

Nebraska Independent

Consolidation of THE WEALTHY BARBERS and LINCOLN INDEPENDENT.

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Jefferson was the first republican president and Lincoln was the last.

Gen. Miles was on the wrong side of Alger's tin cans, and Mikejohn says he can't have any command in the Philippines.

Postmaster General Smith said at Omaha that there was only one small tribe in rebellion in the Philippines. What would happen if two or three tribes would take a notion to rebel?

When McKinley gets his twelve regiments in the field—enlisted "without regard to educational qualifications" as the order says, he will find that there will be no such fighting as was done when the true American volunteer was there.

Hanna said in an interview a few days ago: "We have arguments that are better than words with which we propose to meet the silver issue in 1900." Does that mean the argument of the bayonet? Or does it mean the \$ argument? Hanna may conclude that lead is cheaper than gold.

Future conventions in this state should be cautious about casting complimentary votes for gentlemen whom they simply wish to flatter. Sometimes the result is most disastrous, as for instance in the case of our most distinguished friend, the editor of the Papillon Times. Just stop and think what havoc they played with that man's life!

There is no reasonable doubt that a good deal of the milk shipped into Lincoln has been treated with formaldehyde than which no more dangerous thing could be introduced into the stomach except the active poisons. In the end its effect will be practically the same for it will produce death. Certainly there should be something done about it. An infant fed on such milk will die. It retards digestion in the adult and in the infant it must be fatal.

Pingree's plan to enable the city of Detroit to own its own franchises and run its own street cars has been knocked out by the courts. A republican judge says the whole thing is unconstitutional. It will now be in order for Pingree to get out and whoop it up some more for the republican party, elect some more republican judges and United States senators and try to fool the people again. He will find that he has run his course and that he can't fool the people all the time. Michigan has had enough of Pingree republicanism.

The Blair Republican says: "The Herman preacher who refused to allow the use of his team to assist in unloading a carload of mattresses donated to the cyclone sufferers by the World-Herald bureau because he differs with that paper on politics will certainly need to be baptized and 'born again' before he is fitted to enter the kingdom of heaven." He ought to be baptized with fire and brimstone three times a day. However it is only a sample of the prejudice of the average mullahhead who reads nothing but a partisan republican paper.

The g. o. p. "country yokels" are beginning their old racket again by talking about "hundred cent dollars." If any one of these mullah heads will bring any kind of an American dollar to the Independent office that is not a hundred cent dollar, he will be given a good piece of bread and butter and a cup of coffee. After he has devoured these, if he cannot be made to see that every dollar of whatever it is made, is a hundred cent dollar, and of necessity must be a hundred cents or it cannot be a dollar at all he will be sent over to the asylum and forever after, as long as he lives, will be fed at public expense.

PASSING OF THE VOLUNTEER.

Plutocracy has never had any love for the American volunteer. What the money power wants is a regular standing army. The law that was passed at the last congress is the entering wedge to destroy the whole volunteer system as it has been known in the United States. The new regiments that are to be mustered in to all intents and purposes a part of the regular army and will be commanded by regular army officers. The governors of the states and the people will have nothing whatever to do with the organizing of these regiments. The whole arrangements will be in the hands of Hanna who will act through McKinley. The enlisted men will represent the slums of the cities for all the qualifications of an American soldier except one—that of physical ability—have been set aside. Character, intelligence, citizenship have all been set aside. They are the very kind of men who can be used for any purpose that plutocracy desires. The brave men who enlisted when the call to free Cuba came and who carried thinking bayonets will not be among them. They are of another class altogether. Heretofore thieves, burglars, murderers and other men of the criminal class could not enter our army. Now they are welcomed and advertised for all over the country. How long will it be before these hoards of mercenaries will be thrown against organized labor and the producing classes of this country? The days of the high character and intelligent volunteer, willing to fight and die at any time and anywhere for his country, is past. Men without character and without intelligence are to take his place. We are to have in their place a standing army made of men not citizens, men who cannot read nor write, bums, cut-throats and thieves. Hurrah for McKinley!

HAD TO SWING ROUND.

