

The Nebraska Independent.

Wealth Makers and Lincoln Independent Consolidated.

VOL. X.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY AUGUST 18, 1898.

NO. 14.

STATE MONEY SAVED

Economy in the Administration of State Institutions Saves Thousands of Dollars.

TAXPAYERS GET BENEFIT

Republican Misrule and Extravagance as Shown by the Official Records.

The Facts and the Figures.

Many millions of dollars in state taxes have been collected from the people of Nebraska during her thirty-two years of statehood. Much of this money has undoubtedly been well spent, and no patriotic citizen begrudges the portion he contributed toward good government; but, on the other hand, every taxpayer has a right to know that his contribution to the common fund has been expended judiciously and economically, and no good citizen can countenance gross mismanagement, willful extravagance and downright dishonesty in the expenditure of public money.

Part of these millions has not been well spent. Just how much no man can tell; for in the very nature of things losses or gains cannot be computed after the fashion of the merchant. Abstractly, every dollar paid out for state government is a loss; but when properly expended every dime of public money brings dollars of good to the citizen. What constitutes proper and judicious expenditure is, of course, a question upon which good citizens may honestly differ, but it will be conceded that, in the transaction of state business, nothing less than the same watchful care one would give to his own private affairs can be considered as good government.

No one denies that the state should provide means for taking care of the insane, the incorrigible, the feeble-minded, the destitute, and the criminal. Society demands, for its own good and safety, that such be done, and it would be useless to dwell further upon the sociological phase of the question. But who is to pay the necessary cost of maintaining these wards of the state? Who knows to a certainty what it should cost to maintain a convict at the penitentiary or an insane person at the asylum? We can say nothing by way of answer except to show what it has cost in the past. There is no constitutional provision which reads that the cost of maintaining a felon at Lancaster shall not exceed sixty cents per day; neither does the law state that an average cost of 20.3 cents per day shall be the maximum, so the republican party in 1878 paid sixty cents, and in 1894 paid 41 cents for what the populist party today gets at a cost of a trifle more than twenty cents.

Let no man, however, fall into the error that the cheapest method of caring for the state's unfortunate wards is always the best. Nothing less than the best of care, at the least possible cost consistent therewith, should be satisfactory to our citizens. With this idea always in mind, I may say that a comparison of records is the only way to judge which political party has shown itself entitled to the people's confidence, which has been incapable, extravagant, and dishonest, and which has proven itself to be capable, economical and honest. The records are the best evidence.

It is incontestable that the discipline in all state institutions was never better than today; that the state's unfortunate wards are better fed, better clad, and in better health than ever before; that the utmost neatness and cleanliness is everywhere apparent at each institution; and that all officers and employes are more courteous and obliging to all visitors than they were in the days of republican administration. So much for this phase of our comparison.

From January 1, 1892, to May 31, 1898, a period of 2,343 days, the total cost to the taxpayers of Nebraska for maintaining all state charitable and penal institutions was the sum of \$2,648,910.30. The average number of inmates in these institutions during this period was 2,338, thus showing an average per capita cost of \$1,132.98 for the period, or practically 48 1/2 cents per day for each inmate. The average daily expenditure for maintenance, it will be observed, was \$1,130.13.

The following table covers the time from January 1, 1892, to December 31, 1894, a period of 1095 days, just preceding the inauguration of Governor Holcomb:

Year.	No. in-mates.	Total cost.	Per capita cost.
1892	1940	\$ 434,945.05	\$224.20
1893	2138	437,325.48	205.12
1894	2354	425,173.55	180.92
Average	2142	\$1,297,644.08	

Dividing the total cost for three years by the number of days, shows the daily cost to have been \$1,133.98, and this divided by the number of inmates (2142) will show a daily cost of nearly 53 1/2 cents per inmate. This, remember, was before the days of a reform administration.

The table below, covering the time from January 1, 1895, to November 30, 1898, is hardly fair to the fusion administration, inasmuch as it throws about three months of partial republican rule into the period next following, but as the fiscal year was changed in 1896 to end each year thereafter on November 30, I have taken the figures as shown by

reports on file. During this period of 700 days Governor Holcomb and his appointees were in control of part of the state institutions, and the republican board of public lands and buildings and their appointees had control of the remainder:

Year.	No. in-mates.	Total cost.	Per capita cost.
1895	2519	\$428,164.16	\$169.97
1896	2548	805,217.97	143.33

*To November 30. Average No. inmates 2534; total cost for period \$798,892.13.

