

THE OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

In this department we will publish communications of a worthy and suitable character, received from subscribers to this paper. No communication should exceed more than 800 words. Manuscript will not be returned.

Issue Tax Receipts.

COWLES, Neb., May 16, 1898.
Editor Independent.

In the testimony of Secretary Gage before the finance committee of the senate the secretary says: "I think it is a legitimate operation to borrow in any way you can make it acceptable to both parties to the contract." I think this assertion is fair. But it means more. It means that the agreement of two parties should not be the burden of a third party. The issuance of legal tender is not acceptable to all parties concerned. It is not my purpose to dwell upon the moral or the legal aspect of the case but upon the policy of the procedure. To attain the right we should move by the route that offers the least possible amount of resistance. What we want is no bonds and more money.

As long as the courts render judgment in "legal tender," I suppose it is necessary to have some legal tender, but have we not already enough? Does not this legal tender as a chip on our shoulder bring us more opposition than it does real benefit? Bank notes are not legal tender, still they pass equally as well. Now to the point—why would it not do just as well to issue government tax receipts drawing no interest and not legal tender but acceptable for all government dues, placing them with all postmasters with instructions to sell at par for legal tender? I know they could be sold here and that populists, democrats and republicans would buy them and consider it an honor.

Buzzards would not buy them. None but traitors would object to those buying who wished to do so, as nobody would be implicated but the parties to the contract, the government and those who were willing to accept them.

Yours truly,
W. J. TURNER.

What Shall We Do With the Philippine Islands?

An old proverb says we should not sell the bear's skin before we have caught the bear, but as our money changers are so anxious to know, and therefore ask, what McKinley will do with the Philippine Islands so that they can right now make their speculations and figure out how much profit they can make by this job, we can just as well tell them right now that Mr. McKinley, but the people of these States, have to decide this question, and that this people will do what is right and prevent all plundering of this poor people which for so long a time has suffered under the most tyrannical and barbaric rule of Spain. The principles which must guide our people in its acts against all the peoples of the world were formulated by the founders of this republic in the declaration of independence, which says that all men are created equal and that they are endowed with the inalienable rights for life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness, and that governments are instituted to secure these rights, and that whenever any government becomes destructive to this end then the people have a right and it is their duty to alter or abolish such government and to institute a new one.

These strict, noble principles are binding for the nation, and it is the greatest honor for our people that they never commenced a war without being urged to it to defend these noble principles of humanity.

This war against Spain was commenced from the most humane motive, from sympathy for the poor people of Cuba which for centuries have been oppressed and tortured in the most refined, cruel and barbaric manner by the Spaniards, and therefore it is our duty to make all of these people free. We have no right at all to sell or to deed over these islands, neither to Wall street nor to Lombard street. That would be just as cruel and barbaric as to put them again under Spanish rule. To the honor of the magnanimous people of these United States it must be said that there is not a single individual among the common people who ever thought of anything else than to make these people free, but we have to confess to our shame that we have a small but most powerful minority of people who try to extort a profit out of everything, and who would sell their own children if thereby they could realize a large profit. These profit grabbers are now scheming how to extort the largest profit out of the Philippine Islands. Just like vultures and hyenas these money changers follow all armies at a safe distance to prey on the victims of the battle.

It was these vultures who, when the Constitution was being drawn up, opposed the emancipation of the negro, for which injustice this country had to suffer so much misery, and it was these vultures of whom Lincoln was so afraid that he said he feared more for the liberty of this republic from them than from the slaveholders, and it was these vultures who enslaved and saddled the people with an unnecessary debt which was schemed by English money sharks and sent to the American bankers in 1862 in a confidential circular, the so-called Hazard circular, which read:

"Our plan is for capital to control labor by controlling wages. This can be done by controlling the money. The great debt that capital will see to it is made out of this war, must be used as the means to control the volume of money. To accomplish this the debt must be bonded and the bonds must be used as the banking basis."

"We are now waiting to get the secretary of the Treasury to make the recommendation to congress, it would not do to allow the greenback to circulate as money for any length of time, for we cannot control them, but we can control the bonds and through them the bank issue."

