The Nebraska Independent.

The Wealth Makers and Lincoln Independent Consolidated.

VOL. IX. LINCOLN, NEBR., THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 1897. NO. 13.

ANOTHER DEFAULTER.

Superintendent J. A. Gillespie Found to be $1,930.71 Short.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Will Recommend a Uniform System for Disbursing State Funds.

Gillespie Will Not Talk.

The legislative investigating committee has completed the investigation of the institution for the deaf and dumb at Omaha. Their findings show a defalcation of $1,930.71. The books of the institution have been kept in a very crude and unsatisfactory manner and many accounts were not verified. The committee instructed its accountants that where accounts could not be verified and in all cases where there was doubt existing that could not be removed, that the superintendent or officer of the institution should have the benefit of the doubt. The books show that in addition to the shortage stated above that the superintendent has disbursed the cash funds arising from the industrial departments to pay deficiencies in salaries and in other ways not authorized by law. No authority appears of record showing that the board of public lands and buildings has ever authorized the use of the funds in the manner in which they have been. The funds and money disbursed through vouchers of the regular form show little irregularity and the shortage, occurs as in other institutions in the industrial and cash funds.

The committee will recommend in its final report that all money derived from whatever source shall be placed to the credit of the institution and drawn on properly signed vouchers as other state monies, and will recommend a uniform system to be followed by all state institutions.

Superintendene Gillespie was in Lincoln but refused to talk or make any statement in his own defense. The governor has called a meeting of the board of trustees of the institution to consider the advisability of removing the superintendent and naming a successor. The governor went to Omaha to attend the meeting Wednesday.

ALTGELD ON PROSPERITY.

Replies to a Telegram Sent Him by the New York Herald.

Ex-Governor Altgeld of Illinois was sitting in his office in the Unity building in Chicago when the following telegram was handed to him:

"NEW YORK, Aug. 13, 1897.—The Hon. John P. Altgeld, Chicago. Will you please oblige the Herald by writing us at our expense your views on the effect of the high prices of wheat and the low prices of silver on doctrines of the democratic party of the last campaign and on the future of the party?

"NEW YORK HERALD."

Says Wheat Boom is Only Temporary.

Mr. Altgeld immediately wrote this reply:

"CHICAGO, Ill., Aug. 13, 1897.—Editor the New York Herald—Sir: 1, Answering your telegram, I will say the American people know that, while the wheat crop is phenomenally large in our country, it is a failure in the South America and European countries, so that there must come a kind of wheat famine, and that consequently the farmer should get over $1.50 for his wheat, and would get that under the financial system which formerly prevailed in the world, so that he is even now suffering a wrong caused by legislation.

"2. The average price of all other commodities known to the world's markets has been steadily falling, and silver, whose uses have been restricted by legislation, has simply kept pace with the commodities, as shown by the London markets. In our country the prices of corn and most of the other farm products is so low as not to pay the actual cost of production. The present advance in wheat being due to a temporary cause cannot give general or lasting prosperity; besides, only a small portion of the farmers of America raise wheat.

"3. Should the Klondyke country or any other cause so greatly increase the volume of the world's money as to produce prosperity, it would be a demonstration of the correctness of the democratic position, viz., that an increase in the volume of money gives prosperity, while a reduction in the quantity of money produces paralysis."

Sarcasm for Republican Prosperity.

"4. The country has now enjoyed over nine months of 'restored confidence,' and as a result, the great cotton mills of New England have shut down because they could not sell their products. The coal miners of America are on a strike against hunger and against nakedness, and the Chicago City Railway company, which last winter helped to debauch the legislature of Illinois, and got advantages worth millions of dollars, has just given notice to its men of a reduction in wages.

"The condition of the debtor and honest toiler is getting steadily worse. Congress has just given the sugar trust and kindred patriots a commission to collect several hundred million dollars a year tribute in excess of what they formerly got from the sweat of American industries in order that these patriots may not amass fortunes themselves, but may contribute millions to cary elections. The newspapers are persistently calling this prosperity, but the American people are not fooled by it and the democratic party is not being weakened by these proceedings.