Proceeding as before, we find the average daily expenditure to have been \$1,133.40, or more than \$50 per diem less for maintaining 392 more inmates than in the preceding period, or an average daily cost per inmate of 44.7 cents. Although republican control of a few of the state institutions continued during the month of December, 1896, and part of January, 1897, I have not thought best to separate the items, but rather to allow the period of \$547 days, from December 1, 1897, to May 1, 1898, to stand as representing the work of a reform administration unhampered by republican barnacles:

Year.	No. in-mates.	Total cost.	Per capita cost.
Nov. 30.....	2448	\$375,957.60	\$153.57
1898 to May 1.....	2425	181,926.58	75.02

Average.....2447 \$557,884.18

Showing a cost of \$1,019.89 per diem for maintaining a daily average of 2437 inmates, or 41.8 cents per inmate per diem. Or, looking at it in another light, a cost of \$164.09 less each day for supporting 295 more inmates than the republicans were able to do.

The difference between republican ways of mismanaging institutions and populist economy might be figured out by some republican statistician as only 13 1/2 cents per day in the care and maintenance of each inmate of a public charitable or penal institution, and he might hold up with ridicule that 13 1/2 cents, and with withering sarcasm point to the stinginess and littleness of populists. But hold on, my friend, do you know what that 13 1/2 cents means for the period we have been investigating? It means exactly \$739,517.09. It means that the taxpayers of Nebraska would have paid out uselessly nearly \$740,000 for republican extravagance and theft in a little less than six and a half years if they had not shown their good sense in 1896 by making a complete change in political servants. It means that the taxpayers did lose by republican mismanagement \$316,930.32 during the years 1892-3-4.

And it further means that the magnificent sum of \$369,165.59 has been saved to the taxpayers of Nebraska in the one item alone of maintaining penal and charitable institutions, by Governor Holcomb and his fellow executive officers and their appointees.

Taxpayers, where will your vote be counted in November?
CHARLES Q. DEFRANCE.
Lincoln, Neb., Aug. 10, 1898.

MANAHAN NAMED

Young Free Silver Democrat of Lincoln Selected.

The three conventions, populist, free silver republican and democratic which were to select a candidate for congress in the First District, met in Plattsmouth last Thursday. There was a large attendance, every county in the district being fully represented.

The three conventions organized in separate halls. It was agreed upon conference that it should require a majority in each of the three conventions to make a nomination. The first few ballots developed this state of affairs: The populists were very nearly solid for George W. Berge, of Lincoln. A large majority of the silver republicans were also for him. The democratic convention was about equally divided between the friends of James Manahan, of Lincoln, and Mathew Gering of Plattsmouth. There was another feature to the situation. The democrats had their heart set upon having the congressional nomination. They urged that with a state ticket composed of nearly all of populists and a populist United States senator candidate for re-election the democrats were equitably entitled to the congressional nomination in this district with its large democratic vote and that it would be hard to go out the democratic vote if it were not given to them.

After several ballots George Abbott, of Richardson county, took the floor with a motion to concede the nomination to democrats and let them select the man. This was vigorously opposed and finally was withdrawn. Part of the Richardson and Cass county populists began voting for democratic candidates. On the eighteenth ballot Mr. Berge withdrew his name in one of the strongest and most affecting speeches of his life. The vote of the populist and silver republican conventions then shifted around until the 28th ballot when Manahan received a majority, in all three. There was a close and hard struggle between the friends of Manahan and Gering in the democratic convention and some feeling over the result.

The populist convention adopted a platform which endorsed the Omaha and St. Louis platforms and declared for a union, in one organization of all who believed in those principles.

GOVERNOR LEAVES FOR HOME

Leaves Jacksonville After a Pleasant Visit with the Third Nebraska

Jackmanville, Pa., Aug. 17.—(Special Telegram to the Post.)—Governor Holcomb, who has been on a visit with Colonel Bryan and the Third Nebraska regiment of volunteers, has left for home.

POYNTER AT HOME

An Interesting Sketch of the People's Candidate and His Boone County Farm.

20 YEARS OF EARNEST EFFORT

Written From His Home Town by a Correspondent of the Chicago Record.

The Story of a Self-made Man.

"The allied silver parties' candidate for governor of Nebraska is proving a surprise to many persons. Within less than fifty hours after he had appeared before the delegates of the three conventions in Lincoln and acknowledged the applause which shook the three houses, a visitor to William A. Poynter's farm, who came upon him without warning, found the candidate clad in blue overalls attending to the morning work of the dairy. Having just milked his cows in the barn, he was running the machinery of the butter-making plant with his own hands.

