

THE NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT

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

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Send in your "widow's mite" to aid the Cuban sufferers.

State Treasurer Meserve will pay cash for any warrant properly issued by the state of Nebraska.

The press has again demonstrated its power. Judge Keyser has been compelled to withdraw the contempt case against Editor Hitchcock of the World-Herald.

Money is a creation of law. The stamp of the government and not metal makes money. Who would take a piece of uncoined silver or a piece of uncoined gold in payment of a debt or as the price of any commodity in current business? We repeat, the law makes money.

There is no such thing as international money. United States money will not pass current in England, nor will English money pass a grocery bill in the United States. Such being the fact, what good would the kind of money the gold men want be to the laborers, producers and farmers in this country?

A Lincoln Evening paper recently made charges that J. H. Edmisten and George W. Blake changed the marking of a large number of ballots during the recount last winter. The article was based on mere assertion. No evidence or even suspicious circumstances were shown. Until the republican papers can provide some evidence, or at least show suspicious circumstances we shall not take space to reply to their villainous charges.

The war of extermination continues in Cuba. It may be expected to continue as long as greed rules the civilized nations of the world. Wall street has protested against any interference by this government in behalf of the struggling Cubans. Interference might precipitate a "panic on change" and the value of stocks and bonds would go down. Our lawmakers, and their aristocratic advisers value the dollar more than they value human life or liberty.

The cotton manufactories are going south. It is clearly shown by some figures recently given out by the governor of North Carolina.

In 1886 North Carolina had 80 cotton mills; in 1897 it had 1,010.

In 1886 it had 4,071 looms. In 1897 it had 24,517 looms.

In 1886 it had 199,433 spindles. Now it has 1,944,385 spindles.

North Carolina is only one of the cotton-growing states in which the spinning and weaving industry is increasing at this rate. The others are not far behind, and some of them show an even greater increase.

With abundant water-power, with cheap coal, with extraordinary cheap labor, and with the cotton fields at their very doors, the southern cotton mills will assuredly "take the business."

The striking weavers may go south and develop the industry in that locality, reverse the present situation and compel New Englanders to buy their clothing from the south. The "Omnivorous West" and the "Growing South" may yet prove more than a match for the "effete north east."

STAND UP FOR NEBRASKA.

An examination of the records of the state auditor's office shows that a large number of European insurance companies are doing a flourishing business in Nebraska. Many of them are patronized liberally by Nebraska people. There are at the present time thirty one European insurance companies that have licenses and charters to transact business in this state. They must receive patronage that pays a good profit or they would not continue in business in the state. Every year they take out of the state and across the Atlantic ocean a very much larger sum of money than they pay out in this state or country. According to the last statement published by the state auditor the European companies collected \$237,059.95 in this state and paid out in the same length of time only \$90,244.32 showing that almost \$150,000 more was received and taken from the state than was paid out within its borders. This is not as it should be. There are many entirely responsible Nebraska insurance companies, both old line and mutual, that deserve the patronage of all Nebraskans. Certainly no one who has the proper spirit of patriotism will go beyond the borders of the United States to get insurance. American companies are as safe and their rates are as low as any European company. First, "stand up for Nebraska," at any rate "stand up for America" and patronize American institutions.

CIVILIZATION IN OHIO.

The decline in public morals in Mark Hanna's state is illustrated by the sentiments voiced by the presiding officer of the Ohio Liquor League, who, in calling the league to order, made a remarkable speech in which he said:

"It will appear from these facts, gentlemen, that the success of our business is dependent largely upon the creation of appetite for drink. Men who drink liquor, like others, will die, and if there is no new appetite created our counters will be empty, as will be our coffers. Our children will go hungry or we must change our business to that of some other more remunerative. The open field for the creation of this appetite is among the boys. After men have grown and their habits are formed, they rarely, if ever, change in this regard. It will be needless, therefore, that missionary work be done among the boys, and I make the suggestion, gentlemen, that nickies expended in treats to the boys now will return in dollars to your tills after the appetite has been formed. Above all things, create appetite."

