

The Nebraska Independent

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THE OPEN DOOR POLICY

England will Bake in the Shetels and Uncle Sam will be Made to Pay the Bills.

McKINLEY'S BASE SURRENDER

He will Haul Down the Flag of American Commercial Supremacy at British Bidding.

The Anglomaniacs.

The Irish Word, a paper which has always been an ardent champion of republicanism, recently said: "The republican party of today is the heir to the Tory party of the American revolution. In it all the anglomaniacs of the country feel at home. It is no longer republican. It is monarchistic or imperialistic."

"Is it any wonder that the London press now cheers for republican victories and expresses regret at republican losses?"

"It was not so in the days of Abraham Lincoln, nor was it so in the days of James G. Blaine."

"President McKinley's special object just now seems to be to cultivate a close friendship with England, which means an Anglo-American alliance. And this with a view to embark in practical enterprises the world over. This idea dominates the conduct of the state department through all its ramifications."

"We all know that the set that are running this country today have been driving Englandward as fast as the devil could urge them—going thither by forced marches. We know that the conspirators have been at work, sometimes stealthily and again openly—forging chains of an Anglo-American alliance by which this country is to be bound and its citizens subjected to the influence of a power that not only is alien to us, but that throughout our history has been most inimical to our republic."

Such remarks are exceedingly proper and timely in view of the attitude of some of our so-called statesmen relative to England and everything English at the present time, and also in view of the apparently changed tone of British statesmen and their press relative to our own country."

A few years ago it was supposed that the name of William McKinley was intensely execrated throughout England on account of his championship of a protective tariff. But now despite his advocacy of that theory so obnoxious to the Briton, he seems to be the recipient of the most profound respect and adoration from every part of the United Kingdom. And why? If the understanding of the English press is correct the great apostle of protection is now co-operating with England in strengthening free trade. The "open door" policy of the subservient tool of the money power who now steers our ship of state at Washington, is taken on the other side of the Atlantic to mean a bid for English alliance and an advance toward consummating an amalgamation of the imperialistic monarchism of the eastern hemisphere with the democracy of the western.

Speaking of McKinley's message, the London Times said: "Not since England recognized the United States government as an independent power has an American president alluded to the mother country in language so cordial and friendly as Mr. McKinley." Why not? After allowing the British foreign office to dictate the policy of his administration it was but natural that he should outdo all his predecessors in office in slobbering over when referring to our relations with England. He is playing England's game and he is playing it well.

The "open door" policy of McKinley, when applied to the Philippines will mean virtually a closed door to American commerce in those islands in view of their vast distance from this country and their comparative nearness to British possessions. But it also means a wide open door for the cheap labor of the Filipinos to compete with the workmen of these United States. England will reap the advantages of the policy and Uncle Sam will pay the bill.

The British foreign office and the godlike Tories of this country are advocating the taking of the Philippines, Cuba and Porto Rico as American property and the inauguration by Uncle Sam of an un-American system of colonial government. They champion expansion, imperialism and an advance toward militarism by the un-called for increase of our standing army. They are advocating the casting away of the teachings of Washington, the revolutionizing of our government and the substitution of a policy dictated to us by the shrewd diplomatists of a foreign power which heretofore has been known as our bitter enemy.

England's apparent friendship for us now has a sting to it. She wants our backing and co-operation in her battle for supremacy in the far east, Russia, Germany and France are acting in a similar block in her way, and she desires aid to remove them. She desires to entangle this country in an unholy alliance and our present administration is in sympathy with her desire.

Senator Davis of the peace commission, who is admitted to be a strong

McKinleyite and a pronounced anglo-maniac, declares that: He "favors a treaty of alliance including the United States, Great Britain, and Japan for the protection of all their interests north of the equator," and as a reason says: "The rest of the world would have a wholesome fear, synonymous with respect for us." He does "not see why other nations should object to the alliance. If they do let them." Thus anticipating a policy of defiance toward all the nations of the world.

