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

PUBLISHED EVERY TRURSDAY BY Che Independent Dublishing Co.

TELEPHONE, 538.

# \$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

Address all communications to, and make al rafte, money orders, etc., payable to THE INDEPENDENT PUB. CO., LINCOLN, NEB.

Representative Charles Wooster writes in his Silver Creek Times calling attention to the fact that the Platte county fair association has sold its property and gone out of the fair business. Wooster thinks it is the same way in all the counties. The people are sick of county fairs and demands the repeal of the law making an appropriation from the county treasury to sustain them. Those who remember (and who does not?) the thundering denunciations hurled at the Trans-Mississippi fair by Mr. Wooster may look for something showy along the line of county fairs if he is in the next legislature.

The correspondence columns of the Independent continue to be well supplied and well read. There is no feature of a paper that is so interesting or does so much to make people think and progress as the one filled with letters fresh from the people. Send them in. Make them reasonably short. If the ground cannot be covered in a short letter, divide it so as to cover it in two or three short ones, rather than one long one. Avoid personal attacks but write the truth as it comes to you and as plainly as you see it. The great strength of the populist movement is that it is in accord with the spirit of the age and the rights of man. Let the voice of the spirit be passed along the line.

The enactment of an election law in Kentucky which puts the control of the entire election machinery into the hands of three men to be appointed by the legislature is an outrageous and undemocratic measure. If there is anything the people can be safely trusted with, it is the organization of their own election boards. The Nebraska law which requires representation of all parties upon these boards and leaves the selection of their represetatives to the respective party privaries appears to us the best law yet enacted upon the subject. We are glad to know that all the populists in the Kentucky legislature (with on exception) voted against the bill. The day will come when the democrats who passed the bill will bitterly rue their action. The past history of the American people proves that no political offense is so certain of punishment as gerrymandering or partisan election laws.

The Illinois supreme court has rendered a decision in an action involving the constitutionality of the Burlington relief department. This was the case of Charles H. Eckman who was ordered by a foreman to crawl under an engine to tighten a valve. While underneath another train ran into the rear of the train coupled to and breaking his leg and ankle. Eckman belonged to the Burlington remonthly from his wages to keep up his membership dues. The rules of the relief department are that when a member is injured he has his choice of receiving benefits from the relief department and relinquishing all Claims for damages against the road or the opposite. In this case Eckman received benefits to the amount of about \$350 and afterward sued the company for damages. The majority of the supreme court sustained the contention of the railroad that his acceptance of the relief benefits was a bar to any claim for damages. A dissenting opinion was rendered by Judge Magruder, the gist of whose opinion is given in the following brief extract: It is not lawful for a railroad com-

pany to engage in the insurance business. A corporation can only exercise such powers as are express! granted to it, or such implied powers as may be necessary to carry out o A ruit effectuate its express powers. granted company charter to carry freight and passes gers. It is a common carrier and nothrise. The insurance of its emplayes is not one of its implied powers. If it be true that a railroad company can house its employee because they need insurance, then it can go into the tailoring or clothing business because its employes need clothes, or operate a farm to raise cattle and gs and poultry and wheat and corn because its employes need food. Such an extension of the implied powers of a railroad company as is thus indicated would lead eventually to an aborption of the railroad companies of all the employments and all the business of the country. Monopolies, cre-ated by the gradual reaching out of railroads into the various departments of business in no way comeeted with the original purposes of their organizFIXING THE RESPONSIBILITY.

responsibility for the lo ss of that magnificent vessel. Concerning the affair Robert T. Lincoln, ex-secretary of war , in an interview has said:

"Assuming a mine exploded by anatic or by accident, that would be the end of the affair. Giving international law the widest latitude and there would be no liability against the government of Spain. It is an elementary principle of international law a government is in no way responsible for the acts of private citizens. If it were not so, complications would be arising continually which would keep nations in a turmoil and arbitrating continually. It is another primary principle that no nation is responsible for accidents.