Since there has been so much said in the republican papers about a new chairman for their national committee, Mark Hanna has been talking a good deal. What he has said has not added to the strength of the republican party. The facts stated in the following—and they are facts—which is taken from a recent interview with Hanna are decidedly refreshing. "I made my headquarters at Chicago, and there watched every move made by our opponents just as we would watch a game of chess. We carried the fight into every state and kept our opponents busy at their own homes, so that they could not come outside and fight us. Of course, we spent a large amount of money. We had to. When the campaign first opened we had NO SPEAKERS WHO COULD DISCUSS THE ISSUE WITHOUT BEING CONFRONTED WITH WHAT THEY HAD SAID PREVIOUSLY IN DISCUSSING THE CURRENCY QUESTION. You see we had to swing around, for when Major McKinley was nominated it was thought that Whitney and his friends would beat the free silver men in the democratic convention and make the fight on the tariff."

NOT ALWAYS.

The Grand Island Democrat says that: "The democratic party has always been wise enough to keep close to nature, and in this knows the difference between a snob and a saint—it is able to distinguish between a lantern and a jack-o'-lantern—between sense and sentiment—between statesmanship and stupidity." Well yes, but not "always." If it had been there never would have been the necessity of organizing the populist party. The democratic party was not "wise enough" about the time it elected one Grover Cleveland president. In fact it did not have enough wisdom to fill a goat's skull about the time W. J. Bryan was downed in this state in its state convention and the old excrement of humanity at Washington was endorsed. Sometimes the democratic party has been right and sometimes it has been woefully wrong. At present it seems to be getting right again and the populist party proposes to see that it stays right. If it doesn't, it will forthwith proceed to "knock the stuff" out of it.

GOLD STANDARD IN CHILE.

Some English bondholders got the Chilean Government to adopt the gold standard a year or two ago. The mullah heads in the United States gave a great shout of triumph as if something had been done that would be of advantage to the people of this country. When it was pointed out to them that the adoption of the gold standard by any country that had before used silver, would result in a demand for gold that did not exist before and to that extent, would make gold harder to get in the United States, they generally replied that that was just what they wanted. The government of Chile did adopt the gold standard and the result was just the same as it has always been where ever that thing has been done. A fall in prices, bankruptcy, panics, increase in crime, starvation, insanity, suicide, and general distress followed as it always has followed every where, and always will follow just as certainly as effect follows cause. The distress became so great that the government was forced to undo what it had done and abandon the gold standard altogether. When this was done, the great distress in the United States, that pretend to furnish the news to the people, never mentioned the fact at all. When it adopted the gold standard every one of them had whole col-

umns about it. When it was abolished not one mentioned it.

The first thing that has appeared in this country on the change of standard in Chile appeared in some correspondence printed the other day in the Chicago Record, under date Valparaiso, May 28, over the signature of Robert H. Reid. The misery in Chile was removed by the issue of full legal tender paper money in sufficient quantity to relieve the distress of the people. The Chilean prescription worked like a charm, which is another demonstration of the soundness of the populist financial theories. Mr. Reid in his report of the matter says:

"Despite the unfavorable forecasts made by some politicians when the government issued \$50,000,000 of paper money, the republic is gradually improving its financial position and appears to have got over the crises which followed the breaking away from the gold standard. A few days ago exchange touched 16d and is today 15 1/2d, being only a couple of pence lower than when paper money was not legal tender. This has caused almost a panic amongst the brokers of Chile, where sales of gold coin take place twice a day."

According to the financial mullah heads, gold should have gone shooting sky high when a big batch of legal tender paper money was issued, but it did not do anything of that kind. It is just as much impossible that it should, as that some morning should get up and find the law of gravitation reversed, water running uphill and every loose thing flying off into space. The paper money took the place and did the work that gold had done, decreased the demand upon it, and the consequence was that it began to go down instead of up as the mullah heads affirm it would under such circumstances.

There is still but one question of great interest to the people of the United States and that is the money question. From our financial system flows all the evils of which the people complain. Trusts, imperialism, panics, bankruptcies, increase in crime, low prices, increase in insanity, all and each, can either be totally abolished or greatly reduced by a proper financial system. Furthermore, nothing but the adoption of a proper financial system will ever bring relief.

A TOPEKA ILLITERATE.

