THE NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT

Consolidation of "THE WEALTH MAKERS" and "LINCOLN INDEPENDENT."

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THE INDEPENDENT PUB. CO.,
LINCOLN, NEB.

For Supreme Judge—
JOHN J. SULLIVAN, Columbus

For Regents—
E. VON FORELL, Kearney.
GEORGE F. KENOWER, Wisner.

Now is the time to begin the educational campaign.

The salary of the president of the United States is $50,000 and the salary of the chancellor of the University of Nebraska is 50,000 bushels of corn.

When sending in your subscriptions send us a list of the names and addresses of a dozen or more of your neighbors to whom we may send sample copies of the INDEPENDENT.

During all the years of crop failures and hard times in this state the republican administration of the state university paid $18,000 per year to six men who, on an average, taught less than three hundred hours per year.

Think of the hundreds of thousands of dollars that have been saved to the tax payers of Nebraska by the change in the political control of the state, and begin the campaign at once. Populist rule has done much for Nebraska. It will do more.

In clubs of three or more the INDEPENDENT will be sent to any address three months for 15 cents. How many of your neighbors will you send it to? Give them an opportunity to read and study the principles of the populist party during the long winter evenings.

In December 1896 under republican rule there was divided among the school districts of Nebraska the sum of $231,000. In December, 1897 under populist rule there will be divided among the school districts of Nebraska nearly $400,000. As a tax payer, how do you like it?

At the present time all of the judges of the supreme court are republicans. If you believe in a non-partisan judiciary, would it not be a good plan to vote for John J. Sullivan, the democratic and populist candidate, and help to give the populists and democrats one member of the highest court in the state? Is there anyone who can say that such a proposition is unfair? A court composed entirely of republicans is not a nonpartisan court.

The agricultural college of the state university must be developed. Other states with smaller incomes have much better schools of agriculture. Our people can have improvement if they demand it. The first step is to elect a board of regents who believe in adapting a school to its surroundings. A New England college where everyone is forced to study the dead languages for many years is good enough for New England, but Nebraska people need a Nebraska college.

It is the order entered upon the dockets of the supreme court by Judge A. M. Post that keeps Bartley from going to the penitentiary. Judge Post says there is probable error in the proceedings of the trial at which Bartley was convicted. He is too busy now trying to be re-elected to look for the error. If he is re-elected there is little doubt but that he will find the error, either real or imaginary, and turn the defaulting ex-treasurer loose. That is what a vote for the republican ticket and A. M. Post will do. Is that what you want?

Both of our candidates for regents are self-made men. They were both raised on a farm, both worked their way through college and both are thoroughly western in spirit. Mr. Forell is a minister in the Christian church. Mr. Kenower is editor of the Wisner Chronicle. Their competitors are both railroad attorneys. Since there are at present two or three employes of railroad companies on the board of six regents, it is not likely that the farmers of the state will vote to place the entire control of the state university in the hands of the railroads.

During the two months of his term of office Treasurer Meserve has called and paid $1,102,415.40 of general fund warrants and the interest which had accrued on them amounting to nearly $100,000 more. If Mr. Meserve was inclined to abscond or default it is plain to be seen that he has had plenty of opportunity to do so. But he has pursued quite a different policy from that of his predecessors. Instead of allowing the state's funds to accumulate and depositing it in banks, he has used it to pay the states debts. As a tax payer, how do you like it?

WHAT THE RESULT MEANS.

The political campaign will soon be over. In a few days it will be known who is to hold the offices. That of itself is of little consequence except insofar as it will indicate the drift, or advancement of public sentiment concerning the great political principles of government. Have the people as a whole been progressive? Are they nearer the establishment of a better kind of government? These are questions that will be partially answered on election day. The republican party represents certain principles and policies in the conduct of government affairs. The populist party represents a different line of principles for the conduct of government affairs. A vote for the republican thicket is a vote for the gold standard, for a strong centralized government, for trusts, for the private and corporate ownership of all public enterprises. It is an indorsement of the use of the writ of injunction by federal judges, and of the extravagant and reckless practices of republican state officials. It would be an indorsement of the last act of the republican national administration in the sale of the Union Pacific railroad to the reorganization syndicate at a loss of $20,000,000 to the government.

