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NO. 15.

PROPHETS OF EVIL LIE

"Business Men's Association" Circular Sent Out in the Campaign of 1894.

GOOD READING AT PRESENT

Disaster and Ruin Predicted as a Result of Populist Victory in Nebraska.

Every Prediction Proven a Lie.

Four years ago populism in Nebraska was an experiment insofar as concerned state government. In many counties, however, the forces of reform had been in power for a sufficiently long time to determine their superiority over the republican party in all that pertains to good government; but in a great many of the eastern counties of the state the republican habit had become almost chronic. For the first time in the history of populism in Nebraska, it had the loyal support of the real democratic party on a portion of the state ticket; this was the beginning of fusion. It had also the support of a large contingent of the better element in the republican party for governor only—the republican nominee being distasteful to all patriotic republicans who knew his record. The outlook for at least partial populist success was bright.

Then it was that renegade democrats joined hands with the lawless element of the republican party and, forming an alleged society with the pretentious title of "The Business Men's Association of Nebraska," sent out many hundred thousand circulars to the real business men throughout the state. In view of what has occurred in state politics and state government since 1894, it is interesting at this time to read that circular:

"THE BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF NEBRASKA. OMAHA, October 18, 1894.

"Nebraska Prosperity Paramount to Party Politics.

"To the Voters of Nebraska: Four years ago prohibition threatened the prosperity of Nebraska. The business men of Omaha and the state, without regard to party affiliation, then united in a determined effort to ward off the danger, and, largely through their efforts, prohibition was defeated.

"Today Nebraska is threatened with populist domination. As business men, regardless of partisan politics, we again unite to avert the blight and business depression which the supremacy of populism would entail upon our state.

"Our character, reputation, credit and business relations as a state are determined by our acts and conduct as a body. If we collectively act in accord with unsound or dishonest business principles, if we favor repudiation of our debts, or evidence a desire and intention to legislate in unfair hostility toward our creditors, we shall receive, as we shall deserve, the condemnation of the business world. In such event all creditors would refuse to make new loans and to extend the time of those already made. Capital would discontinue business relations with our state. The development of our resources, the growth of our industries, the extension of our commercial relations, all will meet with sudden and lasting check if once the people of the state elect the populist ticket and thus show themselves in sympathy with the desperate and discredited doctrines of those who openly avow themselves the enemy of capital.

"On next election day the citizens of Nebraska will stand at the parting of the ways. Our acts then will manifest our disposition in respect to our business obligations. We then enroll ourselves either in favor of sound business principles or in opposition thereto. By our votes on that day we indicate to the business world our character as a state, and our reputation will be made or marred according to the wisdom or folly of our choice.

"The importance of the situation cannot be over-estimated. Throughout the business centers of our country the action of our state will be closely watched. If we elect state officers in whom the business world has no confidence, and favor the unsound, radical and unsafe theories of the populists, we thereby drive from the state the foreign capital now here, and deter all from further investments among us.

"To elect the populist ticket is to discredit Nebraska in the eyes of the world. It is to proclaim that those who boast of their hostility to capital are in the majority in our commonwealth; it is to discourage enterprise; to suspend our progress; to cause a heavy shrinkage of values; to raise our rates of interest; to make long time loans difficult or impossible to obtain; to make the name of our state a byword of reproach, and to give with Kansas and Colorado for the humiliation of being the most discredited state in the Union.

"To prevent such misfortune, to avert among the voters of this state such an active, honest public sentiment as will, by voting in Colorado for the populist supremacy in Nebraska, this association has been formed. The personality of candidates is not controlling when the issue is between honest, economic principles on the one side, and, on the other, doctrines repudiated by the commercial world.

"The business men of Nebraska, therefore, call upon its citizens to aid in this endeavor to defeat populism, and thereby uphold and preserve the credit of our state.

"Following the signature to this circular are the names of several hundred prominent business men of Omaha, republican politicians and office holders of Douglas county and Omaha. One of the signers is today serving a long term in the Nebraska penitentiary for applying too widely his 'sound' business principles, not repudiated by the commercial world.