"The home of the fusion candidate for governor of Nebraska is on the quarter section where he settled in 1879. It was then merely 160 acres of prairie land. Now it is a farm with the best models of the land. When it is said that the owner takes chiefest pride in saying that every tree that now grows there and post that has been set upon the land was done with his own hands, it will be appreciated why he went from the nominating convention back to the daily occupation that has been his for nearly twenty years in the same place.

"On the walls of the ante-room of the governor's office at Lincoln are portraits of the past governors of the state. These are Butler, Furnas, Garber, Nance, Dawes, Thayer, Boyd, Crouse and Holcomb—the latter being entitled to the place because the portrait is usually hung at the close of the first term. These cover the time since the state was admitted into the union, and although it is and always has been a distinctively farming state, there has been no governor since Furnas who was an actual farmer—that is, one who made farming his chief business. If W. A. Poynter's portrait is hung beside those named it will be entitled to the designation 'farmer-governor.' For in all the years when the rough, hard work of breaking the prairie sod and building the home was in progress, there was never a hired man kept on the Poynter farm. Not until four or five years ago was a hired man added to it.

"For a short time young Poynter engaged in mercantile pursuits and then farmed until, in 1879, he moved to his present home and settled upon the land which is now his farm, eight miles northeast of Albion, in Boone county.

"The Boone county of that day was not the succession of well-tilled farms that it is today. It is remembered by old settlers that the Poynter house was the only frame structure for twelve miles up and down the valley of Plum creek. All others were built of the native sod. Mrs. Poynter recalled the other day how on one Sunday afternoon soon after they had erected their first house she and her husband walked up to the top of a ridge half a mile or so from their home and looked out over the beautiful rolling prairie as it stretched away for miles on every hand, and there was not another human habitation in sight. Here the young couple lived and worked.

"In local agricultural affairs in Boone county W. A. Poynter has been one of the leaders. For the six years just past he was president of the Boone county fair association, and he and his associates made it one of the few financially successful institutions of its kind.

"The Poynter family's home is the ideal home of the farmer. It is not a lordly mansion—simply a comfortable home. A part of the one-story frame house was framed in Illinois and brought along when the young man and his wife with their infant boy, first moved out. It has been added to, and today the visitor sees from the outside a white cottage nestled among shade trees, with a grassy yard, and here and there bright-blossomed flowers surrounding it. Inside, before the threshold is passed, the refinement such as only a cultured woman can impart, is unmistakable. Mr. Poynter is known as a general farmer, but he has a speciality in a dairy herd, with which he has been successful in the highest degree. On the Poynter farm everything is thoroughbred—Herefords, Poland-Chinas, and Plymouth Rocks.

"It is told of W. A. Poynter that when he first talked of moving to Nebraska, his neighbors in Illinois thought it was foolish of him to bury himself on the broken prairie. One of these called his attention to the fact that Poynter's father was well-to-do and would help him to business start, that on his death the property would naturally be divided so that William would be comfortable in his old age. Why should he leave all this and go off to the untamed western frontier? William listened to the tales and then plainly told why he was going to make the change.

"If I stay here I will always be the son of my father. If I go out there, whatever of success may come to me will be mine, and I will be known as W. A. Poynter. However small that success may be, and however uncommensured the life I may have to lead, the thing that I am indebted to no one's influence, but

only to my own exertions, will fully compensate."

"This was the key to one side of W. A. Poynter's character. One of the things in which Mr. Poynter takes pride is that in the twenty years he has lived at his present home he has never had a disagreement with a neighbor, and there is not one who would not do all he could to help him in a neighborly way. The story has been told that when the drought of 1890 left most Nebraska farmers without seed grain, Poynter furnished his neighbors with what seed he could, asking them to return only bushel for bushel from the next crop."

JUDGE ROBINSON THE MAN

Nominated Today by the Reform Forces in the Third District

Norfolk, Neb., Aug. 17.—(Special Telegram to the Post.)—Judge John S. Robinson of Madison was nominated at the congressional convention held here this afternoon. Judge Robinson was not present at the convention.

Judge Robinson was formerly law partner of Senator W. V. Allen, has been district judge in the district he lives in, is a free silver democrat, and well and widely known. He is regarded as a very strong candidate.

