

The Nebraska Independent

Consolidation of
**THE WEALTHMAKERS and LINCOLN
INDEPENDENT.**

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

BY THE
Independent Publishing Co.

AT 1123 M STREET,
LINCOLN, - - NEBRASKA.
TELEPHONE 538.

\$1.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE

Address all communications to, and
make all drafts, money orders, etc., payable to
THE INDEPENDENT PUB. CO.
LINCOLN, NEB.

STATE TICKET.

For Judge of the Supreme Court—
Silas A. HOLCOMB, of Custer Co.
For Regents of the State University—
J. L. TRISTEN, of Lancaster,
Esmon Rich, of Douglas.

LANCASTER COUNTY TICKET.

Judges of the District Court—
T. J. DOYLE, Lincoln.
G. E. HIBNER, Lincoln.
Clerk of the District Court—
FRANK D. EAGER, Lincoln.
Treasurer—
WILLIAM M'LAUGHLIN, Lincoln.
Sheriff—
P. JAMES COSGRAVE, Lincoln.
County Clerk—
H. C. REDDICK, Bethany.
WILLIAM HEIBERGER, Grant.
County Judge—
FRED SHEPHERD, Lincoln.
Commissioner—
JOHN MEIER, Hallam.

The watchword of every man who has
reform at heart is: "Unite or perish."

Krag-Jorgensen christianity is the
new kind. Walk up and be baptised.

Captain Carter understood it. If you
are going to steal, steal a million.
When you have done that, plutocratic
judges or republican presidents will see
to it that no harm comes to you.

There are some very funny things in
the great gold bug dailies. One of them
the other day gravely informed its readers
that "if there is no fusion in Nebraska
the democrats might fall to
carry the state."

Mr. E. T. Stevens of the Crete nurseries
was in the Independent office and showed
as fine samples of grapes as were ever
grown on Nebraska soil. Besides the
grapes which will not be a full crop this
year, he is shipping from 30 to 40 barrels
of apples every day.

It will be noticed that by article 12 of
the treaty made with the Sultan of Sulu
that slavery is once more recognized and
flourishes under the American flag.
When they hear of this, what will the
republicans who helped to elect Abe Lin.
coln do? Oh! for an hour of Horace
Greeley or even ten minutes of John
Brown—the Brown who was hung at
Harpers Ferry.

The Wilber Republican says that
"there are all kinds of pops this year.
Gold standard pops, free silver pops,
free trade pops, protection pops." Since
the nomination of Holcomb the
republican editors' dreams are filled
with pops. The whole country seems
full of them. There is, however, one
kind of dop that this republican editor
did not enumerate. It is the popinjay.
He is generally engaged in editing a
republican paper.

The total losses by fire in Lincoln last
year was \$23,345. The amount paid
for insurance and which has gone from
the state never to return, no man knows,
but it is many times that amount. If it
were not, the vast hoard of insurance
agents would not live so well as they
do. The time will come some day when
this insurance craze will disappear and
the business will be put upon a common
sense basis. Then the great insurance
companies will not have mortgages on
half of the real estate in the common-
wealth.

That Anglo-American alliance which
was so much desired by the leading
republican papers a few months ago is so
dead that some of the same papers are
now beginning to deny that they ever
wanted any such thing. But look out
for them. That is the same game they
played about the gold standard. They
were always and all the time for bimetal-
lism, and Mark Hanna told the truth
when he said that in the beginning of
the last campaign they did not have a
speaker in the whole party who could go
into the campaign without making a
complete flop on all his past record.
McKinley was in the same fix with all
the rest of them for he had always been
a bimetalist. They will all be for the
debasement of independence and the
Monroe doctrine now until they get a
good chance to play traitor to them.

HIRE A POP.

The republican party of Nebraska has
always refused to attempt to defend
their principles. Since Bryan wiped up
the earth with Connell and wiped out a
three thousand majority in this district,
they have universally refused to meet
their opponents in joint discussion, and
have relied upon slander and lies for
campaign material. Their editors never
attempt to make an argument in the de-
fense of the gold standard or the economic
theories practiced by the republic-
an law makers. When challenged to a
joint discussion, they have made the
silly reply that they did not want to
furnish audiences for pop speakers, and
that in a state where they have been in
a minority by many thousands. They
have proved themselves moral and intel-
lectual cowards so often and on so
many different occasions, that the effect
of it upon all men who like a fair fight
is to disgust them.