If we had any right whatever to trade off the Philippine islands without the consent of their people it would be better for us to avoid foreign entanglements, steer clear of an alliance with any country, trade the Philippines to England for Canada and expand northward on our own continent and keep up our present compact form. America for Americans should be the cry from now on, and that means Cuba for Cubans and the Philippines for the Filipinos as well.

Chamberlain and Davis say in defense of their proposed alliance that "blood is thicker than water, and talk glibly about the Anglo-Saxon, which is nothing but pure rot. Why should Americans take any stock in such foolishness? The Anglo-Saxon blood forms but an insignificant quantity in the veins of the American nation."

If the alliance is to be made between Anglo-Saxons on both sides of the Atlantic what is to be done with the millions of Irish, Scots and Welsh who came here in search of freedom and liberty from the oppression of the Anglo-Saxon? What will be the effect of such an alliance on the German and Scandinavian elements among our citizens?

The London Times takes it as a matter of fact that alliance and annexation is very popular now in the States, but states its fear that "it may not be so when a new president and congress is elected." We hope that its fears are well founded and that the sober second thought of our people will assert itself, and rescue our republic from imperialism and the dangers of an English alliance.

E. E. ELLIS, Beatrice.

MR. DOOLEY'S OPINION.

"I know what I'd do if I was Mack," said Mr. Hennessy. "I'd hist a flag over th' Philippines, an' I'd take in th' whole lot iv thim."

"An' yet," said Mr. Dooley, "tis not more than two months since ye larned whether they were islands or canned goods. If yer son Paddy was to ask ye where th' Philippines is, and ye give him anny good idea whether they was in Koshia or jus' west iv th' thracks?"

"Mebbe I coudn't," said Mr. Hennessy, laughingly, "but I'm fr' takin' thim in, annyhow."

"So might I be," said Mr. Dooley, "if I coud only get me mind on it. Wan of the worst things that this here war is th' way it's makin' puzzles fr' our poor, tired heads."

"I've been r-readin' about th' country, full iv gold an' pickin' stones, where th' people can piec dinner off th' threes, an' ar're starvin' because they have no stepladders. Th' inhabitants is mostly Chinamen and niggers, peaceful, industrius an' law-abidin', but savage and bloodthirsty in their methods. They wear no clothes except what they have on, an' each woman has five husbands an' each man has five wives. Th' r-rest goes into th' discard, th' same as here. Th' islands has been ownded by Spain since before th' fire, an' she's treated thim so well they're now up in arms agin her, except a majority iv thim which is thurly loyal Th' natives seldom fight, but when they get mad at wan another they r-run amuck. Whin a man r-runs amuck sometimes they hang him and sometimes they discharge him an' hire a new motorman. Th' women ar-re beautiful, with languishin' black eyes, an' they smoke see-gars, but ar-re hurried and incomplete in their dress. I see a pitcher av wan the other day with nawthin' on her but a basket of cocoanuts an' a hoop-skirt. They're no pruders. We import juke, hemp, cigar wrappers, sugar and fairy tales fr'm th' Philippines, an' export six-inch shells an' th' like."

"I larned all this fr'm th' papers, an' I know 'tis straight. An' yet, Hennessy, I dinnav what to do about th' Philippines. An' I'm all alone in th' wurld. Irvybody else has made up his mind. Ye ask anny con-ductor on Ar-rechy Road an' he'll tell ye. Ye can find out fr'm th' papers; an', if ye really wan to know, all ye have to do is to ask a prom'ent citizen who coud show all th' law he owns with a safety razor. But I don't know."

"Hang on to thim," said Mr. Hennessy stoutly. "What we've got we must hold."

WHICH IS THE BIGGEST?

Editor Independent: A correspondent of the New York Journal had an interview with Leo XIII, during which the Pope said: "I love the United States for its virile youth and for the hope of seeing it enter entirely into the bosom of the Catholic church." What nonsense! From late and reliable statistics I find that two largest Protestant denominations in the United States—the Methodist and Baptist—more communicants than there are Catholics. The Methodist number 4,369,000; the Baptists 3,730,000; total 8,099,000; Catholics 6,125,000. The whole number of protestants in the United States is 12,730,000, more than twice as many as there are Catholics.

