

Nebraska Independent

Consolidation of THE WEALTH MAKERS and LINCOLN INDEPENDENT.

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THE WINNING TICKET.

- For Governor— WILLIAM A. POYNTER of Boone. Lieutenant Governor— E. A. GILBERT of York. Secretary of State— WILLIAM F. PORTER of Morrill. Auditor of Public Accounts— JOHN F. CORNELL of Richardson. Treasurer— JOHN B. MESERVE of Red Willow. Supt. of Public Instruction— WILLIAM R. JACKSON of Holt. Land Commissioner— JACOB B. WOLFE of Lancaster. Attorney General— CONSTANTINE J. SMYTH of Douglas.

Let populists remember that the object aimed at is the conversion of republicans to populist principles. This can be done by proving that the application of those principles benefits common humanity.

The Wisconsin democrats by a vote of 336 to 296 in their state convention refused to let the populists join with them in naming a state ticket.

Remember that the following days are set apart for the currency conventions at Omaha: Gold day, Tuesday, September 13. Silver day, Wednesday, September 14. Paper day, Thursday, September 15.

Paul Shallenberger, a York county boy, died of starvation while sick on a hospital ship en route for New York.

"Paul died on his road home from Cuba, a victim of cruelty to our own soldiers that would disgrace Weyler. Sick with typhoid fever for two weeks with bacon and hard-tack his only food."

The Chicago Record's correspondent who visited the ship on which Paul died sent his paper a description of affairs on board the vessel when she arrived in port as follows:

"The transport Yucatan arrived from Santiago yesterday with the 7th regular infantry on board and 200 of them were ill when they started. Seven men were starved to death on the passage and three more in the harbor here before they could be landed, because the ship left Santiago without proper food or supplies for the sick or anything else but the regular army rations, 'salt horse, sow belly and shingles,' as the soldiers call the corn beef, salted pork and hard-tack, which the sick were unable to eat."

These statements do not come from partisan sources. They are the pictures of a condition of things that are too true to be denied and demand investigation.

The point made by Brother Hardy in his column this week with reference to the next state senate is a good one and has a wider application than that given it by Brother Hardy. There are two ways of capturing the next Nebraska senate. One is by electing republicans. Somehow the republicans elected to the state senate are always opposed to progressive legislation and the people's interests. The corporations never make a mistake there. There is another way—that is to nominate a populist or fusionist who can be 'handled.' There have been a few of them in the state senate heretofore. There are indications that work is being done to place more of them there next winter. If enough of them get there it means the nullification of all good legislation next winter. The populist party will be charged with the responsibility. In districts where nominations for the senate are yet to be made populists should be on their guard. If the senate is conceded to either democrats or silver republicans populists should ascertain the nominee is free from corporation control.

THE CINCINNATI MEETING.

In the news columns of this issue appears a report of the middle-of-the-road populist convention at Cincinnati which has nominated Wharton Barker for president and Ignatius Donnelly for vice-president.

The significant feature of the convention is the withdrawal of one-half its members who were opposed to making any nominations at the present time. Some of these men who withdrew are among the most radical anti-fusion populists in the nation. They will never again join in supporting a democratic ticket, but they simply don't propose to go into the campaign of 1900 until the campaign of 1900 is here. They are populists and will stay by the populist party. They cannot be led into the democratic or the republican camp, but will stay by the populist flag so long as it floats over populist principles.

For the few people who met and named a national ticket at Cincinnati there is this to be said: A number of them are earnest, honest and sincere men, veterans in the people's party cause. For the present they have chosen to act without the counsel and association of the great body of populists just as honest, earnest and sincere as they. No good can come from abuse or denunciation of them. They are not the people's party and cannot act for it. They undoubtedly do represent (in part) the spirit of dissatisfaction in the people's party over the treatment of the party in the national campaign of 1896 and its treatment by the democratic party in a number of states since. They have taken a foolish and impotent way to manifest that dissatisfaction. The future of the populist movement is in the hands of its members. If they love its principles and its organization they can advance the one and preserve the other. But to do so they must be calm not rash in action, considerate, not abusive in language, fraternal not factional in spirit.

WORRIED ABOUT PORTER.

The republican machine is sadly worried just now about Secretary of State Porter's office. As the official reports of the work of secretary of state's office for the past two years go out over the state contrasted with that of preceding republican administrations people want to know about it. They can't understand why Porter should have collected and paid in over \$20,000 during his 18 months while his predecessor only paid in \$1,600 in two years.