It is manifestly impossible to follow
this course any longer. They must
make some sort of a defense of their
theories and practices or go into noxious
denouements. The State Journal made a
first attempt at it the other day. It
never tackled an economic question be-
fore and its failure was so complete that
it was pitiful. Mr. S. Prince wrote to it
as follows:

"Milford, Neb., Aug. 23.—To the Editor
of the State Journal: Some of my
populist friends come at me as follows,
and as I am at some loss to answer
them, I appeal to you for information.

"They say, when one's incomes, includ-
ing his money, are less than his outgoes,
he must be losing money. It don't
make any difference whether his business
is mining, stock raising or what not. If
he is a miner and the value of the ore
sent out, added to the money expended,
either for food, improved machinery,
increased help or anything else, is in ex-
cess of the money he receives added to
the value of the improved machinery
and other things bought, he is losing
money.

"They say that what is true of an in-
dividual is true of a nation, and if the
value of a country's outgoes, including
its coin, bullion and ore, is greater than
the value of that same country's income,
including its coin, bullion and ore, that
country is losing money, and so far I
am compelled to agree with them, but
now comes the poser.

"They quote government statistics to
prove that the total exports from these
United States, including coin, silver and
gold, and the bullion and ore of these
metals, is some millions greater than
our imports including the same things.
If this is so, and I can't go back on
treasury tables, I can find no suitable
reply to them. I hate to be 'stumped'
and ask you for your reply to them."

Now what explanation of these facts
did the Journal make. It said that the
government statistics were wrong. Hear
it!

"In valuing our exports, for instance,
the department takes the values when
delivered, not f. o. b., that is as delivered
at the nearest station to the farm or
mine, but at the selling value when they
are delivered in the market. No account
is taken of the cost of transportation
which we have to pay.

"On the other hand the values of our
imports are estimated at the ports
whence they are shipped, as per invoice,
and duty paid. No account is taken of
the cost of transportation to our shores,
which we pay."

That statement will somewhat aston-
ish the statistician of this country and
the whole world. That the statistician
at Washington have not been getting
reports from all the elevators in this
country and finding out just how much
they paid the farmers for their wheat,
corn, oats, rye, barley, hogs and cattle
and calling that the export price, is
surely abominable.

But the funniest thing in the statement
is that "no account is taken of the
cost of transportation to our shores,
which we pay." The imports and ex-
ports are both valued at the seaports
where they enter and leave this country.
As our exports are very largely raw ma-
terial and our imports almost exclu-
sively, aside from coffee, sugar, tea, rice
and tobacco, are manufactured goods,
the result is that the ocean transporta-
tion on the international exchange is
mostly paid by foreigners. It is true
that the ocean freights that are paid by
the people of the United States is not
taken into account in trade balances
except as they are added to the price of
goods at the ports of entry. But they
are thus added in most cases. But if
they are not thus added what is the re-
sult? That would make the balance
against us that much greater instead of
less as the Journal asserts.

The government statistics show that
in the trade between this country and
other nations during the last year we ex-
ported about \$600,000,000 more goods
than we imported. We should therefore
have been paid that amount in cash, if
we were doing a paying business. But
the statistics also show that we received
less than \$200,000,000. What became
of the other \$400,000,000? It went
right where all the economists have been
pointing out that it went for the last
ten years. A \$100,000,000 or so is
spent in Europe by the globe trotters
and millionaires who spend the season
over there. About \$75,000,000 went to
pay freight carried in foreign bottoms.
The balance of it went to pay interest

on bonds and mortgages and other se-
curities held in Europe. The books show
that we are short \$400,000,000. We
sent that much more wealth out of the
country than we brought back.