A vote for the populist ticket is a vote for the principles set forth in the Omaha and St. Louis platforms. It is a vote for a greater volume of money, for reform in the land system, for the government or municipal ownership of public franchises, for government postal savings banks, for honesty and rigid economy in the management of national and local affairs. It is a vote against monopolies and trusts and against government by injunction. A populist vote is an endorsement and expression of appreciation for the excellent conduct of the state's affairs by the present state officers. They have performed their duty faithfully. It would be almost criminal ingratitude on the part of the people to fail to show appreciation for the good work, by their ballots on next Tuesday. Every citizen knows that the state's affairs were never in better condition than at the present time. He also knows that the credit for the excellent condition is due to populist officers. "Render unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's," but give credit to whom credit is due.

THE BEE'S CONSISTENCY.

In its issue of Oct. 23d the Omaha Bee attempts to hold the board of transportion responsible for the court injunctions that have been issued by the republican judges preventing the reduction in telephone, telegraph and express charges. The Bee says:

The do-nothing State Board of transportation has had itself enjoined from acting on the petition for reduction in express rates between Nebraska points. It is worthy of note, however, that while the three secretaries have had themselves conveniently enjoined by the courts from doing anything in the direction of relieving the people from excessive charges by railroad, telegraph, telephone and express companies, they have seen to it carefully that no writ has been issued restraining them from drawing their $6,000 in salaries out of the public treasury.

The Bee says the board "has had itself enjoined." Will the Bee explain why the republican judges granted the injunctions? Is it not a fact that the injunctions were asked for by the corporations and not by the board? When the court has granted an injunction forbidding further proceedings by the board would the Bee expect the board to proceed in defiance of the court's order? The Bee would be the first paper in the state to denounce such a course as anarchy. More than that, the Bee knows full well that if the members of the board of transportation should refuse to obey the courts order that they would all be fined and imprisoned for contempt of court. It comes with bad grace from the Bee, a paper supporting the republican party and republican government by injunction, to complain at the Board of Transportation because a republican court has granted an injunction against the enforcement of the anti-corporation laws. So long as we have courts composed of corporation attorneys and railroad monopoly tools it is useless to attempt the enforcement of any anti-corporation laws. Vote the populist ticket. Put populist judges in charge of the courts and we will guarantee the enforcement of anti-corporation measures.

The Bee would call it anarchy, but nevertheless populist laws and anti-corporation laws would be enforced. Vote for John J. Sullivan as a first step towards the end of this tyranny of government by judicial injunction.

SOME COMPARISONS.

There are some things to which the republican press of the state devotes very little space. One of these is the manner in which the state treasury is being conducted at the present time. The total amount of interest bearing obligations of the state has been greatly reduced. A comparison with the record of two years ago shows that the total amount of warrants registered from January 8, 1897 to Oct., 1, 1897, was $776,097.24; total amount of warrants registered from January 8, 1895 to Oct. 1, 1895, $1,371,348.77; difference in favor of present administration, $595,251.53.

There was collected and credited interest on deposits in depository banks for four (4) years prior to January 1, 1897, $24,360.59. The present treasurer since he went into office has collected from the depository banks $5,025.78, of which interest was earned in 1896, but which had never been collected and credited as the law directs. In addition to this with less than one half the money which has been in depository banks in prior years he has collected from the first of January to Oct. 1, making nine (9) months, $12,159.22. He has reduced the state indebtedness during the same time $570,582.

He has invested in round numbers about $200,000 of the permanent school fund. This investment has been made out of the monies received from his predecessor and those accruing from the payment of bonds and principal on school lands. This investment has been in state warrants which draw five (5) per cent for the school fund, and being the safest investment possible, as it is the paper of our own state, backed by all the tax payers of the great state of Nebraska. This investment will go on as long as there is any money to invest. This investment serves two (2) purposes: First, it puts the money where it is absolutely safe. Second, it has the effect of putting all warrants in the general fund at par so that every man dealing with the state of Nebraska gets one hundred cents on the dollar.

SUGAR AND CHICORY WARRANTS.

The holders of the illegal chicory and sugar warrants to the amount of $46,885.26 have presented them to the treasurer for payment. Payment was refused.