"Notwithstanding this united and determined effort to defeat the populist ticket, Judge Holcomb managed to pull through with a comfortable majority over his blue-shirted opponent; but the remainder of the ticket went down under an avalanche of pseudo democratic votes. Too much praise cannot be accorded those several thousand republicans who, following under the leadership of Edward H. Sawyer, voted for a clean man for Governor. Had Governor Holcomb been defeated in 1894, it is possible that the lying statements of the circular above quoted might never be rebutted.

In 1896 the democrats, thoroughly purged of their 'assistant republican' element, standing upon a national platform so nearly populist that none but a populist could detect the difference, joined hands with their populist brethren in a determined effort to rid the state of republican barnacles. Joined with both were republicans who could not follow the republican will-o-the-wisp their party began following at St. Louis that year.

The state victory gained by the allied forces of reform and good government is too recent to be forgotten. Conservative republican and democratic business men of Nebraska who in 1894 honestly believed in the statements and predictions made in the quoted circular, may now indulge in a quiet laugh at their own credulity and find much food for thought by reading it over again carefully.

Just as in 1894, "Nebraska's prosperity is paramount to party politics."

"Today Nebraska is threatened with populist domination," but business men who do legitimate business are not frightened. They do not fear the blight and business depression which the supremacy of populism would entail upon our state.

"They know that populism has 'blighted the business' of discounting state warrants; but those who bid on supplies for state institutions know that every dollar in state warrants they get in exchange for their goods will not them over 100 cents. They know it has 'blighted the business' of drawing state money on bogus claims; but no honest business man desires to do that. They know it has caused 'depression' in the 'business' of leasing school lands to political republican pots and allowing the rentals to go uncollected; but the real business men do not deprecate the depression, because it means lighter school taxes. It was not the reputation of the state which was in danger, but the reputation of many a republican 'at stake,' as later developments have shown.

Paraphrasing the words of the circular: "To elect the populist ticket is to discredit the republican party in the eyes of the world; that was true in 1894 and 1896; it is true today. In one sense, Nebraska barely did escape being discredited in the eyes of the world because of the election of the populist ticket; that election exposed republican corruption, extravagance, thievery, and inability to administer good government; and it was only the brilliant and honest character of populist administration which averted the danger.

Some 'enterprises' have been discouraged. It is not possible now to deliver a state institution six car loads of coal and collect for ten; but reputable coal dealers do not find their business 'discouraged' because of that fact. The traffic in silver ink stands at \$10 each, paper fasteners by the hundred thousand, adjustable pocket knives at \$9 per doz., steel pens by the hundred gross, and red ink in lots of two dozen quarts, has been injured under the populist administration; but the real business men, who pay for these things through taxation, will hardly complain. No \$12,000 purchase of old Colby statutes has been made by the reform administration; yet the State Journal still lives to lie about populists and democrats.

'Progress,' in some lines, has been 'suspended.' Progressive robbery of insurance companies, under the guise of authority, and escape from punishment under the pretext of 'no authority,' has been 'suspended.' Progress in stealing the heritage of the school children of Nebraska has also been 'suspended; but among the business men of Nebraska are heard no murmurings of discontent because of these suspensions.

Voters of Nebraska, read the circular over once more; ponder over the statements; then look up the records and see how the predictions of those would-be prophets have been fulfilled. You will be told similar things this fall. And you will not be deceived again.

CHARLES Q. DEFRANCE, Lincoln, Neb., Aug. 17, 1898.

CHATTANOOGA, Aug. 24.—(Associated Press telegram.)—Ambassador Hay in a cablegram to the state department received this afternoon, says that the British government has directed the governor of Hong Kong to accept Admiral Dewey's application for permission to dock and clean ships at Hong Kong.

CHICKAMAUGA, Aug. 24.—(Special telegram to Independent.)—The Eighth Massachusetts, Twelfth New York and Twenty-first Kansas, left camp Thomas today for Lexington, Ky., where the troops will be camped until further orders.

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DELINQUENT TAXES GROW.

Increase in School Moneys not Due to Payment of Taxes but to Honest Government.

The Facts From the State Records.