This speech is in keeping with public tendencies in Ohio. It is Hanaism in a new quarter. Victimize the boys—the sons of loving mothers and proud fathers—to the awful habit of intemperance, drag them down in their strong young manhood to driveling, dishonored drunkards and bulge the coffers of the wine merchant with the price of their shame and ruin.

When the people of a great commonwealth like Ohio have become so caloused as to tolerate the public utterance of such startling, ghoulis sentiments as those expressed in this speech, we no longer marvel at the political success of men like Hanna in that state. Such sentiments are appalling. The man uttering them is a veritable demon, and as a measure of public safety he should be put to death. A community that will allow any man to openly advocate the systematic cultivation of drunkenness among the young men is lacking in all respects the attributes of a civilized people. Such a community is un-American, and we need expect nothing that savors of Americanism from it.

RESPECT FOR MR. BRYAN'S METHODS

There have been but very few great newspapers or magazines or great political leaders who have expressed a doubt as to Mr. Bryan's sincerity of purpose or devotion to the cause for which he has been chosen leader. Those who have been bitter in their opposition of the principles for which Mr. Bryan contends, have almost without exception admitted that he is an ideal leader, a typical and patriotic American.

The American Review of Reviews, a gold standard magazine, in an article entitled "The Progress of the World," takes the position that "Bryanism" and Mr. Bryan's political methods even with free silver are preferable to "Crokerism" and the gold standard with Mr. Croker's political methods in control. It says:

"Mr. Croker and Mr. Bryan represent diametrical extremes in our political methods. The Tammany leader affords the most striking example of boss and machine methods that our recent tendencies have yet evolved; while Mr. Bryan, who is an orator and a true leader, represents the convictions and the enthusiasms of great multitudes of men and the triumph of principles over party machinery and campaign funds. In the great pending struggle between Croker and Bryan for the control of the democratic party, Mr. Croker may happen to represent a safer public policy in the matter of finance than is represented by Mr. Bryan. But it is to be hoped that there are in this country a great many thousands of firm believers in the gold standard who would rather see political power wielded in the government of this nation by a free silver man of Mr. Bryan's type than by a sound money man of Mr. Croker's. There are worse things to be feared than the disasters of a mistaken financial policy, although we do not underrate the gravity of such disasters. Mr. Bryan's only hope of success in the struggle for future leadership in the democratic party must, in our judgment, depend upon his freedom from complicity in the methods of such political leaders as Richard Croker."

It is almost without a parallel in history where a man so prominent in a political struggle fought out with such earnestness and so much bitterness, has been able to command the respect of both his friends and opponents.

CONGRESSMAN MERCER

If ever a Nebraska representative in congress caused the blush of shame to mantle the brow of his constituents, it was Congressman Mercer when he arose last week in the house and in a sheepish manner told half a dozen of the tackiest little lies ever uttered outside the realms of boot-black rallery.

The Hon. Mr. Mercer told about how the fusionists "never prosecuted a fellow of their political faith" when his misdeeds were discovered, and that the republicans had unceasingly hounded those of their party who showed any disposition to go astray from the path of honor and honesty. He felt compelled to show up a case where a dishonest populist had gone unpunished, so he called attention to a "populist who had sold transportation furnished him by the state," and who was still running at large. Mercer knew the state was not furnishing transportation to individuals. He knew the transportation referred to was that furnished the aforesaid escapee populist by a private party who had employed him to travel in the interests of his business. After this disgraceful little lie the Hon. Mercer reared back and slung about in a frantic fit of offended piety said "I could cite you a great many cases in the state of Nebraska, if I had time, where populist of-

ficials have either been embezzlers or have been short in their accounts, and wherever populist county attorneys were in office they never prosecuted a case." Why didn't the Hon. Mr. Mercer spend enough time to at least cite one case? When his time is so precious it seems and that he should waste it in reciting such a ridiculously inapplicable incident as an employe selling the transportation furnished him by his employer, a private citizen, to show how the state was being looted by the populists—unpunished populists. His case was a weak one, but this citation of a private matter under the pretext that it was in any way connected with the state was a poor way to prop up a flimsy assertion and it was truly disgraceful for a congressman to stoop to such a little, degrading lie.