The consequence of this circular, as admittedly was its aim, was that several hundred millions dollars of non-interest bearing greenbacks were burned up and replaced by interest bearing bonds, which were used as a banking basis for controlling the circulation of money; that negro slaves were replaced by wage slaves who have to live under more miserable conditions than negro slaves ever did live, that our money bags by controlling the volume of money acquired an absolute control over all

the different products, too, which control they misuse to cheat farmers and manufacturers out of the fruits of their hard labor, so that, for instance, a Leitcher or Armour with the aid of our Agriculture Bureau are able to rob our farmers in the short time of a few months of many millions of dollars.

But if I had not seen and read this circular several years ago I would believe that it was issued only a few weeks ago, as the same swindle is again enacted because our bankers need more bonds as a banking basis for controlling the money, therefore they are so anxious to see that a great debt is made out of the war which must be used as a means to control the volume of money, and through this make the people again tributary to the money bags. Everything proceeds now like a charm according to the program; the Secretary of the Treasury has already made the recommendations to congress which has sanctioned the measure, and if the senate agrees to it, then McKinley will only be too glad to say amen by signing the act and you can be sure that the supreme court will declare it constitutional.

What will the people do? Will this people be wise enough to repudiate such bonds, as there are plenty of causes to do so?

FERD SCHWEIZER,
WOODLAW, May 21, 1898.

THE ADVANCE PAY GRAB.

The legislative investigating committee call attention to one outrage by republican officials at the state house, which, although it is not news, seems strange that the taxpayers of the state allowed it to go on as it did. We refer to paying salaries in advance. It was the universal custom of republican state auditors to draw warrants for all salaries three months in advance. That is, on January 1st, all officials and others, received their state warrants for January, February and March. And so all through the year warrants were drawn and began drawing interest three months before they should. The interest the state had to pay wrongfully by this procedure amounted to about \$7,000 per year or \$28,000 during a four year term of a republican auditor. The law emphatically forbade this, but a statute was never allowed to stand in the way or our republican brethren. Besides the great loss in interest on these warrants, the state also lost much service. Many who had their pay in advance cared little about the work they rendered the state, while some actually left the state house and did no work at all for the pay they received in advance. When the populists entered the state house, Auditor Cornell had no trouble to make his people earn their salaries before they drew them, but republicans throughout the state, who were used to the old unlawful plan, made a bold attempt to have the new auditor do as his predecessors had done. The republican judges from the supreme court down, begged the auditor's office vigorously, and demanded their pay the old way, in advance. Auditor Cornell declared to all that he would obey only the law, and even in the absence of such a law, he would require on general principles, all people to perform the services before they got their pay. As time went on in the effort to break down Auditor Cornell's ruling became desperate. A case was trumped up and brought into court, and those high in authority threatened to set aside this salutary law and compel the auditor to issue warrants in advance. Mr. Cornell went before the supreme court with counsel and defended the law. Whether cheerfully or unwillingly, the republican judges finally concluded best to uphold the law and let the auditor have his way. The people of the state are to be congratulated on the result. It was hard enough to have Treasurer Bartley steal all the money sent him from ninety counties to pay these warrants, let alone issuing them three months before the lawful time and beginning the interest charge against the state before it was right.

Another matter on which the legislative committee reported was the unlawful expenditure of state money for bunting and decorations at the capitol during political campaigns. Warrants as large as \$150.00 were frequently drawn by republican officials to pay for decorating the capitol for a single republican rally. Sometimes such funds were charged against the school fund, sometimes against other funds.

With the reform party in power no such stunts are possible. None will be attempted. Populists entered the state house not to keep up the outrageous conduct of the republicans but to change the routine entirely and they are doing quite well in the work assigned them.

The Farmers and the Editor.

By James Patton
editor.
"Now Mr. Editor," said I, "I see you are practically neutral on all subjects thus far which is all right. Your ambition seems to be to produce a local paper for the masses and not in behalf of any particular class. What is the politics of your paper?"

"I don't care what your principles are, it is a nation that counts."
Jones—"Nor I either, principles, if good, are good and especially so if the actions coincide with such principles. But little use are your principles or any one else's principles if the actions are the opposite. Further than this friend editor, the republican principles are not in harmony with the desires and necessities of the farmers and general laborers. Many of our stump speakers say they are, but such is not the case. The republican press advocates the tariff and single standard principles as being the right for farmers and I believe whenever you or any other paper man advocates such doctrine you are not doing the right thing; may be you think you are, but don't, and I can easily tell you why if you so desire it."