A. REINSCHEBER.

THE TIME OF REJOICING

THE TIME OF REJOICING

An Occasion That will be Long Remembered by Every Man Who was a Guest.

MEMORABLE FOR SPEECHES

A Farmer's Wife Requests That it be Written up so all the Children Understand.

Editor Tries His Hand.

A farmers in the western part of the state writes to the Independent as follows:

"I came to this part of the state when it was a wilderness in 1870. I was a young man at that time, just married, and I have raised my family here. My wife in that time has been back to her old home in Vermont twice, and I have been once. All the rest of the years we have spent here. Some of my children have never seen a great city. My oldest daughter has taught school for two years and is now in Lincoln attending the university. Next year I hope to be able to send my oldest boy. You see we know little of the conventionalities of the life in the cities. All that we know has been learned from books. However hard the times have been, I have always striven to have some good reading matter for wife and children, but it has never been very much. We are but simple country folks and have but a very limited knowledge of the ways of life in a city. My wife and children have asked me to write this letter to you, but we have read your writing for many years. We took the Nonconformist when you and Bright Eyes reported congress for its pages, and my wife says that she feels just as if she had always known her."

"The request that she and the children want me to make, is that either you or Bright Eyes will write an account of the coming inquest that the traveling men are going to give to Bryan. We have all seen Bryan and heard him speak. Even the baby, who is five years old, is a Bryan man, Wife says that she wants it told so that the children can understand. Put in all the little things."

The traveling men's Bryan club is composed of "drummers," as they are sometimes called, who travel over the state and sell goods at wholesale to the country merchants. The men of this club are all free silver men and voted for Bryan for president. Once a year they give a dinner and invite prominent men to speak. Those who are invited are informed what the dinner will cost and they chip in so much each to pay the bills. This is the third dinner of the kind that they have given."

The dinner is always given about the same time of the year at the Lincoln hotel. It is called a "dinner" in conformity to the conventionalities. In the country I suppose it would be called a very late supper, for the doors to the dining room are not thrown open until about 9:30 p. m. r-revious to that, however, the guests assemble and have a general good time, wandering up and down the corridors, laughing and talking. This part of the program is called a reception to Mr. Bryan. He, however, appears with the rests and laughs and talks in the same way with all."

The dining room is a large room with a very high ceiling. At this dinner it was decorated with flags and hot house foliage plants. The tables were made beautiful with cut flowers in full bloom raised in the hot houses. They were American Beauty roses, tea roses, carnations, chrysanthemums and spirea. Much of the decoration was done with smilax. Every guest was presented with a button hole bouquet. At the plate of every guest was a beautifully printed menu gotten out in the highest style of the printers' art. Many of the guests took them away with them as a souvenir."

There were five courses and the tables were cleared away between each course, after which the next was brought on. The menu, or bill of fare, was a rather fanciful affair. The first course was as follows: Blue points, from Schley shells, celery. Second course, Dewey hot stuff, Manila olives, salted almonds, Spanish beef ash, Porto Rico sars, Santiago chips. Third course, Rissoles of turkey a la San Juan, an petit pois en caise. Fourth course, Nebraska Bob White en crouton, asparagus, fuetette, lobster salad. Fifth course, fusion ice cream, fancy case, assorted nuts, cafe noir. After that came the cigars."

By the time all were seated at the table it was about ten o'clock. The removing of each course and the bringing on of another occupied a good deal of time and it was twelve o'clock before the eating part of the program was finished. Then came the toasts."

This toasting is simply raising a sentiment and calling on the speaker who has been announced to discuss it. The toast master is the one who does this. It is upon his tact and facility of speech that the success of these post prandial affairs largely depends. Mr. A. J. Weaver of Falls City was the toastmaster on this occasion and he proved the equal of Chauncey Depew. Nothing could have been more fell-

Beemer, Neb.

clous than his manner of introducing the various speakers. Those who were down on the program to reply to toasts were Governor Holcomb, "I see pleasure of being governor," Gilbert M. Hitchcock, "The Nebraska volunteer," Hon. W. D. Oldham, "The r-republican party in Nebraska," Governor Poynter, "Nebraska," Hon. John G. Johnson of Kansas, "No Trust," The dead issue," General J. B. Weaver, "America's mission," Colonel W. J. Bryan.