Mercer's lament over the activity of republicans in prosecuting their defaulters is a stirring piece of sarcasm. His talk about "the populist embezzlers he could cite in Nebraska if he had time" is simply a piece of childishness which his own people are ashamed of.

A CHANGE OF FRONT.

In discussing the Teller bond resolution the Nebraska State Journal admits the error of all it has ever said on the money problem. In a long and wearisome editorial it tells just what the government should do in paying its creditors and sets its opinion out with the assurance and arrogance possessed only by the egotist. But the following paragraph in the Journal's editorial is greatly at variance with its oft repeated claim that "value cannot be legislated into money; that a dollar is worth a dollar only because the material from which it is made is worth a dollar."

"The government may say in the language of the Tellers and the Yeats to its creditors, 'You agreed to take coin did you not, and is not silver dollars coin?' but if the government by its own act makes a silver dollar which was worth a dollar the world over when the debt was contracted, worth only 40 cents, and then pretends that it is discharging the debt by the tender of the 40-cent coin, it is in no way superior in virtue to the commonest counterfeiter."

Here the Journal frankly admits that the government, "by its own acts"—by law—can lessen or increase the purchasing power of a dollar. It has increased the purchasing power of the gold dollar—which no reasonable man can deny—why should the toiler be compelled to earn the dear gold dollar to pay a debt contracted when "the forty-cent dollar" was recognized as fully able to clean up a hundred cent debt "the world over." Most of our debts, in fact approximately all our foreign obligations, were assumed under the double standard, and the government had no right to demoteize half our currency and compel the toiler to earn the scarce and hard-to-get dollar with which to pay a debt contracted when dollars were more plentiful and less dear. The government that doubles the debts of its people by law without their consent is no better than a common highwayman.

RELIEF FOR CUBAN SUFFERERS.

The Cuban Relief Commission has sent out the following appeal to the citizens of Nebraska for aid for the suffering Cubans:

To the people of Nebraska: A few years ago, owing to a continued and unprecedented drought, our state suffered severely from the failure of crops; and such suffering for the necessities of life threatened our people. We tenderly remember the sympathy and material help received from other states. Thousands of our people were cheered and supported by contributions of money, food, and clothing. The remembrances will never be effaced from the grateful hearts of Nebraskans.

Last year our excellent governor was the first of the chief magistrates of all the states, to appeal in behalf of the starving millions of India. So generously did our people respond that hundreds of car-loads of corn, and thousands of dollars in money were sent to the land of suffering and death. So abundant were donations, that the Relief Commission was finally compelled to decline receiving more.

Again the wails of famine, the cries of afflictions, the moans of sickness and death, are heard from almost a neighboring community—Cuba. Breadth in that unfortunate island, through the work of the machete, the bullet, and the bayonet. But where they have killed thousands of soldiers in arms; famine, disease, epidemic, and other nameless horrors have slain tens of thousands of old men and helpless women, of children and babes. This fearful carnival of suffering, famine, and death is on the increase; and will continue so unless some spirit of humanity, pity, and help intervenes to mitigate the existing conditions of wretchedness.

President McKinley has appointed a Central Relief Committee, located in New York, to organize expeditions of relief. And his excellency, Governor Holcomb, appeals to the citizens of Nebraska, to co-operate with the plans of the president, to send money, medicine, food, and clothing to the starving people of Cuba. All contributions should be sent to Mr. W. N. Nasson, treasurer, Omaha, Neb., or to Adjutant-General, P. R. Barry, secretary, Lincoln, Neb.