"5. Nearly all of the events since the election have tended to show that the democratic party was right in the last campaign and that the gold-standard campaign was a colossal fraud, managed by the unscrupulous agents of the trusts, which are destroying our country, the more intelligent and patriotic republicans of the land are beginning to see that their party never can rescue our institutions from the corruption which is overwhelming us, and that this rescue must be made by the great masses of the common people, who have saved our country in every past crisis and who will rally around the standard of a true democracy. JOHN P. ALTGELD.

SCHOOL LAND CONTRACTS.

Board of Educational Lands and Funds Protecting the State's Interests.

The board of educational lands and funds has cancelled a large number of school land contracts throughout the western counties in the state. The cancellations amounted in all to 435,237 acres, which, together with the school land vacant, gives the total number of acres available for lease under the provisions of the new law in the counties named. Under preceding administrations the law requiring interest and rental payments to the state for the use of school land has not been enforced, and the state has lost thousands of dollars. Many of the holders are delinquent six or eight years. Speculators who have paid only a dollar have been allowed to hold the land for three or four years without any other payment being made.

It is not the policy of the present board to cancel contracts held by persons living on the land and who are making an honest effort to pay for the same; and where this fact is proven to the commissioner of public lands and buildings and a part of the delinquency paid, extensions to the end of the year have been granted, with the understanding that the remainder will then be paid. Commissioner Wolfe is traveling over the state, leasing these and other vacant school lands, as rapidly as possible, with the result that a great deal of the land which has been idle, rental having been lost by failure to keep up the collections, will now begin drawing rental and will continue to do so if the present policy is followed; much of this land having been held, heretofore, by speculators and others who have paid little or nothing for the use thereof.

The following table gives the counties and the number of acres available in each, the amount of the delinquency and the average number of years delinquent:

COUNTIES.	No. of Acres Cancelled August 15, 1897.	No. of Acres Vacant Before Cancellation.	Amt. of Delinquency.	Ave. No. Yrs. Delinq'y.
Banner	4,720	8,440	$ 2,719 06	6
Box Butte	30,580	7,960	18,965 85	6
Brown	8,970	22,880	7,278 21	5
Buffalo	9,730	1 lot	9,205 50	6
Cedar	6,640	.....	2,988 09	5
Cherry	41,330	163,074	9,818 51	5
Dawes	29,020	14,595	23,884 65	6
Dawson	6,870	31	2,113 44	5
Dundy	11,980	16,100	10,013 45	5
Franklin	6,300	730	4,096 38	5
Frontier	11,720	.....	5,095 20	5
Furnas	5,320	750	2,475 84	6
Gosper	3,600	.....	3,740 49	5
Grant	15,700	5,240	980 46	5
Harlan	5,208	.....	6,676 47	6
Hitchcock	16,980	600	7,746 12	5
Howard	2,860	405	4,084 58	6
Keith	23,760	12,780	20,980 62	6
Keya Paha	6,160	15,324	3,361 14	6
Kimball	11,540	19,938	1,984 32	5
Lincoln	31,730	14,760	7,966 72	5
Loup	6,080	9,281	1,602 72	5
Merrick	3,280	80	3,277 36	6
Perkins	28,920	.....	14,952 30	5
Phelps	4,960	320	4,903 75	5
Pierce	6,540	320	6,629 40	5
Polk	2,240	.....	2,847 60	6
Red Willow	11,310	870	4,218 89	6
Rock	29,810	3,680	9,691 20	6
Sherman	6,840	153	3,547 80	6
Sioux	29,300	41,632	12,796 16	6
Valley	4,600	160	391 95	5
Webster	4,960	187	2,184 50	6
Wheeler	8,380	7,320	4,572 81	6
Totals	435,237	366,959	$226,879 00	

The $226,879 should have been collected by the preceding commissioners of public lands and buildings and turned into the state treasury to the credit of the school fund. The policy pursued, however, was one of giving the land to personal and political friends, and allowing them to continue in possession without making any payments for its use. Commissioner Wolfe is looking after the state's interests and will very materially increase the receipts for the school fund before his term of office expires.

FULTON VS. ROCK ISLAND.

Hand to Hand Fight for the Location of the M. W. A. Headquarters.