The Journal's attempt is so pitiful
that the sympathy of the Independent
is extended to it. It is to be commended
however, for making the effort at all.
It shows a disposition to defend by ar-
gument instead of personal attacks upon
private character. Viewing it in that
light the Independent is moved to help
it out. A populist can always make a
better gold standard argument when he
tries, than any of the Mark Hanna fol-
lowers. This is what the Journal should
have said:

"The foreign trade of the United States
is but a bagatelle when compared to its
domestic trade. While the former can
be estimated in millions, an idea of the
immense proportions of the latter can
only be given in terms of billions. The
former is to the latter as a drop of
water in a great ocean. The fact that
there is a balance against us in our
export trade is nothing. That means
that a great amount of foreign
capital has been sent to this country for
investment because this is the most pro-
ductive country in the world. The in-
vestment of foreign capital has opened
up our country and produced wealth
by the side of which this \$400,-
000,000 is as a grain of sand on the
sea shore. Where we pay the foreign-
ers one dollar for the use of their capital,
we create by the means of it ten dollars
of wealth. We build railroads with it
and the roads quadruple and quintuple
the value of our lands. The fact is, that
instead of this balance showing that we
are losing money as the pops say, is
glorious testimony of the wealth pro-
ducing capacity of the greatest country
under the sun. It means that all the
world wants to invest money here.
Three cheers for the old flag and the
government of the United States!"

Now if the republican editors knew
anything about the science of political
economy, they could get up a sophism
like that. That would fire the mullet
head heart and set the whole crowd to
yelling. The Independent advises the
Journal if it really intends to drop its
former tactics of slander and the calling
of names and go into a campaign of ar-
gument, to hire some good pop to write
editorials for it. Pay him well and he
will put up a fight that will keep the
mullet heads yelling from morning till night.

A GREAT IDEA.

Every year along about the first of
August, the republican editor has an
idea. It is always the same idea he had
about the first of August every year for
the last ten years. It is, that all the
talk to the effect that there are men will-
ing to work in these United States who
cannot get anything to do, is nothing
but pop lies. Then he starts out to
prove it by declaring that the wheat
farmers up in the Dakotas are offering
enormous wages to men to work and the
men cannot be found. It is not only
the editors of the republican week-
lies that are attacked by this idea, but
the great Chicago dailies catch it and
write long editorials on the wickedness
of all the pops and especially the abom-
inable wickedness of the pop editors who
have said that among the rights of an
American was the opportunity to work.
This year all the gold bug editors have
had this idea. It has proved to be a
very epidemic among them.

What is the basis for all this writing?
Wheat harvest lasts about ten days or
two weeks. The men who are employed
during harvest can get no work in the
Dakotas during all the rest of the year.
If a wheat farmer pays them \$2.50 a
day for 12 days, each man receives
\$30.00. The average fare to and from
the wheat fields is not less than \$25.00.
That leaves the man who is said to get
such enormous wages 413-4 cents a
day for his work. That is the pluto-
cratic idea of what "enormous wages"
is. That is the sum and substance of
the great idea that starts the republic-
an editors, big and little to seize their
pens and write about the first of August.

NOT CAPITAL BUT LABOR.

It was not capital that developed and
made Nebraska what it is today. It
was labor. The men who broke the
prairies, built the houses and barns,
planted the groves and the orchards,
bred the cattle and the horses, were
men for the most part without capital.
They had nothing but their hardened
hands and vigorous minds. But who
owns now the wealth that they created?
For the greatest part of it is not in the
hands of those who created it. The
mortgage investment companies, the
money lenders, the holders of state,
county and municipal bonds own it.
All these are facts that cannot be suc-
cessfully denied. Every thinking man
knows that the statement is true.

By what process has this wealth
passed from the hands of those who
created it into the hands of men who for
the most part create nothing? Who
will tell? The populists have constantly
asserted that this transfer of wealth
from the men who create it to the men
who create nothing, is accomplished by
the financial system of the country. It
is interest and the increase in the pur-
chasing power of money that does it.
Those who deny that proposition should
show, if they can, what has done it.