The Topeka Capital says: "General King's statement (that nine tenths of the Filipinos can read and write) seems incredible, since if true it would imply a condition of intelligence and a standard of education in the Philippines far above that in half the states in this union. If such a high state of literacy existed throughout this country Bryan could not have carried a single state in 1896. If what General King asserts is true or anywhere near the truth, there is good reason why Mr. Bryan fears the annexation of the Philippines, for a people nine-tenths of whom are readers could have no sympathy with the propaganda of free silver and fiat money which is opposed to the literature of all times and races in the world's history." The Capital forgets that Nebraska, Bryan's own state, which ranks above every other state in the union in its literacy, a greater number of whose inhabitants can read and who do read, is the very home of the free silver movement. It also forgets that the tremendous majorities in the northern states for the gold standard came from the slums of the great cities. Its other statement that the propaganda of free silver is opposed to all literature shows that the writer of it is so nearly illiterate himself that he does not know what he is writing about. Free silver was the law of the whole world up to 1819 and of all the world except one nation up to 1873 and of all times and all races up to that time. When it comes to the literature of the subject of the present times, there is not an economist in the whole world, whose books are considered authority, who is not a bimetalist. Such writing only brands its author as a falsifier and an ignorant.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.

The populist doctrine of the public ownership of city franchises is making such headway in New York and Brooklyn that the plutocratic press of those cities have concluded that they must print something to put a check on such lunacy. So the Brooklyn Eagle, after much cogitation, sent forth the following: "Glasgow, that hoary-headed municipal monster, instead of being the benefactor of the human race, as we are told by so many, and an example for all municipalities to follow, has by its methods proved itself to be more cruel, more heartless and more to be shunned than the devil himself. It has robbed more than half of its population of the ballot. It has robbed the laborers of the just reward of their toil. It has cooped them up in tenement houses, face to face with poverty and crime, misery and pestilence, without the hope of escape." When that brilliant piece of writing reached Scotland and was published in the Glasgow daily papers, the old Scotch elders were so moved by it that they contemplated taking up an additional collection to send a missionary to the beleaguered city of Brooklyn. They argued that a city in which such a statement was publicly made was more wicked than Sodom and Gomorrah and that they needed the elevating influence of good old Scotch preaching.

LINCOLN AND POPULISM.

A very large number of the populists of Nebraska were originally republicans and today we all refer to the teaching of Lincoln for guidance. On every question now before the people, Lincoln expressed the views we advocate. Take the populist position in regard to the decisions of the supreme court. Not one of us can express it with the power and force that Lincoln did. In his inaugural address Lincoln said:

"The candid citizen must confess that if the policy of the government upon vital questions affecting the whole people is to be irrevocably fixed by decisions of the supreme court the instant they are made, in ordinary litigation between parties in personal actions, the people will have ceased to be their own rulers, having to that extent practically resigned their rights into the hands of that eminent tribunal."

The populist position upon the supreme court question has never been so fully expressed by any one as in those words. It should be adopted at the next national convention as a plank in the populist platform.

In regard to the Philippine question Lincoln has expressed our views with more power and precision than any one of us can do it for ourselves. In a speech at Lewiston, Ill., delivered August 17, 1858, he said:

"The Declaration of Independence was formed by the representatives of American liberty from thirteen states of the confederacy. * * * These communities by their representatives in old Independence hall, said to the whole world of men: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.' This was their majestic interpretation of the economy of the universe. This was their lofty and wise and noble understanding of the justice of the Creator to his creatures, to the whole great family of man. In their enlightened belief, nothing stamped with the divine image and likeness was sent into the world to be trodden on and degraded and imbruted by his fellows. They grasped not only the whole race of man then living, but they reached forward and seized upon the farthest posterity. They erected a beacon to guide their children, and their children's children, and the countless myriads who shall inhabit the earth in other ages. Wise statesmen as they were, they knew the tendency of prosperity to breed tyrants, and so they established these great self-evident truths, that when in the distant future, some man, some faction, some interest, should set up the doctrine that none but rich men, or none but Anglo-Saxon white men were entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, their posterity might look up again to the Declaration of Independence and take courage to renew the battle which their fathers began, so that truth and justice and mercy and all the humane and Christian virtues might not be extinguished from the land; so that no man would hereafter dare to limit and circumscribe the great principles on which the temple of liberty was being built."

"Now, my countrymen, if you have been taught doctrines conflicting with the great landmarks of the Declaration of Independence; if you have listened to suggestions which would take away from its grandeur and mutilate the fair symmetry of the proportions; if you have been inclined to believe that all men are not created equal in those inalienable rights enumerated by our chart of liberty; let me entreat you to come back. Return to the fountain whose waters spring close by the blood of the revolution. Think nothing of me—take no thought for the political fate of any man whomsoever—but come back to the truths that are in the Declaration of Independence."