Hayes Center, Neb., Aug. 30.—To the editor State Journal: I find the following surprising statement in a World-Herald editorial of yesterday. If this is true another ex-state official should be keeping company with Joe Bartley. If it is not true it should be correctly labeled as a lie, and the author of such stories properly branded, so that future generations of this kind would be known by the ear-marks. Truly yours, M. J. ABBOTT.

Then follows the following clipping from the World-Herald, giving some of the facts about the secretary of state's office:

W. F. Porter went directly from a Nebraska farm to the office of secretary of state for Nebraska, and the records show that the people made no mistake when they elected Mr. Porter to that office. The fees collected in the secretary of state's office and paid into the state treasury during the two years of 1895 and 1896, under the republican administration, amounted to \$1,677.12.

The fees collected in the secretary of state's office and paid into the state treasury during the first eighteen months of Mr. Porter's administration, amounted to \$20,944.84.

In other words during a period of eighteen months Mr. Porter paid into the state treasury on account of fees collected in this office \$19,267.72 more than was paid in by his republican predecessor during the entire two years of 1895 and 1896.

The State Journal wabbles through near a column trying to tell how it is. And the gist of its wabbles is simply this—that the fact is as stated—the secretary of state's office did pay in over \$20,000 the past 18 months and only \$1,677.12 the previous two years, but no credit is due Porter and the pope on that account. Not a bit of it. It was all due to a new law which greatly increased the fees in the secretary's office. That these fees make it cost corporations an awful lot more than it formerly did to organize and do business in Nebraska. That (for example) it cost the Union Pacific \$13,000 to incorporate its new company here while under the old law it would have cost them only \$3.75. That is all there is in it—the new law taxing corporations did it and Porter and the pope cannot claim the credit.

The explanation it is needless to say

is a still richer piece of humor than the letter of inquiry. The facts, well known to most of our readers, are that the new law relating to corporation fees was drawn in the secretary of state's office. That Secretary Porter himself took one copy of the bill to Senator Farrell and another to Representative Sheldon that it might be introduced in both senate and house at once. That the bill was vigorously pushed through both houses, being advanced in both houses out of its regular order and that under it the corporations that make use of the laws of the state to do business pay the expenses of the secretary of state's office in stead of the people paying them by taxation.

POPULIST REFORMS.

The Omaha Bee says this week: How lucky the populist state officials have not fulfilled all the reform pledges they made when they were before the people two years ago or they would not be able to promise any reform now.

It is true that there are yet more populist reforms to be accomplished in this state. Let us admit that. That is the reason why we need another populist legislature and the election of the populist state ticket. Let us now consider a few populist reforms, legislative and executive, accomplished in the past eight years. Here are only a few:

- The investment of the permanent school fund. The free school text book law. The stock yards law. The treasury depository law which has secured the people of the state thousands of dollars in interest on public money. The mutual insurance law. The corporation fee law under which over \$20,000 has been collected from corporations the past 18 months. The school land law which puts nearly 2,000,000 acres of school land beyond the possibility of being squandered by future state officers. The deficiency judgment act which stops the process of piling up judgments against a man after taking his property. A reduction in state expenditures of nearly \$100,000. A reduction of state debt of over \$700,000. The prompt payment into the state treasury of fees belonging there. Bringing the penitentiary to a self-supporting basis. The vigorous prosecution of public criminals. Improved management of state school funds and lands.

Raising the value of railroad corporation property in the state over \$700,000.

This makes only sixteen items of reform in a list which might easily be extended to sixty important improvements in legislation and public affairs made by the populist party since its organization in the state of Nebraska. That there are still more of them to accomplish is no disgrace and no impeachment of the populists.

Now will the editor of the Omaha Bee take the witness stand for a few moments while the INDEPENDENT asks him the following questions:

- 1. Is it not a fact that the anti-monopoly and other reforms agitated by your paper for the past twenty years have depended, since the organization of the people's party in this state, almost entirely upon populist votes and the populist organization for their advancement?
- 2. Is it not a fact that the majority of republican legislators and republican state officials in the past ten years have been opposed to said reforms?
- 3. Is it not a fact that nearly all the active anti-monopoly leaders in the republican party of Nebraska have been turned down by the party machinery during the past twelve years?
- 4. Is the record of the republican party in this state the past twelve years or its officers and organization this year such as to justify genuine anti-monopolists in leaving the people's party and joining the republican party at present?
- 5. If so, why?
- 6. Is it not a fact that in such reforms as postal savings banks, municipal ownership of monopolies and retention of government paper money—hitherto advocated by the Bee—the people's party is their best friend among the political organizations of today?
- 7. Is it not a fact that most of the reforms in administration of state affairs advocated by the Bee in time past are now being carried out by populists?
- 8. Is it not a fact that republicans when in office have refused to carry them out?
- 9. Granting all that can be truthfully said in criticism of individual populists and of the populist party is it not a fact that more good legislation and administration in the people's interests has been secured through that organization in the past eight years than through the republican organization since the Bee began to agitate?