General Barry has sent out a letter to the mayors of the different towns in the state, calling upon them to co-operate in securing relief contributions. In his letter, he says:

"According to the figures published in the press of Havana, there are now 90,312 persons in a single province—Matanzas—who are absolutely without resources. Up to Nov. 30, 1897, 20,044 had perished of hunger, while 17,456 had disappeared, many of whom had doubtless also succumbed to want. At this time there are in the same province over 90,000 persons, of whom 20,000

are women, and 24,000 are children, actually starving. Of these, it is declared by the physicians, that a majority will surely die of the diseases induced by famine. The same authority adds, that in all the provinces, fully 200,000 non-combatants have already died of hunger, and an equally large number must miserably perish from the same cause, unless relief is speedily afforded."

He suggests the appointment of local Cuban Relief Committees and a complete plan of organization to prosecute the work vigorously. We trust that Nebraska citizens will respond liberally to this call for aid.

REPUTATION GOOD IN THE EAST.

Recently State Treasurer Meserve issued a general fund warrant for \$168,750 payable to the W. H. Thomas Co. of Philadelphia in payment for supplies furnished to Nebraska institutions. He mailed the warrant to the main office of the company in Philadelphia with a memorandum attached stating to the company that if they desired cash on the warrant they could have cash by endorsing it and sending it to the treasurer's office.

As soon as the warrant was issued several brokers wrote to the W. H. Thomas Co. and offered various premiums for the warrant. The company refused the offers of the brokers and sent the warrant to Treasurer Meserve with the following letter:

W. H. Thomas & Company, Importers and Jobbers in Institution Specialties 622 Market Street. PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Jan. 28, 1898.

Dear Sir:—We deposited in our bank for collection your warrant B 18000 for \$168.75. We had several offers of nine tenths to one per cent premium, but as our business is with the state we are perfectly satisfied with face of our bill and if there is any advantage to the state we are glad to benefit the state. We are pleased to note prosperous conditions of your state, and hope for you all continued prosperity. Very truly yours, W. H. THOMAS CO.

Treasurer Meserve cashed the warrant and registered it for the permanent school fund.

BY COMPARISON.

The Nebraska legislature meets in regular session each two years. One of the incidental results of this meeting is the publication of the proceedings of the session. The proceedings are published in two volumes, the proceedings of the House forming the House Journal and the proceedings of the senate are called the Senate Journal. The legislature provides an appropriation to pay for preparing the copy for the printer and the printing of the books. It has generally been the rule of the legislature to designate the clerk of the House and his assistants to prepare the copy for the House Journal and the secretary of the senate and his assistants to prepare the copy for the Senate Journal.

The state printing board awards the contract for printing the Journals which is entirely separate from the preparation of the copy for the printer. The contract for printing is awarded at a price per page the number of pages to be determined after the books are printed. It will readily be seen that by collusion between the clerks who prepare the copy and the printers, it would be an easy matter to put in a large amount of unnecessary matter, to have only a few lines on a page and as few words in a line as possible and greatly increase the size of the book and the number of pages that the state must pay for.

This has been done by republican officials in the past. The following black lines show the relative thickness in the volumes of the House and Senate Journals for the years indicated:



In 1880 the average cost per copy of the House Journal was \$3.45, in 1895 the average cost per volume was \$3.91.

in 1897, when it was prepared by populist and democratic clerks, the average cost per volume was only 66 cts.

In 1889 the average cost per copy for the Senate Journal was \$2.40; in 1895 the cost per copy was \$2.38; in 1897; when it was prepared by democratic and populist clerks, the average cost per copy was 48 cents.

Do you think it pays to have the "hogs in the parlor?"

ANOTHER RISE.

State warrants have taken another rise. They now sell for one and one-eighth premium, the highest ever known to be paid in this state for general fund warrants drawing only five per cent interest. The following postal card was sent to Hon. D. Clem Deaver, steward at the institution for the deaf and dumb at Omaha:

Office of C. H. Imhoff, 132 North 11th street. Lincoln Neb., Jan. 28, 1898. Wanted—General fund state warrants, prices, 1.01% for warrants \$50 or over, prices subject to change without notice. Warrants should be properly endorsed and sent direct to me for remittance in New York or Lincoln exchange.