"As to the right of a nation to fortify its harbor as it sees fit, there can not be the slightest doubt. This right is a conceded one, and is exercised by all nations. Whenever a vessel, therefore, enters the harbor of a foreign power it is with notice or such defenses and with an assumption of the chances they involve. It would not do to say that one nation is bound to give the ship of another nation information as to where and how its harbor defenses are arranged, and the resuit of such a rule would be obvious. In entering the harbor of Havana the Maine did so with full knowledge that it was a fortified harbor, and took all the chances of accident or the acts which might be done by those for whom Spain is not responsible."

This position would practically release the Spanish government for it puts the burden of proof upon the United States and requires such direct proof of the complicity of the Spanish officers in the affair that an attempt to secure it would be almost

On the other hand there are other high authorities on international law that take a very different view of the case. Prof. H. E. Von Holst of the university of Chicago, holds that in any case supposable Spain is responsible and liable for damages. In an interview he said:

individual "If it is really an certainly Spain would not be responsible for is a well understood principle of international law that nations are not responsible for the acts of individuals. Essentially different, however, seems to me to be the situation in case the situation should prove that there is culpable negligence on the part of Spain.

"If it be true that, as it is asserted, the harbor of Havana is provided with torpedoes and submarine mines, and if it be further true that the place of anchorage was assigned to the Maine by Spanish officials, and the disaster has befallen the Mane through those mines or torpedoes, Spain, in my opinion would have to pay damages for the loss of the ship, besides indemnities for the loss of the sailors, dead which the aforesaid man possesses. or wounded. I am of the same opinion in case those mines or torpedoes have not exploded by accident, but through the criminal act of same individual Spaniard, whether official or not, and for this reason, if the Spanish government laid those mines and torpedoes, it is in duty bound to watch them in such a way that no ment which nature demands. No othharm could be done by them, except in legitimate warfare. "I am inclined to go even one step

further. I think the liability of Spain could not be denied if neither the place of unchorage was assigned to the Maine by Spanish officials nor the explosion was due to the criminal act of some individual, but simply to some unaccountable accident. For while Spain had unquestionably the right to provide her harbor with submarine mines and torpedoes, she was morally bound to warn any ship of a friendly nation-not only a man-of war, but the same holds true of any merchantman-of the danger that would be incurred in anchoring in his engine, foreing the later forward that harbor except in a safe position assigned to her. Any power that allows a ship of a friendly nation to enter her harbor thereby implicitly delief department, having paid \$2.10 clares that it is safe to do so, fortified or not. So in all these cases there seems to be a clear case of responsibility on the part of Spain."

These statements represent fairly the position of those who favor immediate action on account of the loss of the battleship Maine and those who favor delay pending further investigation. All authorities seem to agree that should the liability for the loss of the battleship be fixed upon Spain the only requirement which the United States could exact would be a each indemnity sufficient to replace that valuation it calculated that local the battleship and care for the fam- rates were too low-made so by the ilies and dependents of the killed and railroads themselves and not by stress pay the eash indemnity in which event a resort to arms to collect it would be permissible.

The loss of the Maine must be confrom the independence of the island of Cubs. It must be treated in the same manner that it would be treated of any other friendly nation. Public sentiment would certainly not be so bit'er against tiermany as it is against Spair, had the destruction of a battleship occurred in a German harbor instead of a Spanish harbor.

The island of Cuba should be free. Congress and the president should recognize the independence of the ialand. This nation should second to the Cubana the rights of beligerents. Three-fourths of the people of the United States agree upon that proposition. But they did not reach that conclusion as a result of the destruction of the battleship Maine. They favored it before that unfortunate affair took place. They favored it upon grounds of humanity and right, upon or Donnelly's "Caesar's Csiuma."

the same principle that a strong man The recent destruction of the bat should protect an innocent child from tleship Maine has no precedent in in- an enraged and crazed parent. Spain's trnational law to guide in fixing the insanity has been clearly proven. Her methods of warfare and policy of cruelty and starvation are horrifying and disgraceful. Common decency requires that we should interfere to protect the helpless, to put an end to butcheries in Cuba. Let us demand independence for Cuba, not in a spirit of revenge, but upon the higher plane of justice.