No report has so far been made by the republican campaign committee of its campaign fund in 1898. Ask the republican committeeman in your county whether he has seen such report and if not whether he thinks they dare publish it.

It is a study to dress a boy stylishly and yet economically. The firm of Paine & Warburton can please you. Get your boy ready for school.

THE REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN.

The plan of the republican campaign in Nebraska as originally planned has received a severe jolt.

At the time the convention met at was expected to carry on a "war campaign" and make the shedding of Spanish blood the remission of sins for the republican party. So the republican state platform was headed for war. Since then the war has ended and the mismanagement that has accompanied it is so plain that a "war campaign" is simply a campaign of explanation and apology.

Then it was intended to make the campaign one of attack upon the state board of transportation for failing to secure reduction of rates, but the railroads themselves control the in new councils of the republican party and they promptly vetoed that proposition in such an emphatic manner as to entirely disconcert those who proposed it.

Then came the letter of Judge Ben Baker exposing the fact that the railroads had dictated the nomination of Hayward. It was like a bombshell from a 13-inch gun in the republican headquarters. Chairman Schneider took the first Elkhorn train for Fremont, where he went out into a sugar beet patch on the banks of the Platte and swore in good old-fashioned Plattdeutsch at Ben Baker, John M. Thurston and the whole push until sundown.

Then came the revelations from the back files of the Omaha Bee and Kearney Hub establishing Ben Baker's statement that Hayward was the corporation candidate and even P. O. Hedlund threw up both hands and exclaimed that they ought to have known better than to let Rosewater back into the republican party.

Then another snag was struck in the raising campaign funds. There are about a dozen prominent republicans like R. E. Moore, John L. Webster, G. M. Lambertson, A. E. Cady and John C. Cowin, who would like to go to the United States senate if the republicans get the legislature. The plan was to assess them \$2,000 to \$3,000 apiece for their aspirations, but the first one struck balked hard in the harness and the fund lags.

So at present the republican state campaign at state headquarters languishes and trembles restlessly on its couch of pain. Unless speedy communication is established with Mark Hanna and the associated bankers, it is lifeless.

A REPUBLICAN ENDORSEMENT.

One of Nebraska's leading citizens and manager of one of our large institutions, wrote to auditor Cornell, under date of August 30th as follows:

"I desire personally to compliment you on the success you have made of the auditor's department and the gratifying showing as given from the records of your office. Certainly such faithful accounting of your stewardship entitles you to the favorable consideration of all well informed and honestly disposed voters. I take pleasure in assuring you that I shall personally vote for you and do all I can to secure your re-election. I am a republican on general principles, but could not stand Tom Majors and later the gold platform. I believe I have the honor of being the only man in a similar position who espoused the free silver cause in 1896 and did what he could for its success. The secretary of state, auditor of public accounts and the state treasurer have made excellent records and are certainly entitled to reelection."

"Money Chart" proves that when all money, gold, silver and paper, is made a legal tender to pay all debts in the United States, and all money is made redeemable in government dues only, all our money will be held firmly at a parity, and all control over the quantity of its circulation will pass from the British-American oligarchy to the people of this country, and the people will pass from bondage to freedom and never before.

And when the people are once made free and take control of the quantity of their money circulation they can fix the per capita circulation at any amount they see fit, fifty dollars per capita—more or less, as they please. And having control of their money circulation, of course they will have control over all prices, putting wheat at \$2 per bushel if they wish and other things in proportion. On page 127 is given the easy method of effecting this absolute control over the quantity of money in circulation. On pages 145 and 146 are given eight rules whereby it may be determined when the money circulation is sufficient and when it is not. No other such plain, practical, truthful, and comprehensive book on the subject has ever been furnished to the people as "Money Chart."

Populist state headquarters at the Lincoln hotel is a busy place just now. A very heavy correspondence is being handled, dates being made for speakers and a large quantity of literature being sent out. Chairman Gaffa is giving his personal attention every day to the work. Secretary Thompson says his correspondence is full of old-time Alliance enthusiasm and that reports from every part of the state indicate a fixed intention on the part of the voters to see that the state's affairs are kept in the same good hands for the coming two years that they have been in the past.