It was 3:30 a. m. when the convocation broke up. The writer of this has attended functions of this kind in New York city, Boston, London, England, Glasgow and Edinburgh, Scotland, and without prejudice he can truthfully say that the intellectual entertainment was equal to any which he ever enjoyed, although he has listened to Wendell Phillips, Edward Everett Hale, Chauncey Depew, Gladstone and Parnell. It was an occasion long to be remembered with pleasure. A synopsis of the speeches will appear elsewhere."

As to the guests themselves, they were altogether different in appearance to those that would surround the festal boards in one of the great eastern cities. They were mostly bronzed faced, rugged looking men in the earlier years of middle life, with here and there a gray head among them. A few were evidently not accustomed to such affairs. They represented every class of society from the banker to the working man. Their appreciation of the intellectual part of the program was very evident. The historical allusions in the speeches were all understood and the poetic quotations highly enjoyed."

From a high position, surrounded by flags and flowers, most excellent music was played during nearly the whole night. When this orchestra played national hymns and patriotic selections, the guests clapped their hands and cheered. Dixie was as loudly cheered as Marching Through Georgia. The music, which was Hagenow's orchestra, was really excellent."

All the speakers were cheered most heartily—and they merited it—but when Mr. Bryan rose to speak the whole audience rose to its feet and cheered while the orchestra made all the noise it could. At the close of Mr. Bryan's speech, amid a burst of cheers and patriotic music, the guests left the hall."

WON'T BE MUZZLED.

The Mississippi Valley Democrat and Journal of Agriculture makes the following statement—a statement, which most of us know to be true by the experience of many years:

One of our former advertisers writes that he considers it an anomaly for an agricultural paper to discuss political issues, referring especially to the financial question; and he states that he cannot do any more advertising with us until we discontinue the political department of our paper. We recognize this as one of the prevailing methods of coercion employed by the gold standard advocates. They will not consent to openly and fairly discuss the issues. They spend millions of dollars in sending out false and misleading printed matter to "educate the people," as they term it, but there must be no discussion on the other side. The press must wear a muzzle or go hungry for advertising patronage. This movement is a concerted one and covers the whole country. No daily paper in the large cities dares to openly advocate bimetalism, for should it do so it would lose its advertising upon which it depends for a living. The cause that will not bear the light of honest discussion is always a weak and bad one. Those whose deeds are evil love darkness rather than light."

The Mississippi Valley Democrat declares to be muzzled! The advocates of the pawnbroker's theory of government will please remember that."

RED WILLOW CLIMATE.

Editor Independent: Out here in Red Willow county, in the southwestern part of the state, winters are mild and short. On November 21 last we had a blizzard that was so bad at times for a little while that I could scarcely see the school house only a half mile away. It let up in the afternoon so that a few teams were in the corn fields. I think it was the worst storm I have seen since I came, and I have lived here over seventeen years. Within two days after the storm the ground was bare and the roads dry, and we have since had the finest kind of weather for picking corn except a few cold days. We have not had two weeks of good studding any winter since I came, and none at all some winters. The ground is bare and roads dry and smooth nearly all the time every winter. The sun shines nearly every day. Only three days last winter the sun was not seen. I have farmed here seventeen years and seeding has commenced in January or February every year but one. I have not fed my cattle three months any winter, and some winters not at all. I never saw finer weather here in October than we are having now. This is December 19 and I write this in the dooryard in my shirt sleeves. It is so pleasant that I went to sleep once. My peach trees were full this year. Trees planted out four years had a bush in the tree. There are more people here from Iowa than from any other state. My latechater is on the outside in all old Iowa boys and girls. UNCLE BILLY COLEMAN, Metook, Nebraska.

HOLCOMB'S FAREWELL

Nebraska's Best Governor Bid Good Bye to the People He Has Served.

QUESTIONS DISCUSSED

The Administration of Affairs for the Last Two Years put in the Record.