For several years there has been a lively contest between the cities of Fulton and Rock Island, Illinois, for the location of the headquarters of the Modern Woodmen of America. The headquarters are at present located in Fulton. At the last convention of the order held in Dubuque, Iowa, it was decided to move the offices to Rock Island. The citizens of Fulton secured a temporary injunction preventing the removal. The court was slow in reaching the final hearing of the case and the Rock Islanders decided to go in a body and forcibly take possession of the books and records of the Woodmen and move them to their own city.

A train was chartered consisting of three coaches, a baggage car and two box cars and the invaders were soon on their way to Fulton. The inhabitants of the latter town were forewarned, however, and made ready to give their uninvited guests a cordial reception.

A fire alarm was sounded and lines of hose were laid to the points where it was thought the Rock Islanders would be most likely to disembark.

The arrival of the special train was the signal for hostilities to begin. There was intense feeling on both sides and a great variety of weapons, this combination resulting in the following casualties:

LIST OF WOUNDED.

Will Bennett, city marshal of Fulton, head cut; believed to be fatally hurt.
W. H. Flannagan, head badly cut.
James Carrier, head cut.
Ed Bare, head and arms injured.
Chris Miller, Lyons, Ia., head cut.
P. J. Carey, Moline, Ill., head badly injured.
Cornelius O'Brien, Rock Island, injured in arms.
Albert Spencer, Rock Island, face cut.
Walter Fowler, Fulton, head cut.
Charles Weinburger, Rock Island, head cut.
Thomas Burns, Rock Island, head cut.
R. Winter, Rock Island, cut over right eye.
G. W. Sample, Rock Island, head cut, considered serious.
Andrew Lunheim, Fulton, head injured, considered serious.
L. &. Eyckhart, Rock Island, head cut.

A score of others were more or less bruised and cut. The free fight lasted for an hour or more, rocks, clubs and missles of every description being wielded industriously by the opposing forces. The Fultonites finally got the better of the fight and Deputy Sheriff Farley effected the arrest of Head Attorney Johnson of the Modern Woodmen, one of the Rock Island party, and a number of his companions.

FOUND A LEPER IN LINCOLN.

Has Been Afflicted for Eight Years and Been Treated for Scrofula.

The first case of leprosy in the state of Nebraska has been discovered in Lincoln. A Norwegian laborer 31 years of ago, a resident of the United States for twelve years, applied to Dr. Everett o Lincoln for treatment. The unfortunate man says that he has been employed on the railroad for eight years, and that the first effects of the disease were noticed at about the time he began railroading. He has since doctored continually for scrofula.

Wearying of the same old thing and getting no benefits from the medicine he took, the man applied to Dr. Everett, hoping to secure some relief from the pain at least through the medium of salt baths. As is always the case before a patient is admitted to the sanitarium, the doctor examined him thoroughly. He removed a tubercle from his arm and Harry Everett submitted it to a bacteriological analysis with the assistance of a microscope. The doctor came to the conclusion speedily that the man had anaesthetic leprosy as the symptoms showed it. The analysis of the tubercle bore him out in his opinion, but to make sure of it he called upon Dr. Lockhart of the Willard Parker hospital in New York city, who is here visiting. Dr. Lockhart has had much experience in skin diseases, having had charge of the lepers on Randall's island. He concurred in the opinion of Dr. Everett and said the diagnosis of the case was perfectly correct. There was no doubt that the man had a mixed case of leprosy.

The condition of the patient is pitiful in the extreme. His face, arms and legs are marked. The skin on his face has thickened and swollen, his nose has sunken, the nostrils have enlarged, the forehead protrudes, giving the face a leonine expression. One ear has increased to twice its size. His arms and legs are swollen, and white patches are forming on his body. The disease is progressing slowly, but it will not be long before it will have done its work, as it is incurable. Dr. Everett says all he hopes to do is to give the man some relief. Leprosy kills in from eight to ten years. He thinks his patient will live two years longer, possibly. The man does not know that he has leprosy.

The disease is not considered hereditary, although a difference of opinion exists between physicians as to that. Some physicians argue that it becomes infectious only from contact. It is a disease of parasitic origin and may be contracted in various ways. The natives of South America believe that mosquitoes my inject the poisonous bacillus into a system hitherto free from the disease.