In speaking upon the subject Jeff Davis and Stephen A. Douglas used practically the same words, Douglas in Illinois and Jeff Davis upon leaving the United States senate. These men said: "This Chicago doctrine of Lincoln's declaring that the negro and the white man are made equal by the Declaration of Independence, and by Divine Providence—is a monstrous heresy. The signers of the Declaration of Independence never dreamed of the negro when they were writing that document. They referred to white men, to men of European birth and European descent when they declared the equality of all men."

The same interests today denounce the Chicago doctrine and the St. Louis doctrine of 1896 with as much bitterness as they did the Chicago doctrine of 1860. Populism of today stands where Lincoln stood and the republican party stands where Jeff Davis stood. Jefferson and Lincoln: They are the two great populists of all the past and we are only their humble followers.

AT IT AGAIN.

The gold bug reform club of New York is beginning to huddle again. Doubtless the directors have come to the conclusion that since the government issue of all the paper money is not so dead as they foolishly imagined that they were, their monthly has failed to arrive on time, but now they have sent out an envelope that contains what purports to be the April, May and June numbers. The April number treats of bank notes

and branch banks, the May number of Gresham's law, (an old worn out theme) and the June number of the Spanish dollar in Massachusetts. The Independent wishes that this gold bug publication could be put into the hands of every populist. They would get more fun out of it than going to a circus. Now here are a couple of propositions laid down with as much assurance as if they were known to be promulgated by God himself:

"The legal ratio of the coins must strictly conform to the relative market value of the metals.

"If the fixed legal ratio of the coins differs from the natural, or market value of the metals, the coin which is undervalued disappears from circulation, and the coin which is overvalued alone remains current."

These statements are asserted to be great fundamental laws acknowledged to be true by all men of all ages and to deny them is as senseless as to deny that the sun rises in the east and sets in the west. The argument was evidently written in London for the writer constantly uses pounds, shilling and pence in his illustration. Hear him:

"So if gold coins worth twenty shillings and silver coins which are rated at an equivalent value in gold, but are really worth fifteen shillings in the market, circulate together, everyone will pay his debts in silver, and all the gold coins will disappear from circulation."

Now all that is simply laughable. There are about 600,000,000 silver dollars in circulation in the United States with a market value of less than half of gold dollars, and gold doesn't disappear.

Not only do those silver dollars circulate along with gold—and remember they are standard money and not redeemable in any other kind of money—but they will continue to circulate just as long as they are legal tender for debt in these states, no matter whether the market value of the coin in them is fifty cents, five cents or a hundred cents. While they have been in circulation gold has increased instead of disappearing.

It is hardly possible to fool even a mullah head with such arguments as that. Even the dullest have had a little common sense hammered into them during the last five years. London gold bug rot will not have the effect in 1900 that it had in 1896.

REPUBLICAN ORATORS.

Republican orators had a hard time of it on the Fourth. The custom of a hundred years forced the committees to have the declaration of independence read, and recent discussions of that document caused the people to pay more attention to it than in former years. It required a good deal of hardihood to arise after the reading of that document and begin the advocacy of government by conquest. A Lincoln orator had made a contract to deliver a non-partisan address. In thinking over the matter he became troubled and going to a distinguished lawyer asked his advice. "I am," he said, "under contract to deliver a non-partisan oration on the Fourth. Will it be a violation of the contract to refer to the declaration of independence?" The lawyer told him that if he wanted to be on the safe side he had better talk of something more modern.

RAILROAD CONSOLIDATION.

The Vanderbilts have absorbed everything in the way of railroads between Chicago and Boston and "consolidated" them under one head. All this was done in the interest of the dear people because the business could be run so much cheaper under one management. Trusts, and especially railroad trusts, have come to stay, so the republicans and socialists tell us. The benevolence of this railroad trust is made plain by the market reports and rate quotations. Corn and wheat decline in price at Chicago and as for freight rates since this "consolidation" the quotations say:

"The new charge on wheat, oats and flour from Chicago to New York city will be 17 cents per 100 pounds, compared to the present rate of 12 1/2 cents. On corn the advance will be from 10 1/2 cents to 15 cents. For export shipments from Chicago via New York the advance on corn will be from 10 1/2 cents to 18 cents. For wheat shipped to the European markets the rate will be 17 cents per 100 pounds, the same as now. Between now and August 1, when the new rates will go into effect, the local agents of the east bound roads have been instructed to clean up all out-rate contracts."