The Application Approved

Chickamauga, Aug. 17.—(Special Telegram to the Post.)—The application of General Walter, commanding the Third brigade, Second division of the Third corps, was today granted leave to take his troops out on a ten days easy practice march.

Monadnock at Manila

Manila, via Hong Kong, Aug. 17.—(Special telegram to the Post.)—The monitor Monadnock reached here Saturday and joined Admiral Dewey's fleet. The long ocean voyage was without incident.

To Go Back to Cuba

Washington, Aug. 17.—(Special Telegram to the Post.)—It is stated today that it is more than probable that Colonel Roosevelt and the rough riders will be sent back to Cuba this fall.

Cable Complete

Paris, Aug. 17.—(Special Telegram to the Post.)—President Faure and President McKinley today exchanged greetings over the completion of the new French cable to the United States.

Enroute to France

New York, Aug. 17.—(Special telegram to the Post.)—Jim Corbett, the pugilist, left this morning for San Francisco.

THINKS AN EXPLANATION DUE

QUESTIONS GERMANY'S ACTION

London Times Says Editorially That Germany Owes Apology to Uncle Sam For Removing General Augusti

London, Aug. 17.—(Special telegram to the Post.)—The action of Germany in assisting General Augusti to escape from Manila after the bombardment had commenced, is seriously questioned by all the leading London papers today. Several papers insist that the laws of neutrality were fractured by the unwarranted assistance given Augusti.

The Times says editorially this morning that "an explanation is due from Germany for taking the governor general of the Philippines away from Manila in the manner indicated by the dispatches."

CONDENSED WIRE MATTER

Coal properties at Sundance, Wyo., are being developed on a large scale. It is believed that a Carlist uprising is sure to occur in Spain within the next week.

It is said that all Spanish soldiers will have been transported from Santiago by the first of the month.

The rainy season is at its height at Santiago and much of the stores of the army and Red Cross have been destroyed.

The silver republicans of Wyoming have named Dr. L. R. Sweikart of Albany, an chairman of their state central committee.

The war department has given General Lawton orders to preserve law and order in the surrendered territory around Santiago at any cost.

Ernest Terah Hooley, the bankrupt English promoter, is making it rather warm for some members of the English royalty who were parties to many of his fraudulent schemes by telling the whole truth on the witness stand.

A telegram from Bombay states that the bubonic plague is again epidemic. Over forty thousand troops were reviewed this afternoon by General Breechbridge at Chaitanoga. It was one of the most striking pageants in years.

DEWEY BOMBARDED MANILA

MERRITT ASSAULTED BY LAND

And Old Glory Was Raised Over the City and the Spanish Made Prisoners of War

Washington, Aug. 17.—(Special telegram to the Post.)—Dewey's official announcement of the surrender of Manila, after bombardment by the fleet, and assault of the land forces, was received at the navy department at 10 o'clock this morning. It follows:

"Manila, Aug. 13.—To the Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.: Manila surrendered today to the American land and naval forces, after a combined attack.

"A division of the squadron shelled the forts and entrenchments at Melate, on the south side of the city, driving the enemy back and enabling our army to advance from that side at the same time. The city surrendered about 8 o'clock, and the American flags were hoisted over the forts by Lieutenant Brumby. About 7,000 prisoners were taken.

"The squadron had no casualties, and none of the vessels were injured.

"August 7 General Merritt and I formally demanded the surrender of the city which the Spanish governor general refused. Signed

DEWEY."

The Lieutenant Brumby, mentioned in the official report, is Admiral Dewey's flag lieutenant.

From Other Sources

At 10 o'clock the war department had received no dispatch from General Merritt, but momentarily expected one.

A Madrid dispatch received here this morning states that the Spanish government has decided to reject the resignations of the governor general of Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. The same dispatch says the Cortes will assemble on September 15.

Advised received from Manila dated August 14, by way of Hong Kong, state that our troops met with much resistance. Eight were killed and 24 wounded. After the surrender of Manila Aguinaldo's followers turned on the Americans and attacked them, but were easily defeated.

The monitor Monadnock reached Manila Saturday.

The same dispatch asserts that General Augusti left Manila after the surrender. The Madrid government, it is asserted, has received from General Augusti a report of the battle. On August 7 General Augusti refused all propositions to surrender.