The warrants were illegally issued by Auditor Moore under the law passed by legislature of 1895 granting a bounty for the manufacture of chicory and sugar in this state. The legislature of 1895 was too cowardly to make an appropriation for the payment of the bounty after having passed the bounty law. An effort was made during the last legislature to have an appropriation made for the payment of the warrants on the ground that there was a "moral obligation" upon the state to pay them, but the last legislature refused to take that view of the case and made no appropriation for their payment. The state treasurer cannot pay them until some legislature makes the necessary appropriation. This no honest legislature will ever do.

RAIL ROAD RULE.

The most curious feature of the republican state ticket is that every candidate upon it is a railroad man. The head of the ticket is a railroad judge and both the candidates for attorneys are railroad attorneys. If the corporations can control the courts and the schools there will be no need to look after the rest of the public institutions. It is much easier to preserve the supreme court and to secure a majority on the board of regents than it is to control legislatures and newspapers. A servile court will "hold up" any law that may slip through a legislature, and a public sentiment properly educated in the schools will uphold the courts and condemn the legislature.

There was no railroad lobby in the last legislature. The corporations did not need one, they have the courts. What difference would it make to them whether hostile laws were enacted or not? They are trying to keep the supreme court strictly as a partisan mill to grind out their own grists. They are also trying to get their fingers more firmly on the throats of the schools of the state by electing two railroad attorneys to the board of regents which already contains several of their employes. Break the rule of the railroads by voting the straight Independent ticket.

Land Commissioner J. V. Wolfe has completed the offering of school land for lease. During his trips over the state he has leased 200,000 acres and has collected $9,300 in "bonuses," that is, he has received that amount in premiums over and above the six per cent required by law. This 200,000 acres is now earning money for the state, and as fast as it is earned it is turned into the school fund. Commissioner Russell during his two years term leased only 110,000 acres, and most of the leases he made were for very short time and yielded only a small amount of revenue to the state. The law provides that when a school land lease is made the premium shall be paid to the close of the semi-annual period in which the lease is made. By waiting until just before the close of the semi-annual period before leasing it was necessary to pay only a few cents to get possession of the land. After once in possession, generally no further payments were made. The board did not forfeit the contract in many cases for several years afterwards, and all that the state had received for the use of the land for all that time would be the few cents paid when the lease was taken out.

It is different now. A populist is conducting the office of land commissioner in Nebraska. As a taxpayer, how do you like the change?

Do you think the jury in the Bartley case in Omaha made a mistake and found the wrong man guilty of embezzlement? Do you think the jury should have convicted Holcomb instead of Bartley? The republican papers would have you believe that the court tried the wrong man.

THE TIME TO EDUCATE.

With this issue the political campaign ends and the time for the educational campaign has arrived. During the next four months the evenings will be long and people will have time to read and study political platforms, and problems of government. Now is the time to distribute populist literature. It will be more carefully read than in the midst of a political campaign. Honest study and investigation always makes populist converts. The principles upon which the populist party is founded are eternal. Our platform is right. Will you help to teach the people what these principles are and what they mean? There is no surer way to accomplish this than by circulating a newspaper devoted to the principles of the party. It reaches the reader regularly from week to week. He gets in a habit of reading it. It becomes his mental food. He calls for the paper as regularly as he calls for his meals. It is an educator.

Campaign literature is always read with suspicion. The statements which it contains although they may be true, are usually only partially believed. Amid the excitement and enthusiasm of a campaign converts for a political party are not easily made. The time to do the most effective educational work is during the winter months when there is time for reading and study and when the minds of the people are free from partisan prejudice. Men who become members of a political party by education and conviction generally remain with the party. They have a reason for their belief and become active supporters of the platform and party.

Will you do your part in making several converts by sending them the INDEPENDENT? It will be a model paper from an educational view. All of the principles of the populist party will be thoroughly discussed and compared with the principles of other parties. Particular attention will be given to the land question, the transportation problem, the banking system, the money question, government ownership of railroads and telegraphs, municipal ownership of electric lights, water works and street cars, government by injunction, general news, state news, state administration. The proceedings of congress (which meets in December) and the part taken by populist members will be carefully reported. Many important matters will be up for discussion. Hawaiian annexation, Cuban independence, the silver question, retirement of greenbacks, establishment of postal savings banks, and the Union Pacific foreclosure are a few. Speeches on these subjects by populist members will be published. Will you help in the education?