Dr. Everett says he will make every effort to isolate the case. He does not anticipate the spread of the disease here other than in the family of the afflicted man. The wife is healthy and shows no symptoms of it yet. The climate is not considered particularly favorable and the fact that no other cases have been reported as having become infected from this particular case during the eight years of his living here is looked upon as evidence that it may not be contagious in this locality.

The Burlington railroad has been piloting four car loads of real estate men and farmers from Iowa, Illinois and Indiana through Nebraska. That kind of advertising will do Nebraska good.

A BILL FOR THE TRUSTS

Some Interesting Figures on the Rise in Value of Their Stocks.

PAYING CAMPAIGN DEBTS.

A Part of the Speech of Hon. Joseph Wheeler of Alabama, July 19, 1897.

A Net Profit of $200,000,000.

It has been stated by the newspapers of the country that since the introduction of the Dingley bill in the House and the favorable consideration which it received by that body, that the value of all stocks of the great trusts have steadily increased. Hon. Joseph Wheeler of Alabama has investigated the facts in the matter and gives some very interesting figures. He shows that twenty-five organized trusts have an increase in the value of their stocks in the last three months exceeding $200,000,000 in all. This is the recompense for their contributions to the campaign fund which restored the republican party to power. Anyone who is familiar with the facts will conclude that the convening of this extraordinary session and the enactment of this bill were solely for the purpose of paying campaign debts.

In a speech in Congress July 19, Mr. Wheeler said:

The bill should be entitled "An act for the protection of and to increase the power and wealth of combines, monopolies and trusts."

Nearly the entire bill is framed to attain such a purpose. On March 31st a resolution was voted upon in the House the object being to incorporate a provision in the bill, the effect of which would have been to add an amendment placing upon the free list all articles manufactured, produced, or controlled by any combination or organizations of persons or corporations formed in the United States for the purpose of limiting, regulating, or controlling the supply or price of any such articles.

The proposed amendment also contained the further provision that the rates of duty now prescribed by law shall be levied and collected on any or all of such articles when, in the opinion of the secretary of the treasury, such articles shall cease to be manufactured, produced or controlled in the United States by any such combination or organization.

This amendment was a blow at organized trusts. It was voted for by every democrat and voted against by every republican, and, as a prominent republican stated, if that amendment carried, the entire purpose of the bill would be defeated.

Nearly all the manufacturers of similar articles in the northeast have organized into what are called trusts or combinations. For instance, the Standard Oil trust, the cotton-seed oil trust, the nail trust and the barbed-wire trust. These organizations are as follows:

All the manufacturers in a certain line combine together and elect a board of trustees. They keep informed as to the stocks of goods in the United States of the kind in which they are interested, and by closing a portion of their factories from time to time they keep the production down to the demand in this country. By these organizations they regulate the production, the price, and the price of labor. When the production exceeds the demand, several factories stop work, and thus laborers are thrown out of employment. This enables the manufacturer to take advantage of the suffering of these idle men and reduce wages.

In 1888 Mr. William Cook published a book on trusts. He says:

A "trust" is a combination of many competing concerns under one management, which thereby reduces the cost, regulates the amount of production, and increases the price for which the article is sold. It is either a monopoly or an endeavor to establish a monopoly. Its purpose is to make larger profits by decreasing cost, limiting productions, and increasing the price to the consumer. This it accomplishes by presenting to the competitors the alternative of joining the "trust" or of being crushed out. Its organization is intricate, secret and subtle.

They then have the power to cause one concern to be closed, limit the production of another, and so control the market.

This book and a work on monopolies and their relation to the people, published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1889, gave some account of several organizations of this character which existed at that time.

REPUBLICANS PAY CAMPAIGN DEBTS.

I will print the list, together with the names of other trusts which have been organized since that time, as an appendix to my speech, and will state the tariff protection they now enjoy and the enormous increase which is donated to them by the bill.

The moment the Dingley bill was reported to the House the capital stock in each of these organizations commenced to rise and has continued to increase ever since.