Ever since the publication of the facts regarding the enormous increase in the temporary school fund under populist management the republican organs over the state have put to their wit's end to devise some scheme by which they could break the damaging effect of the statement upon their campaign.

The republican party prophesied a result of populist administration a complete overthrow of the state's credit, ruin to our industries and wrecked homes. Instead of its predictions the state has made better progress than ever before, its credit is higher than ever before, its homes more happy and its schools better sustained.

Unable to face their own falsehoods of their own predictions, unable to deny the facts of the great improvement of all state affairs under populist control the republican organs finally resolved upon a glittering flank movement.

THIS WAS TO ADMIT ALL THE FACTS OF BETTER STATE GOVERNMENT, BUT CLAIM THE CREDIT THEMSELVES.

In pursuance to this plan the Lincoln correspondents of the republican papers were instructed to whomp it up for McKinley and general prosperity, and assert that all the increase in the school funds was due to higher prices for grain caused by the Fingley bill (forgetting to even mention poor little Joe Leiter, who broke his back trying to boom the price of wheat.)

These fellows have been persistently shouting that the payment of delinquent taxes was the cause of larger state school apportionments, and of course the payment of delinquent taxes was caused by McKinley prosperity.

An examination of the records in the state house was made for this paper. The records show that instead of the delinquent tax being decreased during the year 1897, they actually increased nearly \$10,000!

The detailed statement of state taxes accrued and paid is given below. Bring on the next campaign lie.