RE-HEARING FOR BARTLEY The supreme court granted a rehearing to Bartley Thursday of last week. This does not mean that a new trial will be granted him. A motion for a new trial was made and argued before the court and overruled. Now comes the attorneys for Bartley and file a showing in which they ask for a rehearing upon their motion for a new trial. This is granted by the court. It is stated that Judge Sullivan favored granting the rehearing as he was not on the supreme bench when the previous argument for a rehearing was made. At any rate there does not appear to have been any dissent in granting the rehearing. The people of the state are watching the proceedings in these cases with critical interest. It may be that a rehearing will do no harm in the Bartley case, but it certainly appears as though the straw in the case of Joe Bartley had been pretty well threshed and it was time to enter up final judgment.

The "foreign policy" of the Nebraska University is noteworthy. It is also beginning to bear fruits. Among the many sons and daughters driven out last year the case of the librarian is most remarkable in its consequences. The former librarian was almost a native of Nebraska, educated in the public schools and graduated from the university. She had spent some years in the best library school of the world, and was recognized by librarians of the country as unusually well qualified. She was a general favorite with the students and all others who used the library. But she was a woman and moreover she was a home product. The Chancellor told her she was a "dear girl," and advised her to get married. The library, he said, would soon require a man at the helm. Her career thus being closed Miss Jones resigned and accepted a

position in another school. The Chancellor forthwith engaged his man, and it is now admitted by all who use the library or who know ought of university affairs that sex is dis total interest of modern library practice and theory was manifested to the assistant immediately upon his arrival. His innocence of all qualities essential to an ordinary gentleman has gradually won for him the treater babe was ever so devoid of judgment. The consequences have already been serious. They may yet be calamitous. The whole student body is enraged. No member of the faculty defends the librarian.

For our part we are tired of the whole policy of Chancellor MacLean's administration. We believe that Nebraska men and women should fill all positions in this state, and we are unalterably opposed to the present method of the board of regents which provides a banquet for the incompetents of New England and Virginia, and assigns the crums to our own children. There is no position in the university for which Nebraska cannot furnish a well qualified man or woman. The university has never yet gained by exchanging a Nebraskan for a foreigner. Stand up for Nebraska! Stand up for the University! Stand up for Nebraska men and wo-

The report of the state board of ransportation 1891 compiled by Joe Johnson, C. J. Dilworth and J. N. Kountz, figured the value of railroads n Nebraaka at \$30,000 per mile. On wounded sailors. It could not result of competition either, for at most of in war unless Spain should refuse to the stations there is no competition. The supreme court of the United States has adopted the report of that board-\$30,000 per mile valuation and all-and incorporated it in its opinion. sidered as a matter entirely separate Competent testimony of railroad builders in the western states is that the roads cost little if anything over \$15,000 per mile. In the case of most had the affair occurred in the harbor of the Nebraska roads they were built by donations from the federal government and local communities. It was a bad day for the western people when they entered upon the business of building highways and presenting them to corporations.

stage in the east. It presents the mon- ation for private corporations. ey question from a dramatic point of view. Free silver papers east criticised the play as not having merit equal to the question dealt with. The ques-

BEET SUGAR IN NEBRASKA. The active controversy which has been going on between the beet growrs at Grand Island and Norfolk and th Oxnards over the terms of contract for the present year's crop has been brought to an end by the withdrawal on the part of the Oxnards of the objectionable Hawaiian clause. This clause provided for an absolute reduction of 50 cents per ton in the price paid for beets in case Hawaii was annexed to the United States. The beet growers objected strongly to this and many of them refused to enter into contracts on that basis.