The Nebraska state university begins another year's work next week. It is a great school and becoming greater every year. It is not an institution for literary dudes and rich men's sons. Most of its students are hardworking, self-denying young men and women. The institution itself has made a great advance in the past few years in providing the means of securing a genuine working education for young people who expect to earn their living with their hands. Attention is called to a series of articles on another page which set forth some of the work being done at the university along this line.

Current Reform Topics.

BY T. H. TIBBLES.

When a railroad superintendent was asked why the roads persisted in the continuance of the free pass system, he answered that "free passes returned very good dividends."

For years before the failure of the wheat crop in India and other countries an ounce of silver and a bushel of wheat in the Liverpool market were always equal. Since those countries began to recover from their wheat famine, silver and wheat have begun to approach the same price again. Upon that subject the republican press have of late no remarks to make.

Last year wheat brought a dollar a bushel in Chicago. The republican newspapers declared that it was the result of McKinley's election. McKinley is still elected and wheat has gone down to about sixty cents. Will some republican editor please inform us of the whereabouts of this thing?

Plant life is the source of all animal life and limits population, manufacturing and every industry of mankind. Upon the production of the farms depends governments, armies, navies, schools, churches, art, literature, the very existence of the race. The man who follows the plow is the Atlas upon whose shoulders rests everything else. As on his profession all other professions depend, he should at least have equal consideration. Poynter is a farmer.

Tim Sedgwick is claiming that Attorney-General Smyth is a republican. He says that Bartley was sent to the penitentiary by republicans.

There were an even dozen of cotton mills shut down last week. Wonder if the working men who were turned out to grass remember anything about the saying of a certain gentleman who proclaimed that he was going to open the mills instead of the mints.

The investor in bragging about the prosperity of Kansas says that the banks are full of money which the bankers cannot loan. If any evidence were wanted to prove that there was no such thing as prosperity in Kansas, the fact that the banks were full of money that could not be loaned would be all that was needed to prove it. When business ventures are so bad that no man dare venture into any commercial enterprise, then money begins to pile up in the banks. It is sometimes said that no man can make a gold standard argument without contradicting himself before he gets through, but lately it seems that they are unable to write a single sentence without doing it. Banks full of money that can't be loaned a sign of prosperity! Oh! get out. You make a sensible man weary.

The sang froid with which a republican convention will base a platform upon an absolute falsehood is enough to make Satan jealous. About all the republican conventions that have met lately have resolved that they were in favor of "maintaining the present gold standard," and then referring to the gold standard as the standard of the "most civilized nations" or as being the standard of Europe. Now the facts are that there is but one gold standard nation in the world, that of Great Britain. A gold standard nation is one in which nothing but gold is a legal tender. Such a nation may have a subsidiary currency of paper, silver, copper or anything else, but it must be redeemable on demand in gold. Now there is no such nation on the face of the globe aside from Great Britain and she hardly fills the bill.

Take a look at them and see how much gold standard there is in the world according to official reports of our consuls. There is Russia. She has no gold money in circulation at all, but she has something over \$900,000,000 of paper redeemable in silver and not redeemable in gold at all. There is not very much gold standard in Russia. France has \$200,000,000 of silver francs and \$350,000,000 of paper francs in circulation, all a full legal tender. No gold standard there. Spain has neither gold or silver in circulation but about \$205,000,000 of government bank paper. No gold standard there. Belgium has \$33,000,000 of silver and \$1,000,000 of paper and no gold in circulation at all. Her paper is redeemable in either silver or gold. No gold standard there. Germany has \$100,000,000 of silver in circulation and \$300,000,000 of paper, both a full legal tender and the paper not redeemable in gold but in coin. No gold standard there.

Switzerland has the same monetary system as France. No gold standard there. Austria-Hungary has in circulation of silver, \$54,000,000 and of paper \$340,000,000, all a full legal tender and also of it redeemable in gold alone. No gold standard there. Italy while nominally a bimetallic country, does nearly all her business with paper of which she has \$280,000,000. No gold standard there. Sweden has in circulation of government bank notes, \$15,000,000; of private banks, \$16,000,000; of silver \$1,000,000 and of gold \$285,000. No gold standard there. Norway has the same system. No gold standard there.