Carrying Provisions to Havana

New York, Aug. 17.—The first steamship to sail for Havana since the beginning of the war sailed for Havana and Matanzas with provisions. The Bratton of the Munson line will sail for Cardenas tomorrow, and the Ardmore of the same line will sail Saturday for Matanzas and Cardenas. The chartered steamer of the Ward line is scheduled to sail tomorrow for Havana. She will carry twenty-four passengers, her full capacity. The Lydia will be followed by the Matanzas, formerly the Spanish prize steamer Guido. Both the Matanzas and the Lydia are heavily laden with provisions.

Buffalo Bill Will Retire

Cheyenne, Wyo., Aug. 17.—Buffalo Bill has written a friend in this city that he intends retiring from the show business after this season. He is getting his affairs in shape to take up his residence permanently in the Big Horn basin, where he has invested over a half million dollars in a big ranch and irrigation enterprise. He says in his letter: "I am tired of crowds and show and want to get away where I can ride and hunt and have the best air and water in the universe."

Not Quite Yet

Madrid, Aug. 17.—(Special Telegram to the Post.)—The government has received the report of General Augusti on the battle of Manila. He left after the battle. The government is not yet ready to publish what Augusti has reported.

POLITICAL CONVENTIONS

Milwaukee and Nashville in the Threat of Convention Sessions

Milwaukee, Wis., Aug. 17.—(Special telegram to the Post.)—The greatest political battle in the history of Wisconsin began this afternoon when the republican state convention was called

to order to select candidates for a full state ticket.

A recess was taken after a temporary organization had been effected. Governor Schofield and R. M. LaFollette are both confident that they will head the ticket.

Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 17.—(Special telegram to the Post.)—The republican state convention met today to nominate a candidate for governor and three candidates for railroad commissioners.

Walter Brownlow was elected permanent chairman.

The convention will nominate S. W. Hawkins for governor and the platform will contain an endorsement of McKinley's administration.

Blow Up More Mines

Key West, Aug. 17.—(Special Telegram to the Post.)—Several submarine mines that remained in the harbor were blown up today.

CERVERA GETS ORDERS

Defeated Admiral Receives Orders From His Home Government

New York, Aug. 17.—(Special Telegram to the Post.)—Admiral Cervera arrived in this city this morning. He has received orders to come home on the first ship, regardless of the nationality. He will sail tomorrow.

FEVER MUST BE CONQUERED

EXPENSE WILL NOT BE SPARED

Government Will Take Every Precaution to Prevent the Spread of the Death-Dealing Contagion

Washington, Aug. 17.—(Special Telegram to the Post.)—The fever problem is now the greatest difficulty that the government must contend with, and to the end that the disease may be entirely stamped out no expense will be spared or precautions omitted that will tend to lessen its spread. Several important orders were today issued by the surgeon general, and it may be stated that there is greater activity in the bureau presided over by this office than at any time during the war.

One of these orders issued was that all well and convalescent troops now at Key West be moved further north to a more healthy and sanitary camp. The surgeon general today said that the idea of this move was to get all troops away from locality where the fever germ propagated. Expert medical care has been ordered for all the sick at Montauk Point, and that no fear was entertained of the disease spreading among the soldiers returned from Santiago.

General Wheeler today had a long interview with Secretary Alger, and at the conclusion of the conference received orders to take command of Camp Wikoff, at Montauk Point, pending the arrival General Shafter. The orders further directed him to spare neither pains nor expense in providing comfortable for the sick, and making adequate hospital arrangements.

Reports today from Montauk Point say that seven cases of yellow fever have been transferred from the transports to the fever hospitals today. Seven more cases of yellow fever are in quarantine, and sixty-three are under suspicion.

Shafter's last report from Santiago chronicles twelve deaths from yellow fever.

Corporations vs. the People.

Editor NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT:

In regard to the state nominations, I believe both tickets are strong ones, and if either party calculates on a walkaway they will be greatly surprised. It is a square issue between the corporations and farming community, and will be the hardest and most stubbornly fought state election Nebraska ever witnessed.

A. V. SPAULDING.

The People Will Pay.

Editor NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT:

I see you ask how the United States is going to make Spain pay the cost of the war by annexing the Philippine Islands, Porto Rico, or any other Spanish colony? The war between the United States and Spain will end in a draw game. Spain has been in debt to the Rothschilds one billion dollars for the last ten years and has not paid one dollar to them and cannot pay. We, the taxpayers, will pay the United States what Spain should pay. J. W. SMITH.

Spain Accepts Commission.

Washington, Aug. 17.—(Special telegram to the Post.)—Senator Cushman K. Davis of Minnesota, chairman of the senate committee on foreign relations, has accepted the tender of appointment as a member of the Spanish-American peace commission.