"You can't do anything," says McKinley's attorney general. "Trusts, consolidations and combines have come to stay," say the socialists and the State Journal. Besides that Simon is here and giving "evidence," and one-half the people are going to vote the middle-of-the-road ticket, and the remainder will go back to republicanism and Mark Hanna. What a blessed thing it is that McKinley still lives and Mark Hanna is check by job with Lord Rothschild in London.

INVESTIGATING COMMITTEES.

Last winter the republican legislature started out by appointing a lot of investigating committees. They had not gone very far in their investigating until they found they had hold of the hot end of the poker. They dropped the poker, put court plaster on their hands, took a drink all around and quit. A few mullah heads in the senate, not learning any thing from experience thought they would try their hands at it, and that august body appointed a partisan committee to investigate during recess. They made an appropriation to pay their salaries and expenses, but that act never received the approval of the house and when sent to the governor was promptly vetoed.

Now that partisan committee, without the shadow of the authority of law, has appeared at the state house and began by issuing orders to the state officers to furnish them rooms. They were politely informed that as citizens of the state—however much the state was disgraced by that fact—they were entitled to examine all the public records and would be given any assistance they needed, but as to turning over the state house to them, that was impossible under the law.

Then this "committee" adjourned to a down town hotel and summoned one Simon who told them that he had been engaged in a very disreputable scheme to alter the ballots east for a certain constitutional amendment. He went into details and told how he did the dirty work. Then he said he had applied for an office under the fusion state government and they wouldn't give him any, but that was not the reason that made him tell about a scheme he had to commit perjury and stuff the ballot boxes.

This committee was greatly delighted with the "evidence." Then they sent for ex-Governor Holcomb, who in a very courteous and polite note declined to appear. He told them that all of his official acts were a matter of record and on file and open for examination at the executive office and they had better go up there and look them over, or words to that effect. According to the last reports the committee were hugging the "Simon evidence" close to their hearts and claiming that they now had the proof that would down free silver and fusion forever in this state.

The childishness of the whole business only makes sensible men of all parties smile and give a wink with the left eye. "Oh! that's politics," they say.

DEMOCRATIC ANTICS.

There is more fun in watching the antics of Edgar Howard and a few other democratic editors in this state than ever any man got out of an hour's observation of Dan Rio's trick mule. When Holcomb was governor, when he had offices to give away, then there was no one like Holcomb. He was the best governor that Nebraska ever had. As soon as he was out of office and had no more offices to dispose of, then he was no good at all. The very criterion of democrats that Holcomb appointed to office are now after the ex-governor's scalp. Serve him right. He should have given the offices to the populist instead of that crowd, but he never would take the advice of this writer. He no doubt did what he thought was the best and tried to divide the offices up among the three parties that supported him, but now that these same democrats are after him denouncing him and declaring that his nomination will bring sure defeat, we are inclined to smile and say: "Go it Eddy. We knew what would happen when Holcomb persisted in recognizing such a crowd."

But all democrats are not like Edgar Howard and his small following. They declared that Holcomb was a good governor when he was in office and they stuck to him yet. The Crete Democrat, after giving brother Howard a swipe or two over the head, says:

"Gov. Holcomb is not making a personal effort for the office of judge. It is his friends who are putting him forward, and who believe him to be the strongest man mentioned for the place. It is very easy to make assertions, but when you look the facts in the face, you will see that he polled more votes in 1896 than Bryan, that he ran far ahead of his ticket in 1874 and is as strong today as then, with the rank and file of the fusion forces. Then why try to pull down a man of known, demonstrated, strength for someone whose popularity is an unknown quantity. Gov. Holcomb does not need the office. His practice now yields more than the salary of judge and he cares little about the nomination."

All this is published for the benefit of populist governors who have to deal with the democratic mule. The more you pet him, the more likely he is to turn around and kick the daylight out of you. That Papillon mule is only doing what it is his nature to do. Don't get angry with him, but don't trust him in responsible positions, for there is no telling what minute he will start to kick, and kick badly, barons and breach all off. The most distrustful thing about it is when he starts to bray.

Mr. J. W. Hartley, manager of the Farmers Exchange grocery in this city is off on a visiting and recreation tour in Custer county. He will return this week.