C. H. IMHOFF. Mr. Imhoff is a well known and thoroughly responsible broker in this city. He will pay the price he has offered. It has been a long time since the State Journal has repeated the statement that if the pops were in power the state's credit would be ruined." Nebraska's credit was never so good as it is at the present time. Six of the state officers are populists and one is a silver democrat.

The new Union Pacific management took possession of the road at midnight January 31. One of its very first acts was the filing of a mortgage of \$100,000,000 upon the property. Besides this the new company has issued \$130,000,000 of stock. As the property cost the new organization a total of \$90,000,000 it will be a matter of some pardonable curiosity to the population of Nebraska living along the line of the Union Pacific to know what that odd \$140,000,000 has to do with their business. Of course it would never have done for the United States to have paid off the first mortgage and taken possession of the road!

HARDY'S COLUMN.

Notice—Antiscaling Bill—City Investigation—Dave Hill Speaks—Hawaii Still Hangs—Lincoln P. M.—State Fairs—Changing the Money Standard—Bryan's Visit to Mexico—Our Candidate for Governor—Farm Poetry.

Perhaps it had better be understood by the readers of the INDEPENDENT that the editor is in no way responsible for what appears in this column. The writer alone is responsible. There will no party muzzle even be put upon his pen. He writes his own opinion according to the light he has. We are satisfied that more than half of the editors do not dare to publish their own honest opinion for fear of injuring their party. We respect any man's candid opinion whether we agree with him or not.

But few know the object and effect of the anti-scalping bill now before congress. The New York Central and the Pennsylvania Central are the only roads fighting for the bill. The object is to stop ticket brokers from selling tickets under regular rates. The two main lines would get nearly all the through travel, could they stop scalpers from selling tickets under price over other roads? They propose to put a man in prison who sells or buys a ticket outside of railroad depots. It is the big fish eating the little if the law passes.

A strange phenomena is exhibited in our republican city officers, investigating other republican city officers. It looks as though the republican stealing disease, like the measles, had got to run through the whole family before it would die out.

Dave Hill, the New York senator who made the gold bug speech in the Chicago convention announced the other day that he voted for Bryan and was still on the Chicago platform. David has been a fish out of water for more than a year. He may have the presidential bee in his bonnet again, but no man east of Ohio can be elected president again in many years to come.

Hawaii still hangs in the basket. It is quite certain that any other nation on earth would jump at the chance the United States now has. When our Pacific commerce has been multiplied by a hundred as it will be in fifty years, a half way station will then be more of a necessity than it is now. The Russian railroads and our Pacific railroads in a short time, will require hundreds of Pacific steamships to carry the trade between Asia and America. An association will greatly benefit the native people.

It appears that Senator Alben had good reason for hanging up the appointment of Bushnell to the office of postmaster in Lincoln. He stands charged with borrowing money of Maney Cobb, our defaulting county treasurer. If proven he may be wanted to act as postmaster at the pen and he would not fill both offices very well.

The state fair should be permanently located on the state farm as it is in Minnesota. Then it should be open and free. What the state contributors can be used for premiums. Then there will be an excuse for horse racing, gambling or beer selling. Farmers would come to

\$5.00

Send us \$5.00 by draft, express or money order and we will ship you the following bill of goods—Every article warranted or money returned:

SPECIAL COMBINATION NO. 87

- 40 lbs best granulated Sugar.....\$1.00
25 bars good Laundry Soap..... 1.00
5 boxes Lion or Arbuckle's Coffee..... 1.00
4 lbs Fancy Evaporated Peaches..... .50
2 lbs best Baking Powder..... .50
1 lb best uncolored Tea..... .25
1 lb Pepper..... .25
4 lbs choice Rice..... .25
1 lb Macaroni..... .25
6 packages best Yeast cakes..... .25
\$5.00

All the above packed securely and delivered to R. R. station here for \$5.00.