In his letter from Washington announcing the withdrawal of clause Henry T. Oxnard says:

"The present contract which we of fer the farmers of Nebraska gives them on an average of about 30 cents more per ton than they received last year. At the outset, our contract was worded, giving us the absolute right to reject all beets of a quality which we deemed unfit to manufacture into sugar, namely, All beets below 12 sugar and 80 purity. We do not want this low quality of beets, as they cannot be manufactured profitably into sugar and would be only too glad if the farmers would keep these low grades and feed them to their cattle, but we do say as a favor to the farmers if they cannot feed them we will be willing to accept them at a reduced price. As far as I can see this is the only question in dispute between the farmers and ourselves. They want us to accept any beets they see fit to supply us with, whether they can be manufactured profitably into sugar or not. The principle, if we were to yield to it, would mean the closing of both our factories withing very short time. It seems absurd to me to hear the people who know nothing about the requirements of the industry attempting to tell us what we should do. These people cannot convince us against facts which we know, and all the talk which I have seen in the newspapers for the past month or two convinces me in my belief that "a little knowledge is a bad thing," and may account for the reason why during seven years Nebraska has only had two beet sugar factories."

Last year the factories at Norfolk and Grand Island paid the beet growers on a graduated scale depending upon the per cent of sugar and purity of beets furnished. This was a prohac source of controversy. One man could not understand why his neighbor's beets should be better than his and the university of Nebraska chemthe only qualification for a librarian istry department was kept busy all fall making analysis of beets for growers who were dissatisfied with the work of the chemists at the factories. As an outgrowth of this a straight price of \$4 per ton has been made in this year's contracts for beets up to average standard.

In commenting upon the outlook for the beet sugar industry in this state Mr. Oxnard says:

"I notice some of the papers in their editorials, trying to foment trouble between the farmers and the manufacturers. If this policy is continued, it is not difficult for me to predict that there will only be two beet sugar factories in Nebraska for many years to come. I do not think that we have received the hearty co-operation which we deserved in our efforts to establish the beet sugar industry of Nebraska."

The remarks concerning "bearty co operation" comes with poor grace from the Oxnards, who have had do nated to them both at Norfolk and Grand Island an amount fully equal to one-half the entire cost of their plant, while some estimate the proportion much higher. In addition to this the duty was remitted on their machinery imported and they always had either in the form of bounty or tariff very large protection upon their pro-

There ought to be more than two sugar factories in Nebraska. They ought to be had on the basis of co-operation of the capital and labor necessary to make a success of them rather than on the basis of the local communities building them as a present for the corporations which own them. The curse of the beet sugar industry in Nebruska is that it has been too much in the hands of promoters who were working harder after bonuses and bounties than they were after beets. The need of the industry in the state is an effective means of combining local capital and land owners into practical working union. state bounty scheme in Nebraska may be regarded as ended. No political party is likely to make it a campaign issue in this state, ambhumhmh issue again in this state. The development of the best sogar industry in the state will be continued on along "The curse of gold" is the name of a the line of co-operative ownerships new play which has been put upon the and not along the line of public tax-

# SOME UNOFFICIAL DUTIES.

The committee on civil service has completed and published the report tion of silver and gold is not broad of its investigations concerning the enough to found a drama upon. Some discharge from the bureau of animal good writer ought to dramatize Col. industry at South Omaha during J. the general fund of the state of Ne Norton's "Ten Men of Money Island" Sterling Morton's term as secretary brasks command a premium of on of agriculture. It appears from the and one-half per cent.

report that Secretary Morton required many "unofficial" duties from his appointees. Dr. White was one of the parties discharged by Mr. Morton upon a charge of inefficiency. The investigating committee from the senate find that Dr. White was competent to perform all the official duties that could be required of him.