To show the enormous extent of the benefit which these trusts and combinations expect to derive from this bill, I give below the names of eleven of these organizations, together with the amount of stock, its value in April, its value today, and the gross increase in values since this bill passed the House of Representatives.

Name of Company.	Amount of Stock (par 100)	Price in April	Yesterday's price	Increase in market values.
American Cotton Oil Co.	28,257,100	9½	15	$1,214,226
American Cotton Oil Co., preferred	10,198,600	32½	88	1,427,804
Equitable Gas Co.	4,000,000	20	22	3,200,000
Standard Oil Co.	100,000,000	120	220	70,000,000
American Spirits Manufacturing Co.	36,091,200	9¾	11½	1,324,560
American Spirits Manufacturing Co., preferred	6,672,200	35	34½	380,325
American Sugar Refining Co.	97,500,000	100¾	144¼	13,125,000
American Sugar Refining Co., preferred	37,500,000	107½	113	4,875,000
American Tobacco Co.	17,300,000	67½	81½	2,306,000
Chicago Gas Co., certificate of deposit	24,800,000	72¾	89½	6,221,450
Consolidated Gas Co.	33,450,000	128½	102¾	11,691,919
United States Leather Co.	62,221,300	6¾	9¾	1,866,357
United States Leather Co., preferred	18,000,500	50	63	5,010,547
United States Rubber Co.	61,621,900	10	25½	2,910,075
United States Rubber Co., preferred	20,196,600	32	78½	4,838,984
Western Union Telegraph Co.	80,570,000	75¾	87	9,537,000

VALUE OF CORNSTALKS.

Cramp Will Establish Six Factories, and One May Be in Nebraska.

The press dispatches say that Assistant Secretary of War Meiklejohn has received from E. S. Cramp, one of the famous shipbuilders of Philadelphia, a letter in answer to one from Mr. Meiklejohn, stating that the firm organized for the purpose of manufacturing cellulose from corn stalks for battleships will soon open six factories in the corn growing section of the country. The letter adds that the writer sees no reason why one of the factories should not be established in Nebraska, and hints that many more will be opened after the six have begun operations. Mr. Meiklejohn has referred the communication to L. D. Richards of Fremont, Neb., who made inquiries on the subject, and steps will doubtless be taken at once to secure one of the plants for our state. The pith from the corn stalks, as exclusively described in these dispatches several months ago, has been discovered to be of inestimable value in many articles valuable in trade and commerce, chief among which is the cellulose in battleships, used for the purpose of automatically preventing the ingress of water to ships through normal leakage or shot holes.

The factories will be established in the corn belt, where the stalks can be purchased cheaply and a new industry will be started which promises to assume great proportions and be beneficial to the farmer, who will find a market for his corn stalks after the industry is thoroughly developed.

IOWA REPUBLICANS.

Meet at Cedar Rapids and Name a State Ticket.

The republican state convention for Iowa was held at Cedar Rapids Wednesday. There were many candidates for the nominations and the balloting lasted all day. The following was the ticket nominated:

Governor.....L. M. Shaw
Lieutenant.....Capt. J. C. Millman
Supreme Judge.....Judge Watterman
Railroad Commissioner...C. L. Davidson
School Superintendent.....H. H. Barrett

The platform declares that the republicans of Iowa view with the utmost satisfaction the result of the campaign of last year and congratulate the whole people upon the election of William McKinley. It highly commends his wisdom and integrity in directing the force of the administration toward an early and complete fulfilment of the party's pledges. It lauds congress for its prompt action on the tariff and refers with gratification to the part taken by senators and representatives in this legislature.

It demands rigid economy in all government expenditures to the end that the burdens of the people may be lessened, and insists that all individuals and corporations shall be so taxed that they shall not escape a fair and proportionate share of the support of the government.

J. V. Wolfe, commissioner of public lands and buildings, still retains in his employ a man by the name of Schlagle who is one of the old corrupt state house ring. Schlagle is a State Journal republican and believes that there is nothing low and mean enough to compare with a populist. He has been drawing a salary from the state and supporting the robber chiefs for the past ten years. Why does Mr. Wolfe retain him? The commissioner insults the party who put him in office by saying that no silverite can be found to fill Schlagle's shoes. If Mr. Wolfe expects any further favors from the populists, he had better apologize, and the only apology which will be accepted is the immediate discharge of Schlagle.—Falls City Independent

ARE WELL CARED FOR

Patients in the Norfolk Asylum Receive Proper Treatment.