A Great State Paper.

Governor Holcomb in his farewell message to the legislature speaks first of the organization and going to war of the three regiments that Nebraska furnished to fight the Spaniards and then at some length of the Omaha exposition and its wonderful success. Of the finances of the state he speaks as follows:

I am gratified in being able to present to you a statement showing a material improvement in the condition of the finances of the state.

At the beginning of the biennial period commencing December 1, 1896, according to the reports of the state treasurer and auditor, the state's indebtedness may be summarized as follows:

Funding bonds.....\$ 449,267.85

Hotel bonds..... 101,000.00

General fund warrants..... 577,825.75

Making a total indebtedness of.....\$1,127,093.10

At the close of the biennium mentioned (November 30, 1898) there was an outstanding interest-bearing debt against the state of the sum of \$2,404,540.82. Of this sum, \$466,267.85 represented a bonded indebtedness, and the sum of \$1,938,272.97 a floating indebtedness evidenced by warrants drawn against the general fund of the state treasury, bearing interest at the rate of five per centum per annum from date of registration.

During the biennium there were issued general fund warrants in the sum of \$2,348,559.59, and general fund warrants in the sum of \$1,160,511.12, together with accrued interest thereon in the sum of \$69,630.82 thus making a total of \$1,230,141.74 disbursed by the state treasurer in the cancellation of general fund warrants. It appears that during this period the bonded indebtedness of the state was reduced \$81,000.00, and the floating or general fund indebtedness was increased in the sum of \$1,188,048.47.

From the reports of the state treasurer and auditor for the biennium just closed it appears that there now exists indebtedness of the sum of \$153,267.85 and a floating indebtedness of \$1,571,684.01, making a total interest debt November 30, last of \$1,724,951.86. During the last biennium warrants were drawn against the general fund of the state treasury in the sum of \$1,938,272.97, and for the same period general fund warrants were redeemed in the sum of \$2,248,793.12, together with accrued interest thereon in the sum of \$2,440,755.57 disbursed by the state treasurer in the cancellation of general fund warrants. These transactions resulted in a reduction of the bonded debt during the last biennium in the sum of \$81,000.00 and of general fund warrants in the sum of \$364,589.46, total \$679,589.46. This reduction includes \$46,885.26 of sugar bounty warrants which by a decision of the supreme court are declared to be illegally issued.

I have not deemed it necessary in this resume to speak of indebtedness heretofore existing by reason of warrants drawn against the temporary university fund, and the fund for the institute for the feeble minded youth, approximately \$59,190.13, because these warrants have all been redeemed, the indebtedness cancelled and warrants against these funds are now paid as presented."

The bonded indebtedness of the state is a matter calling for no special concern. For the payment of it ample provisions have all ready been made. There is due the sinking fund by reason of levies heretofore made, in uncollected and delinquent taxes, upon a careful estimate, \$285,747.70. It would require the collection of less than fifty per cent of this sum to liquidate all the remaining outstanding bonds. Much more than this will doubtless be realized and legislation will be required for the purpose of transferring the surplus to another fund. I have not taken into account in these figures the appropriation made by legislature of 1895 to reimburse the sinking fund in the sum of \$180,101.75, lost in the failure of the Capital National bank and which was drawn out of the general fund but not accounted for by ex-State Treasurer Hartley.

All unpaid bonds of the state are now held as an investment for the permanent school fund. Therefore there exists no pressing necessity for their immediate payment although past due. Payment and cancellation may be made as rapidly as funds accumulate to the treasury for that purpose. I invite your serious consideration to the general fund indebtedness of the state. The state is now paying seventy-five thousand dollars or more a year as interest on its outstanding general fund warrants. These warrants run from eighteen to twenty-two months after registry before they are called for payment. The state cannot very well do business according to approved business methods unless it makes provision for the payment of its current obligations with reasonable promptness.

neither can it hope to have its affairs satisfactorily administered if the indebtedness which is constantly being incurred in maintaining state government shall exceed to an appreciable degree the revenue which it may derive from taxation and through other sources. If such a policy shall be pursued for any considerable length of time, it can but result in bankruptcy or the necessity of funding such indebtedness in interest-bearing bonds, to be paid off by future generations.

