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CONSOLIDATION OF THE WEALTHMAKERS AND THE LINCOLN INDEPENDENT.

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THE VICTIM SELECTED.

The Republicans Met in Omaha the Other Day and Nominated Their Candidate for Supreme Judge.

The republican state convention was a peculiar affair. As Rosewater is now the accepted boss the convention was ordered to convene at the exposition grounds so as to help that Rosewater sick chicken as much as possible. They ran a skin game on the delegates by telling them that tickets to the convention would admit them to the exposition grounds. But when the delegates got into the convention hall they found that they were still outside the main gates.

What the readers of this paper will be interested in is the platform that they adopted. So here is that part that treats of the issues of the day:

"While we deplore the insurrection in the Philippine islands, yet we recognize the duties and obligations imposed upon our nation by the victory of our nation and the matchless vigor of our arms, resulting in the treaty of Paris, which imposed upon the president the duty of maintaining the authority of the United States over the territory acquired thereby, and so long as there is one gun pointed at an American soldier, so long as there is an armed enemy assaulting our flag, so long must patriots and loyal Americans uphold our president in his efforts toward protection, tranquility and peace to all who recognize our lawful occupation.

"We adhere unequivocally to the gold standard and are unalterably opposed to the free coinage of silver. Gold has been our standard since 1834 and is now the standard of every civilized and important country in the world. After more than twenty years of harmful agitation and a campaign of extraordinary earnestness and full discussion, the people of the United States by a majority of more than half a million, decided in favor of that standard. Our experiences and present prosperous condition in the amplest and fullest measure, demonstrates the wisdom of that decision.

"We denounce the attempt now desperately being made to again array labor and capital in hostile campaigns. The republican party now as always opposes trusts and combinations having for their purpose the stifling of competition and arbitrarily controlling production and fixing prices, but we also recognize that the legitimate business interests, fairly capitalized and honestly managed, have built up our industries at home, given the largest employment to labor, at the highest wage, and have enabled us to successfully compete with foreign countries in the markets of the world. Such industries must not be struck down by legislation aimed at dishonestly organized institutions which destroy legitimate enterprise and the public. We favor the creation by act of congress of a bureau of supervision and control of corporations engaged in interstate business with power similar to those exercised over national banks by the comptroller of the currency, enforcing such publicity and regulation as shall effectually prevent dishonest methods and practically and generally such legislation state and national as from time to time may be required for the correction of abuses.

"We commend to the thoughtful consideration of the republican party that a national convention be called by two-thirds of the states to revise the constitution of the United States under the provisions of article V of the federal constitution."

The remainder of the platform was pure buncombe—a rehash about the recount of the ballots, the veto of the resolution declaring the war in the Philippines was defending the principles of our government, honest and like things. It is a wonder that they did not get in butterine and the home for the friendless.

The editor of the Independent asked an Englishman what he thought would happen in England if a political party should put out a platform over there containing what everybody knew was an absolute falsehood. He said no party had ever tried it, and if they did they would be hooted whenever a leader

appeared. But that is just what the republicans did at Omaha when they declared that the people of this country decided by more than half a million votes in favor of the gold standard. That question, as everybody knows, was never submitted to the people. The republican party declared in favor of international bimetalism and pledged themselves to promote it, while the opposing party was for bimetalism without the aid or consent of any other nation.

The plan of the republicans, as disclosed by this platform, in regard to trusts is to claim that nothing can be done to check them until a constitutional amendment is adopted, which they well know could not be done for years if ever. In the meantime the trusts are to fleece the people to their heart's content. Under such a declaration as this every trust magnate will be a vigorous supporter to the republican party. So the sum of the whole matter is, the republican managers in this state are for the gold standard, imperialism, and the trusts.

They nominated a man for supreme judge who all summer and up to 9 o'clock of the morning that the convention assembled, constantly declared that he would not accept the nomination and who, as soon as he was informed of it, sent a telegram accepting without a moment's hesitation. His name is Judge M. B. Reese and he lives in Lincoln.

THE GLORIOUS CAUSE.

Unnumbered Thousands Come to Hear Bryan and the Populist Speakers in Every Part of the State.