COUNTIES.	Total tax levied in 1897.	Total tax paid in 1897.	Total reduction of delinquent taxes in 1897.	Total increase of delinquent taxes in 1897.
Adams	10,841.84	10,847.35	5.51	709.84
Antelope	10,847.35	10,140.54	706.81	543.20
Banner	1,776.63	1,233.48	543.15	417.01
Blaine	1,776.63	795.87	980.76	1,008.63
Boone	11,163.87	11,861.38	757.51	340.67
Box Butte	5,285.95	4,277.32	1,008.63	1,004.56
Boyd	1,949.80	1,790.47	159.33	65.41
Brown	4,904.80	3,000.24	1,904.56	1,598.08
Buffalo	21,205.19	22,177.52	972.33	1,072.14
Burt	17,568.91	17,303.40	265.51	792.13
Butler	18,553.22	18,351.26	201.96	287.33
Cass	29,284.11	28,760.55	523.56	1,598.08
Cedar	14,150.70	12,562.62	1,588.08	1,072.14
Chase	3,900.35	2,828.21	1,072.14	792.13
Cherry	8,977.88	7,955.15	1,022.73	287.33
Cheyenne	8,174.43	7,887.05	287.38	12.40
Clay	17,306.93	17,674.20	367.27	760.86
Colfax	12,591.48	12,879.08	287.60	1,856.06
Cuming	17,345.04	16,584.18	760.86	1,856.06
Custer	13,183.67	13,271.61	87.94	248.78
Dakota	10,757.53	11,516.25	758.72	2,098.68
Dawes	7,754.03	9,852.71	2,098.68	600.98
Dawson	11,326.14	11,927.12	600.98	8 19.38
Deuel	5,144.70	5,125.32	19.38	1.91
Dixon	10,978.28	10,979.19	0.91	717.02
Dodge	22,541.69	23,278.71	737.02	22,438.58
Douglas	163,299.89	140,861.11	22,438.78	297.58
Dundy	3,714.29	3,416.71	297.58	481.54
Fillmore	18,706.05	19,187.59	481.54	415.47
Franklin	7,234.30	7,649.77	415.47	577.87
Frontier	7,185.85	7,763.72	577.87	3,589.72
Furnas	10,795.77	14,385.40	3,589.72	968.15
Gage	36,717.51	37,685.60	968.15	512.11
Garfield	1,553.47	1,243.36	310.11	15.96
Gosper	4,591.16	6,153.89	1,562.73	13.75
Grant	1,517.22	1,501.26	15.96	945.35
Greely	6,543.68	6,597.43	53.75	1,498.45
Hall	18,555.75	19,511.70	945.95	712.93
Hamilton	11,662.62	13,161.07	1,498.45	538.85
Harlan	8,492.54	9,208.47	715.93	957.68
Hayes	3,620.63	3,081.75	538.88	3,559.70
Hitchcock	6,238.07	4,280.39	1,957.68	628.32
Holt	16,833.50	13,294.19	3,539.31	60.21
Hooker	6,183.83	43.51	6,140.32	1,332.73
Howard	9,910.50	10,143.72	233.22	366.51
Jefferson	18,699.08	18,475.59	223.49	700.00
Johnson	14,725.64	14,975.64	250.00	315.11
Kearney	9,274.23	8,958.93	315.30	4.00
Keith	5,737.08	5,738.78	1.70	80.88
Keya Paha	2,985.05	2,004.87	980.18	1.89
Kimball	4,341.90	3,783.01	558.89	2,618.92
Knox	11,435.43	10,892.24	543.19	1,804.99
Lincoln	72,278.20	69,659.98	2,618.22	661.02
Lincoln	16,618.91	14,833.92	1,784.99	91.12
Logan	1,432.01	790.99	641.02	87.17
Loup	1,108.70	1,017.53	91.17	1,327.15
Madison	16,991.31	17,900.61	909.30	1,298.51
McPherson	690.48	738.60	48.12	355.44
Merrick	13,601.31	13,636.07	34.76	74.14
Nance	9,120.54	11,452.81	2,332.27	157.01
Nemaha	17,303.59	17,677.34	373.75	117.40
Nemaha	15,794.10	15,645.48	148.62	117.40
Otoe	30,318.64	31,933.93	1,615.29	697.14
Pawnee	15,784.06	15,086.92	697.14	583.03
Perkins	4,283.38	3,697.74	585.64	80.21
Phelps	8,491.85	10,198.87	1,707.02	60.21
Pierce	9,478.95	9,739.16	260.21	87.17
Platte	17,928.22	17,888.08	40.14	1,327.15
Polk	9,255.44	10,511.38	1,255.94	73.15
Red Willow	7,611.90	7,380.19	231.71	47.08
Richardson	22,730.29	21,906.04	824.25	308.63
Rock	3,309.31	3,394.36	85.05	7.14
Saline	17,874.93	18,314.34	439.41	1,327.15
Sarpy	14,360.74	13,886.81	473.93	1,327.15
Saunder	23,327.19	23,733.82	406.63	7.14
Scott's Bluff	2,988.03	1,884.89	1,103.14	1,327.15
Seward	17,832.29	19,209.44	1,377.15	1,327.15
Sheridan	7,926.37	6,636.06	1,290.31	355.44
Sherman	6,156.18	6,824.32	668.14	157.01
Sioux	3,494.79	2,209.23	1,285.56	117.40
Stanton	8,268.36	9,671.97	1,403.61	74.14
Thayer	14,998.66	16,327.96	1,329.30	157.01
Thomas	939.09	784.83	154.26	117.40
Thurston	2,728.13	3,199.33	471.20	117.40
Valley	6,673.92	6,516.92	157.00	117.40
Washington	16,382.41	18,534.09	2,151.68	117.40
Wayne	11,797.11	11,679.71	117.40	117.40
Webster	10,676.65	13,094.90	2,418.25	110.49
Wheeler	1,864.67	1,793.18	71.49	66.90
York	15,832.37	15,748.77	83.60	8,687.30
Total	\$1,181,910.76	\$1,173,332.17	\$8,578.59	\$1,807.30
Total increase in delinquent taxes in 1897				8,687.30

The New Gold Fields KALAMAZOO, Mich., Aug. 24.—Mrs. George Sperr has received a letter from her husband, who is at Skaguay, Alaska, stating that three men struck a new gold field twenty miles east of Lake Tagish, three months ago, and have taken out \$160,000 in gold. They were then discovered by railroad engineers, and 2,000 men have left other places for the new fields, which are fifteen miles wide and thirty long, the bed of an old lake. The Kalamazoo hustlers camped within sixteen miles of the new and rich find.

Extend the Courtesy WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—(Associated Press telegram.)—Ambassador Hay in a cablegram to the state department received this afternoon, says that the British government has directed the governor of Hong Kong to accept Admiral Dewey's application for permission to dock and clean ships at Hong Kong.