The expenditures of government, except in very trying emergencies, should be kept within its income as derived from revenues from all sources. The twenty-fourth session of the legislature, held in 1895, made appropriations authorizing warrants against the general fund in the sum of \$2,587,589.60. The revenues received at the state treasury during the biennial period ending November 30, 1896, to meet the expenditures so authorized, were:

From taxation.....	\$1,607,816.91
From all other sources.....	71,275.69
Total.....	\$1,739,592.45

Thus authorizing an expenditure of \$908,947.07 in excess of the receipts of revenues from all sources.

The twenty-fifth session of the legislature, or the session of 1897, made appropriations authorizing warrants against the general fund in the sum of \$2,125,845.40. The revenues received at the state treasury for the biennium ending November 30, 1898, were:

From taxation.....	\$1,798,856.08
From all other sources.....	176,576.46
Total.....	\$1,975,432.54

The authorized expenditures exceeding the revenues in the sum of \$140,506.86.

In making the above calculations, I have eliminated the \$-8 mill levy for the temporary university fund and the appropriation made against the same, and have endeavored to speak only with reference to general fund indebtedness and resources from which the same is met.

It is to be borne in mind that the authorized expenditures as provided by the appropriations, may not always be actually expended and reference will not be had to the warrants drawn as well as to the funds to ascertain the current expense accurately, yet it is a safe rule, speaking in general terms, and experience has demonstrated that the appropriations have been exceeded and deficiencies incurred often than there has existed a surplus in the appropriations above the actual expenses incurred for the period covered by such appropriations.

Analyzing the appropriations of the legislature of 1897, which I believe were made with strict regard to economy and with an earnest desire to reduce them to the lowest amount consistent with the welfare and proper administration of the affairs of state in its various branches and departments, it appears that there was appropriated for extraordinary objects—for purposes other than those necessary for the ordinary current expenditures—the following sums:

Trans-Mississippi Expo.....	\$100,000.00
Public buildings.....	110,000.00
Deficiencies for preceding biennium.....	93,125.00
Total.....	\$313,125.00

Leaving the sum of \$1,812,217.54 as representing the amount to be expended for the ordinary current expenses of state for the biennium, or \$906,108.76 per annum.

These authorized expenditures may be divided as follows:

Legislative.....	\$ 130,000.00
Executive offices and state boards.....	274,210.00
Supreme and dist. courts.....	294,905.00
University (general fund) and Normal school.....	91,842.58
Maintenance state inst's.....	877,810.00
Miscellaneous appropriations.....	457,126.04
Total general fund.....	\$3,125,845.40
State University % mill levy.....	210,500.00
Total appropriations.....	\$3,336,345.40

In speaking of the state's expenditures and its income, I have not overlooked the fact that there is a large sum of uncollected and delinquent taxes due the state general fund, now aggregating the sum of \$2,422,085.43. At the close of the last biennium, November 30, 1896, uncollected and delinquent general fund taxes amounted to \$2,330,692.76, thus showing an increase during the biennium of \$91,345.67.

The governor gives the total loan to the state from money deposited in the banks that never paid it back as \$392,450.70. Then a history of the protraction party of and the other means instituted against various republican delinquents follows and he pays a very high compliment to Attorney General Smith for the industry and ability with which he has devoted himself to the duties of his office.

He then takes up the question of investment of trust funds. He draws attention to the fact that during his first term the republican state officials refused to invest the school fund in state warrants although the warrants were then at a discount and drew five per cent interest, thus depriving the children of the state of a large sum of money. He says: "The accumulation of these trust funds is still going on, and within a decade the state will have approximately six to eight million dollars requiring investment." He urges upon the legislature the necessity of providing legislation so that these investments can be made. As a temporary expedient he recommends that the interest on state warrants be reduced that the state can get them at an investment.

The Governor also recommends a constitutional convention, making many strong arguments in favor of it. He urges upon the legislature a reform in our revenue laws, and says:

"In this connection I would especially

(Continued on page 5.)