

THE NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT

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For Sale by the Author—JAMES J. SULLIVAN, Columbia for Agents—J. W. FORD, Kansas; GEORGE F. EDWARDS, Wisner.

Lot of disunion—not a populist or democratic paper in the state that does not support John J. Sullivan for supreme judge.

Don't forget that the populist county ticket in Lancaster county is the cleanest, strongest and best ticket ever nominated in the county.

It is the duty of every populist in Nebraska to know that at least one vote is cast for John J. Sullivan and to be able to tell who cast it. Put your mark under the cottage home emblem.

Persons desiring copies of the populist hand book, Nebraska Redeemed, can get them by writing to J. H. Edmister, chairman of the populist state committee, Lincoln, Nebraska. The committee has decided that a nominal charge of \$1.50 per hundred shall be made for all copies sent out hereafter.

Call it fusion, cooperation or what ever you will, the fight in Nebraska this fall is simply a well managed effort on the part of the reform forces to defeat the party of fraud, corruption and robbery which has had control of our state so long. The success of Judge Sullivan and our candidate for supreme justice.

Editors of reform papers using patent style should remember that the Nebraska Reform Press association is furnishing the format, news and best news to be had in the state. Rev. Saunders informs us that the association is gaining a gratifying patronage but there are yet many outside the fold who should make haste to get in.

Winnifred Arnold (Linn), made a speech in Ohio the other day in which she pronounced it a very prominent part. To hear him talk, he discovered McKinley elected him, saved the nation from irretrievable ruin, built up the immense greatness of the loved state, and is now sacrificing himself on the altar of his country by making a campaign for the Senate. In short, Winnifred is the whole thing. The voters of the Buckeye state "will remind him" that he is not the only possible on the bench.

The record of the republican party in Nebraska has for many years been a record of broken promises, fraud, deception and robbery. No state fund has been so abused as to escape the hands of the political vandals in office. Even the funds so wisely provided for educating the children have been squandered and stolen, and the little school should have been bringing in a large income to these funds have been turned out to political favorites and no more collected for years. The voters will see to it that honest officials are retained in office hereafter, and they will soon cause the supreme court from the suspicion of partiality which now rests upon it.

The agitation for postal savings banks in the United States was begun by the populist party. The establishment involves the establishment of a populist principle. Republican papers to be considered should state that postal savings banks operated by the government would be "paternalistic" and should not be tolerated in a "free country". The present indications are that the next congress will be compelled to establish a system of government savings banks. This populist principle will work well and should lead to the adoption of other principles, particularly those in regard to the land and transportation questions.

The street press which has always been so prolific in condemning teaching in the north, should begin to sing low. Fighting wherever it occurs is a crime against civilization, but it can be said that most of the beatings have been occasioned by some terrible crime. The recent beating of five men in Indiana had no such excuse. It is probably true that these men were a pest to the community, but their crime had consisted of fleeing and loitering, while the crime of the negro lynched at Reynoldsville, Ky., was of such a heinous nature that it is not surprising the rage of the people swept over all bounds.

Beating is a crime and should be condemned and if possible stopped, but it is probable that as long as human nature is what it is, the people of any community, north or south, will witness some evidence on the head and ears of innocent and defenseless child.

UNIFORM DISCRIMINATION.

There is no system that has received so much favorable comment among all nations as the system of free schools in operation in the United States. Nebraska stands at the head of the list. The percentage of illiteracy in the state is less than in any other state in the Union. The common schools in this state have been built up in every locality. It is this that has given the state the reputation which it enjoys. In addition to a record of low illiteracy than any other state in the Union Nebraska has been fast gaining the reputation of supporting the best and most liberal state university to be found among the western states. Until recently the university was the pride of the entire state. The people of all classes regarded it as their institution, the heritage of all the people of Nebraska. It was an institution of learning, open alike to all, where distinction could be won by honest work but could not be bought. The son of the poor man was given an opportunity to secure an education and many were they who availed themselves of the opportunity. The university authorities sought to extend the privileges of the school to all. Those who came from the rural districts and small villages were necessarily insufficiently prepared to enter the university proper. The country and village schools could not, and cannot yet, give the necessary preparation. Only the high schools in the larger cities could furnish the necessary preparation. The university authorities recognizing the fact that pupils from the rural districts and villages would be practically excluded from the benefits of the university unless some means were prepared for their proper preparation, established what has been known for years as the "preparatory department." Pupils from the rural districts and villages insufficiently prepared to enter the university proper, could take the necessary work to prepare them to enter the university in this preparatory department, free of charge. This arrangement brought the advantages of the university within the reach of all who had completed the course in the common schools of the state. This preparatory department was conducted at very little expense to the university. According to the number of students enrolled it cost much less than any other department.