TROOP MOVEMENTS REPORTED

SECOND NEBRASKA INCLUDED The Commissary Supply Depot to Be Moved From Chattanooga to Huntsville, Alabama

Chickamauga, Aug. 24.—(Special telegram to Independent.)—The Eighth Massachusetts, Twelfth New York and Twenty-first Kansas, left camp Thomas today for Lexington, Ky., where the troops will be camped until further orders.

The First Illinois cavalry is expected to leave early tomorrow morning for Chicago, arriving there by Friday night.

The commissary supply depot which has been at Chattanooga for several months, will be moved to Huntsville, Ala.

Among the western regiments included in the mustering out orders issued today are the Fourth, Seventh and Ninth Illinois, One Hundred and Fifty-seventh, One Hundred Sixtieth and One Hundred Sixty-first Indiana, Fifty-second Iowa, Twenty-second Kansas, Second Nebraska, Seventh and Tenth Ohio, Fourth and Fifth Missouri, First Ohio cavalry, Twentieth Indiana battery, Fifth and Sixth Iowa batteries and the First battalion of Ohio light artillery.

A special from Philadelphia says that a hospital train left that city this morning for Fernandina, Florida, to bring home the sick soldiers of the Third Pennsylvania volunteers.

The Order Issued Yesterday A special from Washington, dated yesterday evening, says: "Adjutant General Corbin today issued an order for the Second regiment, Nebraska volunteer infantry, now at camp Thomas, Chickamauga, Ga., to break camp and proceed to Omaha, there to be mustered out of the service of the United States. It will probably be a week or ten days before Colonel Billis' regiment reaches Omaha. After arrival in Omaha a few days will be consumed in straightening accounts, such as the return of arms, equipment, etc., after which the men will be set at liberty to return to their various peaceful vocations, as before the war. It is among the possibilities that the regiment will camp in the exposition grounds pending muster out."

Will Start Friday Chattanooga, Tenn., Aug. 24.—Colonel Billis said last night the Second Nebraska would leave here Friday for Omaha. Everything is in readiness to move as soon as transportation can be secured. Colonel Billis says he does not know whether or not the regiment will be mustered out.

Will Open Up the Schools Saultage, Aug. 24.—(Associated Press telegram.)—The conference between General Wood, the American military governor, and the local authorities, with reference to opening the public schools, resulted satisfactorily. Places will be ready for four thousand pupils on September 15. Sectarianism has been eliminated from the management and the American system of education approved.

HOLD TROOPS AT HONOLULU.

The Reserve Soldiers for the Philippines to Camp in the Hawaiian Capital. WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—Some days ago advices were received from General Merritt, in which he announced that for the present his force at Manila is sufficient for the work in hand. The government, however, while acting upon the advice of General Merritt, does not overlook the fact that additional forces may be needed in the Philippines in the near future, or that some of the troops now there may have to be recalled and replaced by others.

There is at San Francisco and vicinity a force of from 5,000 to 7,000 men, who have been held in reserve for the Philippines. This force will be sent to Honolulu and maintained there for any emergency that may arise. The order for the early movement to Honolulu has been issued, and the transports that will carry the troops out are instructed to remain at Honolulu until further orders.

Would Return Salaries Decatur, Ind., Aug. 24.—A new political party has been organized in this (Adams) county with 1,000 members to start with. A full ticket has been nominated on a pure government platform and the candidates pledge themselves that, if elected, they will return half their salaries to the county, to be used in going over the books and straightening them up. The candidates are equally divided between the populist, republican and democratic parties.

A Short Comparison The Hastings Record, with its usual brilliancy, observes that "in the case of every county, taxes have been paid this year which have never been paid before." And this with a view to belittling the grand work accomplished by the reform state officers along the lines of economy and honesty. Ye Gods! The Record is surely making a strong bid for its jack-ass position.

Taxes were paid in 1891 which had never been paid before; crops were good; we enjoyed so-called republican prosperity; yet three school apportionments in May and December 1891 and May 1892 lacked just \$230,890.52 of equaling the three made under a reform administration in 1897 and 1898. How do you explain this, Mr. Record?

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