As showing the nature of the unofficial duties that devolved upon Dr. White and which he was for obvious reasons incompetent to perform, Dr. White submitted a letter written to him June 23, 1894, by Secretary Morton, the last papagraph of which was as follows:

You and Dr. Sheimer (Shirmer) will be largely responsible to the next state convention for the character of the delegation from Otoe. You or he should correspond with Mr. Rolfe, W. A. Cotton, Henry Shewell and Ed Shelton, and tell them directly that if they keep the town right the back precincts will be solid. It will be easier to carry that county for sound money in the convention to be held during next August and September than it was last year. There will be no excuse for any miscarriage if the physicians in charge properly attend to the patient now right along.

The letter is signed, "Yours faithfully, J. Sterling Morton."

Another letter from the secretary

dated June 5, 1894, says: "Write me what the postoffice fight Hendricks precinct amounts to, and who, in your judgment, ought to be appointed postmaster. Probably it would be well for you to write to friends in Nebraska City, upon whom you can depend, and stir them up to active labor in the securement of a delegation that shall stand for sound money and the best interests of all the people of Nebraska."

On June 12 the secretary wrote:

"Dr. Sheimer (Shirmer) should join with you in every reasonable effort to evangelize the finances of those peo ple in Otoe county who have been misead by the felicitous fallacies upon the money question with which the country has been flooded."

Acting upon these instructions, Dr White went to Otoe county several times. He presided in one county convention; he attended every state convention as a delegate from Otoe county, except the one in April, 1896, when he was present, but not as a delegate. During his absences he left one of his assistants in charge of the office, signing the reports in blank and leaving them to be filled out and turned in. Dr. White took no part at all in the campaign of 1896, but others connected with the bureau did take part in the campaign, as the secretary had requested.

On November 16, 1896, after Dr. White's discharge, Mr. John Nordhouse, private secretray to the secre tary of agriculture, in answer to Dr. White's letter of November 14, wrote:

"In the meantime I take the liberty of informing you for vour own be sonal satisfaction that the secretary's recent action in your case (meaning Dr. White's discharge) was based on what he considered the strongest and most indisputable evidence from several reliable sources as to very decided pernicious political activity upon your part during the recent campaign.

Dr. White afterwards wrote several letters to the secretary assuring him that he (Dr. White) had taken no part whatever in the campaign. The question arises as to whether it was pernicious political activity or pernicious political nonactivity that caused Mr. White's discharge immediately after the election of 1896.

J. Sterling Morton can profitably devote a column or two of space in his newly established paper to an explanation of the report of the civil service committee which finds that he discharged the employes in the South Omaha bureau of animal industry for political reasons. In its report the committee, composed of eight United "While this States senators, says: committee would not undertake to state the motives by which Secretary Morton was governed, yet it appears to the committee from the evidence that political consideratinos were the basis of all the removals evcept that of Mr. Holmes." Has the honored exaccretary a better explanation?

During the winter months we sent bills to all delinquent subscribers, A few of them responded promptly with The cattle were black, hornless and the cash, but many more have "misplaced" the bill, have "forgotten" it. have "neglected" it, and for many other reasons too numerous to meation, have failed to give the bill the attention which it deserved. Of course if it is necessary we can send another reminder to our forgetful, neglectful or careless friends. Remember, it is never too late to do good.

A case has been brought from Pawnee county by the supreme court for the purpose of testing the new school land act passed by the last legislature which prohibited further sale of these lands. The action is brought by a lessee of school land who claimed the right to purchase under the old law under which his lease was made.

Auditor John F. Cornell has turned over every dollar of fees which he has collected for the state to the state treasurer. He has performed all the duties of his office faithfully. The people of the state ask nothing more of an officer than that,

Keep it in mind, state warrants o

### HARDY'S COLUMN.

Spring-War Cloud-Republicans Converted-Moore, Bartley and Graham Sense-Treasurer Gage-Horse School Warrants-University Girl-Rock Burial.