Not only is Mark Hanna's literary
bureau working night and day but in a
hundred other ways is the country flood-
ed with gold standard literature. Many
of the great dailies are printed by the mil-
lion and circulated far below cost, but
many million copies are sent regularly
to voters entirely free, among them
Melting Pot Morton's paper and the one
issued by Wharton Barker. Against this
flood of literature there is nothing to
oppose but the reform papers and men
must subscribe and pay for them. Would
it not be good policy to spend some
money in sending reform papers to men
outside of the party free for a while? The
state committee should consider that
matter. In nine cases out of ten when a
man reads a reform paper for a few weeks
he will subscribe and pay for it after-
wards. A reform paper contains matter
absolutely new to a man who never took
one. He generally finds it intensely in-
teresting.

The city of New York consumes about
3,000,000 pounds of meat each week.
The rise in prices made by the meat
trust of four cents a pound in two weeks,
means a tax on the people of that city
of \$120,000 a week. At the same time
the price of beef cattle fell off 15 cents a
hundred. Most of that tax comes upon
the wage workers. It goes into the
pockets of a very few men. That is the
case in one city, but in all other cities
and towns it is the same. In the last
two weeks the meat trust has probably
robbed the people of these states of \$20,-
000,000. In the course of the year, the
meat trust can levy and collect a greater
tax upon the people of the United States
than the government itself. This is the
sort of beneficence that the republicans
mean when they talk about the trusts,
and they say: "We can't do anything."
They will find out whether we can't do
anything before we get through with
this business.

Window glass will soon be a luxury in
the United States, but a very common
article of commerce in every other coun-
try. The trust has raised the price of
it up to the McKinley tariff which is
about 150 per cent above what it used
to sell for. That tariff shuts out all im-
portations and gives the trust the whole
market. Outside of the United States,
glass can be bought at the old prices
and poor men can afford to have light
in their houses. When the panes get
broken here, they can't buy any more.
They will have to put in a piece of
greased paper or stuff the window with
old rags. The trusts have cornered
everything but the air and the sunlight.
Now the McKinley glass trust has a
clinch on the sunlight. Moral: Vote for
McKinley.

It seems that the republican press is
determined to make this a campaign of
lies. The Wahoo Wasp starts off with
this one. "It has been proved that he
(Holcomb) took from the state during
his term of governor over \$700 that he
was not entitled to." The truth is that
he turned back into the state treasury
over \$700 that he was entitled to. He
was entitled to the whole of that appro-
priation for rent and every republican
governor always took the whole of it,
but Silas A. Holcomb turned back into
the treasury every cent that was not
actually expended and for which vouchers
are on file in the auditor's office. The
republican editor has lied so long
and so persistently that he don't know
how to do anything else.

Two republican papers lie upon the
desk. One of them declares that pros-
perity has come in its county because a
large amount of mortgage indebtedness
has been cancelled (probably by foreclos-
ures although it don't say so.) The
other declares that prosperity has come
to its county because men are borrow-
ing money in large quantities as shown
by increase of mortgages of nearly a
million dollars. Now, here is a pretty
kettle of fish. One editor says that pros-
perity has come because mortgages are
increasing and the other because they
are decreasing. These republican editors
ought to hold a convention and all
agree to tell the same lie. They will
never get along this way.

When a democrat is nominated for of-
fice in a fusion convention the republican
editor weeps great salty tears and tells
the pops how sorry he is that the dem-
ocrats are swallowing the pop party.
When a populist is nominated then the
republican editor sheds more and saltier
tears and tells the democrats how sorry
he is for them because the pops want to
gobble everything. The sympathies of
the republican editor in this year of
trusts are worked overtime and the
fountain of their tears is liable to become
exhausted.

Thomas B. Reed sent in his resigna-
tion to the governor of Maine last week.
Mr. Reed has always been a thrifty
Yankee. He has for a score of years
drawn a salary from the insurance com-
panies four times as much as his salary
as a member of congress. He did not by
any means despise the small salary of
member of the house, and he continued
to draw it while he was taking a long
vacation in Europe from which he has
just returned. Yes, Mr. Reed has al-
ways been thrifty.

OUR ENEMIES BEING JUDGES.