OUR OFFER.

In clubs of five or more we will send the NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT to any address three months for 15 cents. How many of your neighbors will you undertake to convert? Cannot you afford to spend $1.50 and send it to ten? If you cannot afford that, can you afford the time to speak to your neighbors and get up a club? We will send sample copies if you wish them. Remember NOW is the time to subscribe.

FIFTEEN DOLLARS A CAR.

Additional is what the cattlemen of northwest Nebraska say they have to pay the railroads under the new stock schedule. This paper believes the cattlemen know what they are talking about. The board of transportation should act at once.

You should remember that the greater circulation the INDEPENDENT has, the better it can serve its readers. You add to your own interest when you solicit a subscription for your paper. If every present subscriber would obtain one new subscriber it would double our list and we would be able to greatly improve the paper. We have made many improvements during the past year, but there are many more we should like to make. Will you assist us by sending in at least one new subscriber? You cannot do a better work for the populist party than by supporting the papers that battle for its cause.

Treasurer Meserve has on hand at this time ready for the December school apportionment $325,785.25. This will be very considerably increased before the time of the apportionment arrives. It will be about $100,000 more than the amount usually apportioned by republican treasurers. For ten years under republican rule, from 1886 to 1896, when the state was in the most prosperous condition, the December apportionment averaged only $278,600. A hundred thousand dollars, fifty cents for every voter in the state, saved to the school children through the economy and business management of a populist state treasurer. As a taxpayer, how do you like it?

Another republican office holder in the city has gone wrong. It is the city water commissioner this time. A report by Special Examiner George J. McArthur shows that many political favorites have been furnished water free or at about one half the legal rate. The records of the office are so loosely kept that in many other cases parties were using water where the commissioner knew nothing about it. It is impossible to estimate accurately the total loss to the city but enough is known to show that it will be several thousand dollars. This is a sample of republican management of the city's affairs. As a tax payer, how do you like it?

D. E. Thompson, the great republican dictator in Lincoln is one of those who received water from the city, and neglected the formality of paying therefore. Nice, isn't it?

Since the recent development of fraud in the management of the city's water department by republican officials, in all sincerity we ask the tax payers of Lincoln if it would not be a good plan to make a change in the office holders in this county and city, put in a new set of officials, have the corruption investigated and determine how far the corruption extends?

ANY OLD THING TILL ELECTION.

The brazen, persistent efforts of the State Journal and its pack of pups throughout the state to make Gov. Holcomb responsible for the stealings of a republican state treasurer revives recollections of a former Nebraska campaign.

In 1884 Governor Dawes was a candidate for re-election and J. Sterling Morton was running against him. Revelations were made of large speculations in school land leases in the western and central parts of the state and of a system of favoritism in such leasings by which certain individuals secured large tracts of these lands. The democratic campaigners vigorously charged Gov. Dawes with knowledge and collusion in the corrupt deals. Senator Van Wyck, who was yet a member of the republican party, joined in the denunciation. The large anti-monopoly element in the republican party of those days was restless and things began to look risky for the republican state ticket.

In this emergency a meeting of leading republicans was held in Lincoln. The next day the Journal came out with scare head lines charging J. Sterling with a large number of fraudulent entries of land near Nebraska City, with a corrupt deal to dispose of part of said land to the city for cemetery purposes with subornation of perjury and more miscellaneous iniquity than has been discovered by the Mutz investigating committee.

Morton promptly denied the whole story and furnished a detailed sworn statement fully meeting every item in the charges. It made no difference. Nine-tenths of the newspapers in Nebraska were republican and nearly every one of them fairly bristled with the Morton land steals until election day.