The most civilized nations are not gold standard nations, and if we wish to conform our monetary system to that of the most civilized nations we will not adopt the gold standard. There is not a civilized nation on earth that dare adopt the gold standard. The money power has been trying to force them to do it for the last twenty-five years, but it has not succeeded in getting

a single nation to take the step. The whole contention of the republican party is based upon a lie. All that the money power has been able to accomplish is to in a measure stop the creation of more money. They have stopped the free coinage of silver. No nation on earth dare to establish the gold standard. To resolve about "present gold standard" is to resolve about a myth. If the gold standard were established in any civilized country, it would produce a condition beside which the panic of '93 would be a blessing to mankind.

Every authority in the medical world agrees that typhoid fever is a preventable disease. With that fact staring the people in the face and typhoid raging in every camp in the United States, how are the authorities at Washington to escape responsibility for the hundreds of deaths from that disease wherever the volunteers have been camped? Corporations may be able to run a government after a fashion, but they can't run an army at all.

Every young man who enlisted had a moral right to protection from typhoid disease germs—as much a right as protection against the interjection of any other poison into his food. If through ignorance or carelessness any other form of poison had been distributed through the camps there would have been no thought of excusing anybody on any grounds whatever. A political medical corps, whose chief glory was to wear a uniform and straps, has been a very costly piece of business for the people of the United States.

It is the constant prophesy of the republican press that "one year of good crops will make an end of populism." Those chaps seem to forget that it was in an era of the very best crops that the populist party was organized and achieved its first great success. During the years 1887, '88 and '89 when the foundation of the party was being laid in the organization of the Farmer's Alliance, Nebraska had the best crops she ever had. It was not the shortage of crops that spurred the industrial classes to organize a new party. In the years 1891 and 1892 we had the very best of crops, but the populist party made an astonishing growth during those years. The years 1896 and 1897 were years of good crops and higher prices, on account of failures in other parts of the world, but the populist party continued to grow to such an extent that it swept the state almost clean. The farmers look at the question of crops after the following fashion. Under the present money system, when a large crop is raised prices fall to such a low point that it doesn't pay the cost of raising. When the crops fail and prices are higher, they have nothing to sell. They believe that the level of prices all around should be raised and they believe that a higher level of prices would result from an increase in the volume of money. Of course a mullet headed republican editor, who does not know what value is, cannot understand this thing at all.

The Bee says that in the last two years "there has been an enormous increase in national wealth." The assessment rolls from the states tell a different tale. According to them, the wealth of Iowa shrank \$10,000,000 during the last year alone. The official returns from other states are of like character. In the city of Lincoln more than twice as much wealth was lost by fire last year than was replaced by new buildings and the repair of old ones. When we see new houses and barns going up on the farms and new buildings being erected in the cities, then we may say that wealth is increasing. Not very much of that sort of thing is seen these days.

The sugar beet fellows are circulating great yarns these days. In one of the documents sent out they say that: "It has been found by experience that one man and team can take care of and cultivate on an average, ten acres of sugar beets." We would like to see the fellow who did that "on an average." He must have been able to crawl on his knees pulling weeds, more miles in a day than any Russian that the Oxards ever imported.

The organization of a million dollar trust was years ago created universal consternation. Last week a two hundred million dollar trust was organized and very little was said about it. This trust is to control and fix the price of iron and steel for all of the people of the United States. The John Sherman anti-trust law is still on the statute books and the party in power makes no effort to enforce or amend it. It will not be long until everything manufactured in this country will be, both in amount of production and the price charged, entirely under the control of organized capital. In that day all men will be the serfs of capital. Nothing stands between the people and such a disastrous condition but the people's party. With such an outlook ahead, will any man falter? Should we not go out in this campaign and work with a zeal and an enthusiasm never before equaled?

The Omaha Bee, old Tiddle-de-winks and a few other republican papers, having nothing better to do, have been engaged in rainbow chasing for several days. They tell about a great rivalry between Gaffa and Edmisten and how each one is trying to get ahead of the other. The truth is that Edmisten and Gaffa have always been great personal friends and are working in harmony in everything. Between the two they expect to see the biggest populist majority piled up this year ever counted.

The Chicago Tribune says that republicans may as well make up their minds that they will have to fight over again the sound money battle. It takes the Tribune just about as long as it does old Tiddle-de-winks to comprehend a fact. If those two papers stick to their present view of things perhaps they will cease to announce every other morning that free silver is dead.

Now that the war is over, Mark Hanna hops up again and remarks that the suffering among the volunteer soldiers was all their own fault and not at all chargeable to the bad management of the war department. He says that "regular troops were camped beside the volunteers and there was no sickness among them." Mark wants to create a sentiment for a great standing army. His business manager gives out the state-