Every time one of the Mark Hanna
editors in this state starts out these
days to make an argument for the gold
standard he unconsciously gives a demon-
stration of the soundness of the po-
litical economy preached by the pop or-
ators. These editors are just now filling
their columns with statements of the
improvements that are being made on
Nebraska farms and how much money
the farmers have made during the last
two years. They say that this shows
prosperity. It shows that when the pop
orators made speeches on the street
corners and in the school houses all
over this state and declared that pros-
perity would come when the prices for
farm products were raised, and not till
then, knew what they were talking
about.

When wheat was selling for 40 cents a
bushel and corn from ten to twelve, there
was no prosperity and the pops declared
that there never would be any until
prices raised. The republicans and so-
cialists claimed that the cause of low
prices was improved machinery and that
wheat could be raised so much cheaper
by reason of the machines that there
was no cause of complaint from the low
range of prices. John L. Webster ac-
cepted that logic as sound and made a
speech declaring that the low price of
wheat was a blessing.

All the time the pops said there would
never be any relief from the stagnation
in all lines of business until the price of
farm products was increased. Then came
the famine in India and the crop
failure in Argentina. The price of wheat
and corn began to rise. Gold was dis-
covered in the Klondike and Colorado
and the African mines produced gold in
unprecedented quantities. Prices began
to rise and the farmers began to pay off
their most pressing debts. After these
were paid, they began to buy things
again and that started up the factories
and gave work to the idle. The next
crop was a big one and prices, while not
quite so high, were much higher than in
the years when wheat was forty cents
and corn ten cents a bushel. The result
of all this is just what the pops said it
would be. It is a complete and most
perfect demonstration of the theories
that they have so long defended on the
stump.

Now there it another change in sight.
There is no famine in India this year
and Argentina is sending out her usual
amount of export wheat. Wheat be-
gins to fall and at most of the stations
in this state it is bringing not quite 50
cents a bushel. The increase in the
money supply from the mines is too
small to hold prices. After a little time
the old prices will prevail again and we
shall have the same old conditions.

Meantime the republican editors are
adding their testimony to that of the
pops that higher prices for farm products
brings prosperity to all lines of business.
It makes the burdens of taxation and
interest lighter and it gives work to the
idle thousands all over the United States.
It does not take 100 bushels of corn
now to pay ten dollars of interest. It
takes less than 50 bushels. The farmers
take what corn and what wheat is saved
by these higher prices and build barns
and improve their houses. That gives
work to carpenters and masons and
makes sales possible in many lines of
business. All this is just what we told
these thick headed partisans would hap-
pen. Now, they themselves, say that it
is true. The political economy that we
have taught is sound, "our enemies
themselves being judges."

MEAT TRUST BRIGADES.

There is nothing like a big daily paper
to help a trust squeeze the life out of the
common people. The Chicago Record is
a good example of the aid that can thus
be given: One day last week it had a
cartoon showing what a great thing the
beef steers was this year. It had a picture
of one with a silk hat on and wearing an
eye glass. The impression conveyed was
that cattle had raised enormously in
price. But turning to the market re-
ports in the same paper for the same day
the following is found.

"Union stockyards.—Arrivals in all
branches were of too great volume for
the good of the trade yesterday and
weakness was evident in each branch.
Some prime native cattle sold as high as
as ever but the bulk of native cattle
and branded steers had to go at 10@15
cent decline from the level of Monday's
sales, slowly at that. Good grades of
hogs sold at a big five cent decline, the
average cost of most good droves stand-
ing about that much below the cost of
such Tuesday. Sheep were salable at
firm prices but lambs with the exception
of a few loads of fancy quality, went
slowly at 10@15 cent decline or a big 25
cents below prices paid at the start this
week."

Now if the paper had wanted to pub-
lish a cartoon that would tell the truth,
it would have made a picture of a big
pair of balances. On the end going down
would have been the fat beef steer and
on the end going up would have been
dressed beef. That would have told the
truth.