The Farmers Grocery Co., 226-234 N. 10th St., Lincoln, Nebraska

gether to help each other and much good would be accomplished. As it is now the matter is taken out of the hands of the farmers and bit is turned into a money making machine. There are four railroads running along a few rods from the farm and the farmers could run the fair without help of the city chaps.

If there is any one thing that should remain unchanged, it is money. What was sound wheat, and corn and cotton six years ago is sound today and it ought to be so with money. In Jackson's day silver and gold were both sound money but now the republican plutocrats have discovered that gold alone is sound. In a few years more another jump will be made but every time toward the pockets of the money lenders. We expect Bryanism to stop this nonsense. If we had any guarantee that moneyed men would be satisfied with the present gold dollar we could rest more peacefully.

No stranger visiting Mexico ever received the attention or national honor that W. J. Bryan did a few days ago. If Mr. Bryan should visit England next week, he would be snubbed by every royal cab driver, spit upon by every lord and hung by the bankers of Lombard St. Let Cleveland or McKinley visit England and they would be invited to dine with the queen and the bankers would kiss the ground at their feet, but let them visit Mexico and they would be jostled with a cold shoulder. That is just the difference in men.

W. J. Bryan is our candidate for governor next fall, then put on J. B. Meserve for treasurer and we can carry the state by fifty thousand majority. That will be a long step toward the white house for Mr. Bryan, McKinley, Cleveland and several others have stepped from a governors chair to the presidential chair and he will be able to do it without any of Hanna's twenty millions. The common people must stand up for Nebraska.

The gold bugs have not quite cheek enough, yet to deny that silver is coin. Neither do they deny that all our government bonds read payable in coin. President Cleveland notified congress that they could save sixteen millions if they would make the bonds that he issued read payable in gold, but congress would not do it. Now we paid that sixteen millions for the option of paying silver or gold and can it be dishonest or dishonorable for us to take our choice what kind of coin we will pay? If I give my note payable in one ton of cheese or sixteen tons of hay I have a legal and moral right to pay either cheese or hay. A few tons of silver will quiet any run on our treasury and everything would go on smoothly again. But according to the presidents last speech, before the millionaire's banquet, we must pay in the biggest and best dollar known anywhere in the world without regard to the bargains. So if England should today double the size of her gold coin we would be under obligations to pay double gold dollars on our bonds. All I ask, all any honest man will ask, is the fulfillment to the letter of the contract, and it appears that the senate thinks so too, at least they voted 47 to 32 that way. Now let the house vote down the senate resolution if they dare, next fall we will elect a house that will overcome even the veto power.

We want to call the attention of farmers, especially that of the boys and girls, to the poultry industry. The annual egg harvest will soon be ripe. The chicken and egg product last year in Nebraska, without including turkeys, geese and ducks, would sell for not less than \$6,000,000. It requires no hard work, just a little care, first rate chores for boys and girls. Remember that eggs are prime for market, as soon as they are dropped, and chickens are prime at the end of three or four months. You don't have to fuss a whole year as you do with a crop of corn or two or three years as with coals and calves.

To start with don't conclude that you must have high priced, blooded hens. There is but little difference in eggs, not a quarter as much as in cows. Its care more than blood that brings the sturds. The Leghorn is a good layer, smoothy, rather tender in winter, but its best scavenger known. The Plymouth rock, Langshan and Brahma are large but slow to mature. Put a Leghorn-cocker with either and you get the best layers on earth.

Don't conclude you must have an expensive hen house. If you have a hen's nest let your hens roost in it between the first of April and November. Run and fences are more healthy. Roosting poles under an open shed will answer. Provide a plenty of nesting boxes. They can be had at any store or used for little or nothing. A box should be about fifteen inches square and three feet long. The entrance should be at one end and the nest at the other, in the dark. Hens love nestings secrecy. Every nest should be supplied with two or three white straws, six kumbs, or crockery eggs, by this you can prevent your hens learning to either eggs. Something about hatching next week.