After the votes were counted and the republican ticket found elected by about 20,000 the State Journal came out in an editorial which makes interesting reading at this time. Reciting the democratic attacks upon Gov. Dawes and the necessity of doing something to counteract them the State Journal says that now the campaign is over it "is satisfied that the rumors involving Mr. Morton's action in respect to the cemetery and the offer of land to the board of trade for a packing house were PURE INVENTIONS from the evidence that it has examined in those connections, irrespective of their denials (by Mr. Morton)." Then after fully exonerating Mr. Morton from the false charges which formed the republican stock in trade against him during the months of campaign it reiterates its attack upon the democratic campaign managers and says: "They (the democrats) have no reason to complain if they get a blow under the belt in this campaign." The entire post-election recantation may be found in the State Journal of November 15, 1884. It is refreshing to read it at this day. After months and weeks of bitter personal attack upon the character of a candidate to confess after election that the charges were "pure inventions." Viewed in the light of the history of the 1884 campaign it is easy to understand the republican campaign of 1897. It is another case of "pure inventions."—Anything until after election. Completely overwhelmed by the public revelation of the rascality of their own party in office the republican campaign managers resolve with an audacity that is unparalleled in politics to boldly admit the stealing but charge the governor of this state who for two years single-handed fought the state house thieves for an honest investment of the children's school money with being himself responsible for their loss.

SOME DISCREPANCIES.

So great is the hatred of the State Journal for Mr. Bryan that they apparently deceive themselves in their attempt to "prove" that his popularity is waning. It is well illustrated by the discrepancies which frequently exist between the heading of the articles and the statements contained in the body of the article published in that truthful paper. In its issue of October 28 the Journal contained the Associated Press report of Mr. Bryan's meetings in Ohio. The Journal's headings put over the report read as follows:

"HAS LOST HIS GLAMOR."

"Bryan not the attraction in Ohio that he was last year."

The body of the report reads:

"The first meeting was at Montpelier, where an audience of 5,000 persons from all over the county had assembled." It continues:

"From Montpelier the train was hurried to Defiance, where an afternoon meeting was held. There was a large crowd at the depot when the train arrived at Defiance and crowds assembled at the stations along the way. An audience of 5,000 people, the majority of whom were republicans, it is said, listened to the speech."

"The progress of the train from Defiance to Van Wert was marked by enthusiastic gatherings along the way. A big crowd had assembled here to meet Mr. Bryan. Several excursion trains had been run, bringing people from near by towns. A procession was formed and the distinguished visitor escorted to the hotel. About 6,000 people attended the meeting in the evening and the remarks of Mr. Bryan were widely cheered."

"Democratic leaders here (at Van Wert) say the meeting was one of the most enthusiastic ever held in Van Wert and they count much on the effect of the trip through the three counties in which Mr. Bryan appeared."

It is well known that the Associated Press does not send out reports of Mr. Bryan's meeting crediting him with a larger audience than there was heard him. The Associated Press is one of the greatest monopolies in the United States. It has no love for Mr. Bryan. If that great news corporation admits that "crowds assembled at stations along the way" that "a procession of 6,000 people was formed and the distinguished visitor escorted to the hotel" it is sufficient evidence that Mr. Bryan's meetings are a success regardless of how the headlines in the Journal may read. The republican party cannot bring a man to Nebraska who would draw crowds of that size or meet with the enthusiasm described in that report.

The republican press is using columns and columns of space predicting a republican victory. They give no figures or particular reasons for their claims of strength. They "claim everything," that is all. Their attitude and assertions are very similar to those about a year ago. If We remember correctly one of their famous leaders at that time gave out the astonishing information that "Nebraska would give 50,000 majority for the republican ticket no matter what the platform." Did it? Will it do it now?

In the city of Lincoln about twenty years ago the vote for Mr. Cooper and Mr. Ringer for city marshal was a tie. A second election was held and Mr. Ringer the republican candidate was elected. Moral: Vote the first chance you get.

Every live, wide awake, patriotic citizen will go to the polls and vote.

Mr. L. McReynolds who was a member of the populist legislature in 1891 and a candidate on the populist state ticket for auditor on the Van Wyck ticket has taken up his residence in Lincoln. He has just returned from a two year's stay in Arkansas, and expects to engage in business in Lincoln selling "big red apples."

Do you know that subjects of Great Britain alone have titles to over 20,000,000 acres of land in this country? 'Tis so; and they are still buying. Non-residents, mind you.

There is a rumor to the effect that the sale of the Union Pacific railroad may not take place on the first of November owing to the opposition raised by the reform press of the country. The reorganization committee have practically decided to pay the full amount of the government's claim if they cannot get the road for less.

Yellow fever continues to spread in the south. Several new cases reported every day. It is confined principally to Mississippi and Louisana.