The present very "stylish" management of the university has abandoned the former's boy's department. The pupil that has completed the work in the common schools must now find the balance of his preparation at his own expense. The great majority of the former boys cannot afford the expense and therefore are unable to enter the university. The graduates from the high schools in Omaha, Lincoln, Beatrice, Hastings and other large cities can enter the university without expense and without examination. The pupil from the larger cities therefore gets his education from the kindergarten until he graduates at the State University free of expense. The same opportunity should be given to the pupil from the rural districts. It was given until the preparatory department was abandoned. City blood is no better than country blood.

MAJOR FOR GREATER NEW YORK.

Much interest centers in the election of the first mayor of Greater New York. It is an office of great political value, second only to the president of the United States. In the coming campaign both old parties go into the contest divided. There are two republican factions and two democratic factions. Seth Low has always been a republican though he has been known to oppose many republican candidates for office who did not meet his personal approval. The Tammany democrats have decided to name a candidate friendly to the gold democrats or at any rate they will not put a silver plank in the platform. The silver democrats in that event will name Henry George upon a platform declaring for free silver and other reforms as laid down in the national democratic platform adopted at Chicago. The Citizens Union including the wealthiest men in New York are supporting Seth Low. The laboring people and middle classes will very generally support Henry George, if he is a candidate.

It is largely in the power of the mayor under the charter of Greater New York to bring about good government. His authority will far transcend that of any other mayor in the whole world. When he comes into office at the beginning of next year, he will have the power to resign to private life the members of all the commissions and executive boards that now superintend and control the multifarious work of the city administration. In their places he will be entitled to put such successors as he deems fit, and his appointees will require no other man's consent or ratification. A wise mayor exercising so immense an appointing power and at a stroke accomplishing great things for municipal progress. While not so absolute in the field of municipal finances as in the exercise of the appointing power, the mayor of the Greater New York will generally be able, within the bounds of reason, to keep a practical working control over the municipal budget, both on the side of taxation and also on that of expenditures. As is no mere routine or perfunctory task that must fall to the first mayor of the designated metropolis. We have today, under separate governments, of

WIDELY VARYING ORGANIZATIONS.

widely varying organizations, the three municipalities of New York, Brooklyn, and Long Island City, with a number of smaller towns and villages and several county organizations, all of which with the beginning of the new administration are to be merged into one corporate entity. On the other hand we have an enormous printed book of a thousand pages or more, known as the Greater New York Charter. It will be the business of the new city government, the mayor taking the lead in the task, to make the provisions and arrangements that are set forth in this printed book apply, as a working system of municipal government, to the more than three millions of inhabitants of the metropolis.

HIGH PRICES AND PROSPERITY.

During the campaign last year it was customary for the republican "spellers" and the shouters for the gold standard generally to depict in glowing words to the laboring men the evils that would result from high prices. They usually admitted that the free coinage of silver would result in a marked increase in the price of all farm products and in fact of all kinds of labor but they assured the laborer that this would only make his condition worse. They exhausted the English language to show that what we wanted was "good money" that is money which would purchase the largest amount of labor products. They contended with great force that under free coinage the laborer must pay twice as much for what he eats, therefore his condition would be a great deal worse.

Providence has taken a hand in the matter and by a calamitous famine in other countries the price of wheat and other products have been greatly increased. Do we hear these shouters sympathizing with the laboring man on account of the increased cost of his living? Not much! They are pointing one and all to the high prices as an evidence of prosperity. Bimetallists have always contended that the nation would be prosperous when a sufficient amount of money was in circulation and when the farmer received a good price for his crops. Under bimetallism, other conditions being normal, the producer should receive nearly, if not quite, twice as much for the product of his labor, as he does under the single standard. The cost of living would be increased but the increased amount of money in circulation would increase business and enterprises of all kinds to such an extent that labor would be fully employed.

The purchasing power of the laborer and producer would be greatly increased and prosperity would be general among all classes. Whatever prosperity is brought to the people by the increase in prices will simply go to prove the correctness of the position taken by bimetallists and the fallacy of the single standard.

ABOUT PASSES.