"I would not object to arguing the question a while with you gentlemen if I had the time, because I believe you are men of good, honest judgment and the only reason you are not

Give the Children a Drink

called Grain-O. It is a delicious, appetizing nourishing food drink to take the place of coffee. Sold by all grocers and liked by all who have used it, because, when properly prepared it tastes like the finest coffee but is free from all its injurious properties. Grain-O aids digestion and strengthens the nerves. It is not a stimulant, but a health builder, and children, as well as adults, can drink it with great benefit. Costs about 1/2 cent a week of coffee. 11 and 25c.

"Republican," was the reply very emphatically.

"Do you belong to any church?" said I was standing leaned over a nice board fence one beautiful day in the spring of '98 talking to my estimable neighbor Jones, when we noticed a nice carriage coming up the road toward us. We looked quite expectantly at the rig as it came nearer as thinking that perhaps it might be some one of our acquaintances. In a short time the rig came up even with us and we perceived at once that it contained a nicely dressed gentleman about 40 years old. He bid us a very pleasing "good morning gentlemen" to which we both responded at once as he stopped his team by the side of us.

He introduced himself as Mr. Jones, editor of the Gazette-Journal. We each introduced ourselves and at once entered into a somewhat interesting conversation with our new acquaintance. "Do you men take my paper?" asked the editor.

"No I don't," said I. "Neither do I," said Jones.

The editor reached in his pocket and pulled out a roll of papers and gave each one of us a sample copy for our inspection and at the same time stated that he would be glad to have us subscribe for his paper.

"Well, now, Mr. Editor," said Jones, "let me see what is in it."
"What religious principles do you advocate?" said I.

"None in particular, only good moral principles but non-sectarian," answered the editor.

"I suppose you advocate home patronizing principles etc.," said Jones.

"Yes, I always look out for the interests of our own people first and they patronize me quite liberally with subscriptions and advertising. I do not eulogize any one in particular only do them all my best service," said the editor.

"Now Mr. Editor," said I, "will you explain why your paper is entirely neutral upon church matters and is not neutral on political lines, when as you say you belong to a certain church and a certain party. It surely can't be that you think more of your party than you do your church?"

Editor—"Well I can't tell exactly why. I love my church a good deal but you know many people have peculiar notions about church creeds so that I do not wish to hurt their feelings. But with politics there are but two real party questions; that is the money question and the tariff and the argument is so heavy upon the affirmative side that we are right; no question about it."

Jones—"Now look here Mr. Editor you are a pretty good neutral fellow; I just want to ask you a few questions along the political lines of your paper. It may be I am wrong, but I voted for William Jennings Bryan and Free Silver in '96 and I intend to do so in 1900 if there is nothing to stop me."

"Yes, said I, "I done the very self-same thing. I am a democrat and neighbor Jones is a pop, but our cause is the same."

Editor—"Well it seems as though I had come in contact with a demo-pop pair, but that is all right. You are at perfect liberty to ask me all the questions you want to, and you are free to have your own opinions. This is a free country, everybody is his own lord. This country has been under republican government a good share of the time."

I—"See here now Mr. Editor, I have a flock of hogs out there and the buyer tells me just how much he will give me for them. The same way with grain, hay etc. In fact whatever I have to sell, is marketed by a market made in cities. Then I go to town to buy groceries, dry goods, clothing, implements and lumber and the other fellow always fixes the price. When I take a ride on the cars or ship a car load of stock over the railroad the company always fixes the charges and I have to pay it. When I work all summer to raise that car load of hogs or grain I cannot say how much I want for it."

When I go to borrow money for a short time or on my farm the loaner always fixes the rate. When I go to pay my taxes the amount is always footed up for me. When I go to subscribe for your paper you fix the price no matter whether corn is worth 10 cents or 30 cents a bushel. I should like to know where the freedom and personal lordship comes in."

Editor—"Oh, that is not in question, the boards of trade fix markets."
I—"Yes, but it seems funny how these markets are all one sided, and how that grand old party which was in power so long, stood out side the gate of the financial cemetery and gazed upon the boards of trade, corporations and trusts dig the financial graves for the agricultural and common laborers of this free land. What were they doing all this time?"

Editor—"Congress was not supposed to regulate such business transactions. It took care of the tariff matters in order to protect our home manufacturers."
Jones—"Yes that is all right as far as it goes, but that sort of a congress will consume all its time in passing tariff laws in order to benefit a few thousand manufacturers and let a few million farmers go unprotected. The size of it is just this, the republican congress and other officers are bought or lured to do certain work and they do it just that way. And these companies and sub-Wall streeters make enough out of us poor causes to afford to persuade you and other local editors to cry aloud for the g. o. p."

