortgages during the past year, but they fail to tell how it was done. It was simply by foreclosure—no money involved at all. Other states will be falling into the same property lines soon unless a radical change occurs in the money market. That the loan companies are leaving Nebraska is evidence of the fact that no money can be made in the mortgage business in that state."

The Mercury is correct. It was done by foreclosures. Plans that were formerly called "home" have passed into the hands of the money lender.