INSTITUTION WELL MANAGED

Contract for the New Wing Let and Work Soon to Begin.

Visited by Our Agent.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—

Your travelling representative paid a visit to the Norfolk insane hospital last week. The hospital is situated three miles northeast of Norfolk on quite a hill, which gives it fine, natural advantages for sanitary purposes. There are 330 acres of fine Nebraska soil belonging to same, 120 acres of which are in fine crops, fifty-five in about as fine a garden as one ever saw. This garden supplies the institution with all the vegetables needed. The hospital was founded in 1887, enlarged in 1889 and will be enlarged again this year. There are 218 patients now and the new building will accomodate 104 more patients. As it is maintained by the state it might be well to know something of parties who manage it.

Dr. George F. Keiper, superintendent is of Pennsylania German and revolutionary ancestry, and was born at Easton, Pennsylvania, February 22d, 1836. He attended the excellent public schools of his native place and entered on the voyage of life for himself in his fifteenth year as a dry goods clerk. When he had attained his majority he went to Morgan county, Indiana, studied medicine with his brother, Dr. C. B. Keiper, and subsequently graduated from Rush Medical College, Chicago in 1865. He has been three times elected to the state legislature, serving as a member of the house during the twentieth and twenty-first sessions, and in the senate during the twenty-second session, always as a democrat. He was the democratic nominee for congress in the Third district in 1872 and received the largest vote ever cast for a democratic congressional candidate in the district. He has traveled extensively in both the old and new worlds and possesses a large fund of useful information. He is an ardent advocate of fusion of the reform forces and a consistent opponent of monopoly. He was the mother of the bill, which became a law in 1891, providing that the cost of board, care and treatment of the insane while in the hospitals of the state shall be borne by the state, a beneficent measure in the nature of advanced legislation, which is now being adopted by other states.

W. H. Barber, M. D., the physician, is a native of Indiana and a graduate of Hanemann college, Chicago, class of 1883, located at Fullerton, Nebraska, 1889, and was appointed in 1895. The doctor has given special study to the study of the insane and all patients receive the very best attention from him that can be given. Those who have friends there can rest assured that in Dr. Keiper and Dr. Barber they have two physicians who will do all that medical skill can do to relieve them.

The business part of the institution is looked after by one of the best stewards the state ever had, C. D. Jenkins, who has been a resident of Madison county twenty-seven years. He has been twice chairman of the county board of supervisors. He not only sees that the patients are well fed and clothed, but looks to the interest of the state as well; sees that no extravagant bills are contracted or allowed; he simply takes care of the business interest of the state like any good business man would look after his own interests.

A. P. Obanion and D. L. McDonald have charge of the garden and farm. S. Tak, the supervisor has had several years experience in hospital work and is a very genial gentleman. Mrs. Mary Thomas, the matron, understands her duties well, having been for two years matron of the Lincoln asylum.

I would like to speak of each of the attendants on the various wards, but space forbids. Suffice it to say, they have been carefully selected from a large number of applicants. While they are firm with the patients, they are at all times kind and patient with them. Considering the work they do and the hours they spend on duty, I must say that the state does not pay them sufficiently for their work as compared with private institutions. This is not only true here, but in all the state institutions. Labor is not properly recompensed.

O. W. H.

Governor Holcomb has received letters from the following governors, in answer to his letter of the 5th instant, inviting the different states east of the Mississippi river to participate in the Trans-Mississippi and International exposition: Atkinson of West Virginia, Mount of Indiana, Tanner of Illinois, Dyer of Rhode Island, Ramsdell of New Hampshire, Bushnell of Ohio, Hastings of Pennsylvania, Black of New York, and Johnston of Alabama. West Virginia, Alabama and New Hampshire will have no state exhibits. New York, Pennsylvania and Indiana have not decided yet, and the governors' answers are non-committal. The legislature of Ohio and Rhode Island will meet in January, 1898, and favorable action will likely be taken then.