Editor—"We do not get so much as you think for, it may be that some eastern congressmen are handled by money a little, but that isn't the principles of the party."
I—"I don't care what your principles are, it is a nation that counts."

Jones—"Nor I either, principles, if good, are good and especially so if the actions coincide with such principles. But little use are your principles or any one else's principles if the actions are the opposite. Further than this friend editor, the republican principles are not in harmony with the desires and necessities of the farmers and general laborers. Many of our stump speakers say they are, but such is not the case. The republican press advocates the tariff and single standard principles as being the right for farmers and I believe whenever you or any other paper man advocates such doctrine you are not doing the right thing; may be you think you are, but don't, and I can easily tell you why if you so desire it."

Editor—"I would not object to arguing the question a while with you gentlemen if I had the time, because I believe you are men of good, honest judgment and the only reason you are not

republicans is because you have not had the whole truth explained to you in its completeness. (Pulls out his watch.)

See it is now half past eleven and I am three miles from home, I must be going or it will be after noon before I get home."

"Never mind that Mr. Editor, we will have dinner here at my house today. Come, now put the team in the barn and we will feed them a little confidence corn and tariff oats and then we will have a little common stuffing for ourselves. Of course you city folks are used to considerable fine eating but I'll tell you we can afford but little more than what we raise here on the farm. But you are quite welcome indeed to partake of what we have."

Jones—"Yes editor, if you will stay I will stay for dinner too, and we will initiate you into the farm menu for once—guess you can stand that much anyway and then we will finish our little political discussion. If I have the wool over my eyes I want to know it. For if I don't learn better pretty soon I will vote for Bryan again in 1900."

Editor—"Well guess I am very grateful for your hearty invitation and I can do nothing better than to most heartily accept. (Drives up to the barn and we all go to work to unhitch) Now may be you farmers think we live fat in town, but I'll tell you we have to do considerable stretching to make both ends meet sometimes. You farmers have a good living here anyway, look at the chickens, pigs, corn and wheat and so many good eatables. Wouldn't we be flying in town if we were in possession of such things. You farmers can live here whether we fellows do or not. You are an independent class when it comes to living. If you really know how some of our merchants have been working in order to keep above water and every branch of business has been hurt by these terrible times which came upon us in '93 and seems to hang over us as a cloud of fog in foggy weather. But things are improving now since McKinley was elected. Those democratic times cut on us all. It seemed as though the farmers did not buy much of anything and consequently the business men were short of money and did not advertise like they used to do in '90 and '91. Hotels complained of poor trade because the traveling men were less in number than before. There was no use of traveling men because the merchants could not buy. Wholesale houses seemed to be dormant on account of poor trade; you know they depend upon our retail houses for their trade. Manufacturers got big piles of all kinds of goods made and could not sell them because the wholesale men had their rooms full and no trade to speak of because the retail men were not buying much and could not collect in enough money to pay for what they had bought. It seems to be that there was no money in circulation like it used to be. Our laborers around town could not get work enough to hardly make a scant living. In fact the whole town and all towns were brought to a standstill as a general rule. Banks could not collect money nor interest. Mortgage companies were holding the sack too. In fact you farmers were the best off of any body. You had your living anyway."

Jones—"You have told us the history of things pretty well. But look here what was the cause of all of this? You forgot to tell how many farmers lost their homes. I'll tell you Mr. Editor it is pretty hard for a fellow to buy a farm for say \$2,400 and pay down all his money, say \$1,400 in good times, and then have to let it go in these infernal times because he could not pay or borrow the \$1,000 any longer. Such has been the case time and time again. No one can realize what this really is until they go through with it. But anyway we have all seen these various acts performed before our eyes on the stage of hard times. You know that all things have a common cause and effect and that same causes produces like effects. It therefore behooves us to find the cause as we all well realize the effect, and so mold our future actions as to stop any more such effects. For the sake of humanity let us stop it. Why sir, even the

memberships of various churches has fallen off considerably because it seems as though money was not to be had to further the gospel cause as in previous times, and the laboring class was too poor to get clothes that they thought would pass in church on Sundays.

Railroads suffered to a certain extent but not so much as others, because they got to carry the farm product just the same, of course their local traffic and passenger income was decreased. But what was the cause of all this?"