Among the eighty people at our state house, there is at least one who will not humiliate the populist party by the use of free railroad passes. It is well known that railroads give freely to state officials and their friends, all the free passes they want. But the man referred to has conscientious scruples against accepting anything of the kind. He argues that if the railroads carry free all those who receive good salaries and have plenty of means, then when the poor and unfortunates take a ride, they must pay double what it is worth to make up for the loss for hauling the rich free of charge. He says the free pass system is fully as wicked as if the rich and official classes combined and got red postage stamps free of charge, and then the poor and unfortunates pay four cents for every stamp, so as to make up the loss for giving stamps free to a favored crowd. It is well known that the roads do not tender free passes as a gift. Corporations are continually overreaching and imposing on individuals. Free passes are given to the strong, the rich, and those clothed with official power, well knowing it will enlist all the power of these classes in a continuation of corporate extortion and imposition.

The gentleman referred to has already paid about \$250 for railroad tickets this year for himself and family when free passes could have had for every trip. It is well known that an honored member of our House of representatives paid last winter when passes at the state house were as free as water. One member of the state senate was heard to say, at the close of the session last April, that he sorely regretted many times during the session that he had received a free pass and that if he was ever again elected to office he would flatly refuse any and all favors from railroads.

There is room in this state for an association that will push for a law placing railroad rates at two cents per mile and making it a penal offense to give or receive a free pass. Who will take up the fight and carry it to a finish?

At present all of the judges of the supreme court are republicans. Everyone who believes in a nonpartisan and honest judiciary will admit that a court composed of members from different political parties is a better court to deal out justice to citizens belonging to different political parties than a court composed of men all from the same political party. Vote for John J. Sullivan and have the political complexion of the highest court in the state divided.

REPUBLICAN MISDEEDS.

The people of Nebraska have been able since 1890 to keep pretty close tabs on the doings of state and county officials through the disclosure made by the reform press, but it is well to call attention to these things occasionally, and the investigations recently made by the World-Herald are timely. This investigation shows that defalcations by republican state officials since 1890 have amounted to \$634,510, of which \$10,719 has been recovered, and by republican county officials the sum of \$409,044, of which sum \$123,131 has been recovered, leaving a net loss to the taxpayers of the state amounting to \$1,298,794 through defalcation alone. To this should be added the immense sums lost through the asylum and penitentiary steals, as well as those of lesser magnitude in other state institutions, and some idea may be gained of the transactions of this street-scented gang who are parading before the people as the only truly good people and raising a great howl every time Governor Holcomb turns one of the rascals out of office. The Journal and Omaha Bee, it is true have howled for the speedy prosecution of Moore and Bartley, but it comes with poor grace in face of the fact that they both supported Bartley for state treasurer, having in their possession indisputable evidence that he was concerned with Barrett Scott in the Hois county robbery. The Journal has always been the defender of the gang, but this is not surprising for it is a matter of record that it had a finger in the pie for many years. In fact the Journal was built up by the taxpayers of the state through corrupt printing deals, whereby the state was compelled to pay two or three prices for printing, and it is not surprising that it should continue to uphold the gang. The record of the republican party should damn it for all time to come in this state.

THOSE "APPROVED TUTORS."

There is in operation at the present time in connection with the State University under the fostering care and with the approval of the present management of the university a sort of a preparatory school in which pupils from the rural districts can secure the necessary instruction to prepare themselves to enter the university at so much per instruction. The cancellor together with the heads of some of the departments have made up a list of "approved tutors" and have authorized them to give instruction in the studies in which pupils from the rural districts are usually deficient. These "approved tutors" are furnished with rooms in the university buildings with charts, heat and other material belonging to the state for the use of which the state does not receive a penny. These "approved tutors" are authorized to charge their pupils at a sufficient rate to pay themselves 75 cents per hour. The wrong is not in allowing the pupils the advantages of the rooms and university property, but it is in charging them for what the state intended should be free. It is a good thing for the "approved tutors" but it is the roughest kind of injustice to the pupils who are forced to submit to the extortions. It is a scheme to shut the "haystack" out of the university and reserve its privileges for the benefit of Nebraska's aristocracy. There is a plan now developing to oust from authority in the university all the remaining Nebraska men who have dared to protest against such proceedings, and to fill their places with imported truck from eastern colleges. As is usually the case the farmers of Nebraska will find it out when it is everlastingly too late to remedy the evil.