Spring is here and winter is off duty. Farmers can push ahead their plowing and sowing of small grain. Cool nights will keep the fruit back so that late frosts can do no harm. In every respect, Nebraska never had fairer prospects of a bountiful crop this time of the year. Since writing the above winter has jumped into the lap of spring and kicked up quite a breeze. From 72 Monday the therometer went down to eight on Tuesday morning.

We expect within a week the court of inquiry will report that the Maine was blown up by a Spanish torpedo and the president will send into congress this report with a message recommending the acknowledgment of Cuba's independence and also a demand on Spain for indemnity. Spain may flare up and fire on some of our ships, then the fur will fly. But probably negotiations will commence, Cuba will have her independence and the trouble will be settled without firing gun.

Now the republicans have just got ready to be honest. Vote for our candidates once more, say they, and we will show you that we can be honest. Every old republican must stand up and vote the straight republican ticket, yellow dog and all. The city, county and state must be redeemed. We must wash off the black stain upon our party. The grand old party must be kept above suspicion, like

Totiphor's wife. Eugene Moore is clear, Bartley's case is to be argued again before the supreme court that judge Sullivan may hear the case and be able to decide intelligently for himself. Frank Graham, mayor of Lincoln, lacked one vote of a two-thirds majority for impeachment, so taking all in all the republicans are climbing to a higher ground of political excellence. There s nothing like political honor among thieves.

It was nothing short of good horse sense in Judge Sullivan to ask a rehearing of the Bartley case. He came to the bench after the first hearing and being one of the most important cases ever brought before the court in this state, and he standing alone, should understand the case thoroughly before giving his opinion. It is only a question of four years when we will have a full bench like him.

Treasurer Gage, in a speech before the chamber of commerce, in Cleveland, raised the same old whine over the fact that the Bryan men did not lay down after the election of 1896. He also whines that the senate does not leave the common people to the tender mercies of the money power. thinks the battle of 1900 will be on the main question again. He calls it "infamy and ruin" to re-establish silver money, but he does not tell us what it was to strike silver down. In the first case it doubled the wealth of the money men and halved the wealth of the property men. Now to take from the money men and give to the property men what belongs to them is "infamy and ruin."

Why are school warrants of Lincoln school district selling for one and a half per cent premium. It is not because there is a surplus of money, but because it is not safe to deposit in banks or to invest in any kind of property or business with any hope of getting the same number of gold dollars back. Gold and property are separating wider and wider apart, This pleases the money power. The farmer is pleased when his calves grow. So the money lender is pleased when his dollars grow.

The university girls, of the state unversity, gave a concert last week, charged fifty cents admision and leared over \$400. Now what do you think they did with that money? They gave it to the boys' ball club. How much more good it would have done had it been given to the clerk girls of the city who are compelled to toil hard all the week for \$3.50, boarding and clothing themselves. It might have saved some starving tempted one from a life of shame.

The boys who engineered the burial of the big rock onthe university campus must have been reared in New England where it is common to do such things. But we never buried rocks with bird tracks on. But then such exercise is better than football.

We handed over to Mr. Syford, of this county, last week, as agent for a relative living at Reets, Kan., \$250 for two bull calves and one two-year-old. handsome and had pedigrees as long

# Salt Rheum

Intense Suffering Could Not Sleep -Cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla.

"I had salt rhoum on my arms, which itched intensely and kept me from sleeping. The skin on my hands would crack open. My friends believed I was suffering from blood polioning. I decided to take Hond's Sarsaparille. I did not see any improvement with the first bettie but continued with the medicine and after taking Ave bottles I was completely cured. My hands are now as smooth as I could wish." A. D. HAGEY, Elroy, Pa.

# Hood's Sarsaparilla In the heat-in fact the time True Based Purifier

Bold by all druppests. \$1; six for \$5. Hood's Pills easy in offert. 20 cents.

Your friends will tell you how becomog your elethes are when they see you a one of Paine & Wartel's spring suits. Always one price.