The beef trust is making an attempt to
rake in a few extra millions from the
meat consuming population of this
country by raising the price of dressed
meats while the price of hogs sheep and
cattle go down. The vast majority of
those millions will come from the pockets

of the wage workers for they form four-
fifths of the meat eaters. The feudal
lords or an invading army of Bashiba-
rocks never planned or executed a more
damnable system of robbery than this
effort of the meat trust to plunder the
working people of the United States. The
managers of it are highwaymen, foot-
pads, thieves and brigades. There never
has been in all history anything that
would equal it. It is the robbery of the
poor of a whole nation.

The republican party and its press
have always claimed that they were the
friends of the wage worker. All their
policies they have claimed to be in their
interests, but here, when the wage work-
ers are robbed in open daylight, right
in their homes as they sit around their
humble tables, there is not a republican
paper in the whole land that will utter
even a feeble protest. Instead of pro-
testing they say that trusts are benefi-
cent organizations.

The moral to this tale is: Vote the re-
publican ticket some more.

CAMPAIGN MATERIAL.

Wm. E. Curtis continues to write
about the beauties of the gold standard
and the blessings it has brought to some
of the South American republics that are
attempting to establish it. Not one of
them are on the gold standard—they are
only trying to get there. As usual in the
writing of all the gold standard advo-
cates, Mr. Curtis lets the cat out of the
bag every time he attempts to say any-
thing about it. Here is a part of his last
effusion: He is writing about the gold
standard in Peru.

"The result has been a surprise to all
classes. Values in the local markets have
not been disturbed and wages have not
been changed. The laborers on the plan-
tations and the mechanics in the manu-
factories are still paid in silver sols at
the same rates that prevailed before the
law was passed. The butchers and bak-
ers and huckster sell their food for the
same price and accept the same money.

The only difference is an increase in the
cost of imported goods. They were paid
for in gold and sold for gold prices, be-
fore the law was passed, just as they are
now, but the government now requires
customs duties to be paid in gold and
that is practically an increase of 100 per
cent from the time when they were paid
in silver."

So the result of this beneficent opera-
tion of establishing the gold standard in
Peru is simply to double the already
high tariff of that country. Laborers
are paid in silver and all business is done
with silver but the tariff duties must be
paid in gold at double the valuation of
silver. The descendants of the Incas,
who form the larger part of that country
may submit to that sort of thing and
never find out that their taxes have been
doubled, but such beneficence would
hardly be popular in a country where
the common school had been in opera-
tion a decade or two. There is only one
class of people in this country that
would admire that kind of philanthropy.
They are the republican mullet heads. If
they read about it in a republican paper
they would declare that it was the salva-
tion of the world.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Curtis will
continue to publish his South American
gold standard investigations and give us
the result from day to day. It makes
such very good populist campaign stuff.

THE STATE CONVENTION.

Whenever an editor begins to talk
about "the thing being fixed," and all
that sort of "thing," he is assaulting
not the persons that he thinks he is, but
the men who composed the state con-
vention. These men were all fairly
chosen and there were no contests.
Every one of them voted without con-
straint and just as he thought best.
They were the men to whom the voters
in all the counties of the state entrusted
their business. They were chosen be-
cause the populist voters of the various
counties had confidence in their honesty
and good judgment. They elected their
chairman, they did all that was done
and they alone are entitled to all the
glory or all the blame. The talk about
fixing things is then an assault upon
these farmers—for most of them were
farmers—and not upon any one about
the state house. There never was a
more intelligent and honest body as-
sembled in a state convention than
assembled in that pig pen of a place that
was set aside for the use of the populist
state convention at Omaha. The In-
dependent proposes to stand by the
men who composed that convention,
and any insinuations against them will
be resented.

WANT OFFENSE.

McKinley shows not only a want of
patriotism but a want of common sense.
Here he had a lot of preachers howling
for him every Sunday, talking about
"duty," "destiny" and "providence."
But for want of good horse sense he has
turned every one of them against him.
He hasn't given them a bit of the bootie.
One of them, the notorious Sam Jones
got after him. This is what he says:

"The government has arranged that
every post of our army in Cuba may
have its canteen for drinking at large
among the soldiers, but has mustered
out every regimental chaplain, estab-
lished no post chaplains, and left in
Cuba not one man of that office to
preach to the soldiers, solace the sick,
or bury the dead."