Editor—"Friend Jones you know the trouble began when Grover Cleveland was president and he was a democrat and they wanted free trade. And now sir you see the effects of democratic folly. Hence if free trade will kill why won't McKinley tariff cure?"

Jones—"Now you are coming at it just like republicans, that is hooting the tariff. You know that under the second Cleveland administration we had a high tariff nearly as high as the former McKinley bill and in spite of that tariff and peace the government had to issue a whole lot of bonds. Now see here my dear sir you can never stuff me with that sort of argument. You know the panic of '73 came on when a good republican was in office and a tariff law was in effect. And as I said before the panic of '93 came on when we had a good tariff on our federal statutes. Never, no never try to stuff a farmer with such political bunco. I will admit the Cleveland democrats did the dirty work in '93 and they had some republican help too. Now be honest, it was financial legislation was it not?"

I—"There the dinner bell is ringing come now we will go to dinner." (walking from the barn to the house.)

Editor—"Well yes, financial legislation had a good deal to do with it. Truly the financial agitation was the cause of the extreme closeness of the money market just before the presidential election. We as republicans admit the financial question to be one of considerable importance, but as a speedy and permanent cure for these hard times recommend and demand the protection by tariff of the American laborer and his employer. Or in other words the idea of free silver is all wrong and the idea of tariff is all right."

I—"Come in [at the door] the house gets and make yourselves acquainted with my wife and be at home." [Introduction to the lady and then they are seated around the table] "Here Mr. Editor help yourself to the bread, meat and everything you can and you the same neighbor Jones help yourselves."

Editor—"Thank you I will, most assuredly."
Jones—"Thanks I will! I will!—But Mr. Editor what I was going to say—I understand what your party believes about the two questions, but let us hear an explanation of how the Dingley bill is going to make things any better than the tariff which was in effect under the Cleveland '24 administration. You know the manufacturers were running all right when the hard times came on and continued to run as long as they could sell goods, and they were not bothered with foreign competition much either. They just simply could not find any market for all their goods and

(Continued on 8th Page.)

When billions are costive eat a Cascaret candy cathartic, cure guaranteed, 10c, 25c.

An Ancient Custom.

From Republican Traveler, Arkansas City, Kan.
Pilgrimages to some shrine of St. Vitus, to cure the disease known as St. Vitus' dance no longer made. The modern way of treating this affliction is within the reach of every household, as is shown by the experience of Karl A. Wagner, the eleven-year-old son of George Wagner, of 515 9th street, Arkansas City, Kan. The father tells the story as follows:

"Over a year ago," he says, "Karl was taken with St. Vitus' dance and continued to grow worse during five months he was under a physician's care. His tongue became paralyzed and we could not understand a word he said. He became very thin, lost the use of his right leg and seemed doomed to become a hopeless invalid. We had about given up hope when Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People were recommended to my wife by a lady whose daughter had been cured of a similar affliction by the pills. "I bought a box of them at once and

soon noticed a change for the better in Karl's condition. I was so well pleased that I bought more of them, and when he had taken five boxes the disease disappeared."

"That was six months ago and there has been no return of the disease. The cure was effectual and permanent, and I feel satisfied that no other medicine could have produced so marvelous a result. We feel rejoiced over the restoration of our son, and cannot help but feel that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are the most remarkable medicine on the market."

No discovery of modern times has proved such a blessing to mankind as Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. Acting directly on the blood and nerves, invigorating the body, regulating the functions, they restore the strength and health in the exhausted patient when every effort of the physician proves unavailing.

These pills are sold in boxes at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50, and may be had of all druggists, or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Salem, N. Y.

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The Union Pacific will sell tickets at one fare for the round trip, plus \$5, from all points in Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Utah to Rawlins, Wyo. Dates on which tickets will be sold are 1st and 3d Tuesday in May, June, July, August, Sept., Oct., and Nov. Stage line daily except Sunday each way between Rawlins and Grand Encampment.

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Passengers arriving in Chicago can, by the new Union Elevated Loop, reach any part of the city, or, for a five-cent fare, can be taken immediately to any of the large stores in the downtown district.

All Elevated Trains will stop at the "Rock Island" Station. Train every minute. These facilities can only be offered by the "Great Rock Island Route."

If you will send a 2-cent stamp for postage we will mail you at once a new bird's eye view of Chicago, just issued in five colors, which shows you just what you want to know about Chicago and the new Loop and Elevated System. This map you should have, whether you live out of the city and expect to come to it, or whether you