The Omaha Bee seeks to charge the responsibility for Ex-Superintendent Gillespie's defalcation to the negligence of Governor Holcomb. As the Bee asserts, the governor has the right to remove an incompetent or untrustworthy superintendent of the institution for the deaf and dumb at Omaha. The charge of the Bee that the governor was negligent is ridiculous in the extreme. How is the governor to detect a "petty thief" such as the report of the investigating committee shows Ex-Superintendent Gillespie to have been. Is there anyone in the state who believes it within the possibility of the chief executive of the state to personally investigate the details of every five or ten dollar purchase made by superintendents of the different state institutions under his control. Such a thing is manifestly absurd. The superintendent of every institution must be trusted to a certain extent. The superintendent that will steal if small amounts will also cover it up in his quarterly reports to the governor. The report will appear regular in every particular and there will be nothing to excite suspicion. It was a surprise to the Omaha Bee that Superintendent Gillespie was found short in his cash accounts. The Bee would hardly be convinced even by the report of the legislative investigating committee. It was a surprise to every one that the superintendent of one of the state's great educational institutions should be found to be a "petty thief" guilty of stealing in amounts that would be counted beneath the efforts of a common clerk. The governor did all that could be expected from him. As soon as it was discovered that the superintendent was short in his accounts,

SOME PRINTING HISTORY.

Each two years at the close of every session of the legislature the printing board places contracts for a large amount of state printing. The printing board has always been republican until the present time. A comparison of the prices at which the republican board let the contracts with the contracts made by the present populist printing board is interesting. An examination of the following table will give some idea of the enormous amount of saving that is being made by the present officers when compared with the expenditures made by their republican predecessors:

Table with columns: Name of Book, Year, No. of Volumes, No. Pages, Price per page, Total, Price per Vol. Rows include various books like Nebraska Laws, Nebraska Journals, etc., from 1897 to 1898.

One of the most important reforms with which the present generation must deal is that of the initiative and referendum or direct legislation. It is but just that any laws affecting the interests of the people should receive the direct sanction of the people, and it is but expressing an axiom to say that much of the legislation enacted by congress and the state legislatures does not and never would receive such sanction. The Singley bill, as an instance was made a law not because the people demanded such legislation, but of the demand of the great trusts and corporations who contributed the corruption fund to elect McKinley and a republican congress. The growth of opinion in favor of direct legislation has been unshakable and it stands to the credit of Nebraska that the legislature was the first to enact a law providing for such legislation in cities, towns, school districts and municipalities.

Auditor Cornell is beginning to get accurate from the bills which he sent out to insurance companies for the collection of fees due the state under the retaliatory provision of the statute which provides that insurance companies from another state must pay as much for the privilege of doing business in Nebraska as is charged Nebraska companies for the privilege of doing business in that state. O. K. Gladly for the Union Casualty and Surety company of St. Louis has sent Auditor Cornell a check for \$27,400. Other companies are expected to remit in a short time. The total amount which the auditor will collect and save for the state by the enforcement of the law will exceed \$14,000.

The populist party has claimed to have more than twice the number of votes in Nebraska than the democrats have. It is the duty of every populist in Nebraska to go to the polls on election day and put his X in the circle beneath the cottage home emblem. That is the way to prove to the democrats and other republicans that the populist party increases the largest percentage of the vote.

Do not fail to meet your vote for agents of the university. There are a number of things in that institution that need looking after. George F. Kenower and E. V. Forest should receive your support. They will guarantee that the privilege of the university will be extended to all alike, regardless of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

The government of Nevada has a system of postal savings banks in successful operation. The population of the state is less than 100,000. The postal savings bank deposits aggregate about \$1,000,000 or nearly \$50 per capita. A good showing.

The state campaign has opened. Chairman J. H. Edmister of the populist state central committee is the business man in Nebraska. He is an untiring worker from early morning until late at night. We predict that history will again reward him for his labors.

THE LIST MIGHT BE CONTINUED.

The list might be continued in the same manner for almost every job of printing. It pays to have honest officials. Vote the populist ticket. Put your mark in the circle under the Cottage home.

A new problem in the government will present itself to the next congress. Alaska is a wholly unorganized territory. It has almost no government at the present time. It will be the duty of congress to legislate in such a manner as to provide for 100,000 immigrants into that territory at the opening of the spring season. There will be trouble and quarrels of all kinds. It will require a good statesman to be governor of the Alaska territory, and congress should clothe him with plenty of authority.

The indications are that the employees of the Chicago City Street railway company will inaugurate a strike within the next few days. The trouble arose over the discharge of several employees who failed to attempt to form a street railway union. The company opposes the formation of the union.

The man who will stay away from the polls on election day and pick corn is not much of a patriot. He is of little value to his party or his country. He is the same sort of man that it is necessary to draft in time of war.

November 2 has been fixed as the date of sale of the Union Pacific Railway to satisfy the first mortgage lien. The sale will take place in Omaha. The United States government loans \$25,000,000 in the deal.

Do not forget that the "monetary commissioner" was created and appointed by itself. It has no more sanction in law than an organization of "white boys."

Is there any good reason why telephone rates in Omaha and Lincoln should be from two to five times as high as they are in cities of a similar size in European countries?

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