A man who says that he lives near North Bend, Neb., writes a letter to the editor of the Independent in which he abuses the poor mullet heads that live in that section of the country most unmercifully. In fact he is altogether too hard on them. The occasion of his wrath, he relates as follows:

"I met one of them and he began by saying: 'So your silver champion, Bryan, is losing his drawing capacity.' I asked him what he meant and he began by telling me that there was not much of a crowd at North Bend when Bryan spoke there and no enthusiasm at all. I asked him if he was present and he said: 'Do you suppose that I would waste time by listening to this old rot that we have heard for years.' I asked him how he knew that there wasn't much of a crowd and no enthusiasm. He said that he had seen an account of the meeting in his paper."

What follows is so terrifically hot that we are afraid to print it lest it sets this block, in which the Independent has found a home by the courtesy of the Freie Press, on fire.

Now, that mullet head was not so much to blame when all the circumstances are taken into account, as the writer of this letter thinks. He didn't know any better. He had made up his mind from the facts as they had been represented to him. The accounts that have come to this office of Bryan's meetings are to the effect that he, nor no other man was ever before greeted with such audiences as have thronged to hear him at every place at which he has spoken. One account of the meeting at North Bend, written by a man on the spot is as follows:

As the train pulled into the depot the station platform, streets and sidewalks were a black mass of singing, cheering humanity, and on every lip was the name of Bryan. Hundreds of men and boys had climbed onto freight cars and the roofs of nearby buildings, the better to catch a glimpse of their friend and leader as he emerged from the car.

"That's him," came a shout as the familiar, strong and gravely lined but smiling face appeared, and with a rush and a universal push the great crowd made for the leader, jostling and crowding about him, clasping his hands and all talking and shouting together. A magnificent parade was formed, in charge of Fred Miller of North Bend, marshal of the day, Edward Ives, marshal of the Webster township contingent, and J. D. Noben, marshal

of the Maple Grove division. At its head a big American flag was borne.

Following the flag came the North Bend cornet band. Then came a magnificent float, arranged in the form of an oblong pyramid and draped in the American colors. On its apex, clad in a golden yellow gown, with a golden crown upon her head, sat the village beauty. At the base of the pyramid, in robes of pure and spotless white, and wearing silver crowns, were sixteen beautiful maidens hurrahing for Bryan and each waving an American flag.

Then came the carriage containing Bryan and a thousand people. Then came the delegation from Maple Grove, 150 wagons and carriages filled with farmers, their wives and children, headed by Watt's military band. Webster section was headed by the Schneider band, a well equipped and finely uniformed organization, under the leadership of Joseph Kososky.

And lastly were the hundreds of delegates from the "unorganized territory."

The procession was almost a mile in length, and contained a number of banners expressing opposition to trust and imperialism, demands for free silver and income tax and expressing a people's confidence in William Jennings Bryan. Clear up to the hour of speaking the farmers kept arriving in steady streams until the dust on the streets was two inches deep and the town was overflowing into the country with the greatest crowd ever gathered here. North Bend's welcome was no half-way measure.

Then this writer goes on to tell us what Mr. Bryan said to this immense throng of people and how his words impressed them.

Mr. Bryan never faced a more attentive audience or one more evidently anxious to learn. Clearly and dispassionately he showed these farmers why they should no longer act with the republican party. He told them how in matters of taxation they were discriminated against in favor of those who had large incomes, who held bonds and stocks and notes and mortgages. He told them how even in the stamp tax the republicans allowed rich men and the corporations to escape their just share of the burden and compelled the poor to carry a larger load than was their due.

He told them how the republican party was opposing and had opposed an income tax—a measure which would help equalize the burdens of government and compel those who had large incomes to pay their rightful portion of taxes. He showed them how they might never expect from the republican an income tax amendment, because that party was consistently supporting the attempts of the rich and powerful to compel the humble and lowly, to assume the burdens that the rich should bear.

He showed that as in taxation, so it was in finance and all the questions of governmental policy—that the dollar had been enthroned and man was being debased. He showed that the republican party was in the control of trusts and monopolies, because trusts and monopolies, because trusts and monopolies were supporting it and keeping it in power; that they have more influence with the republican party than all the poor republicans who vote the republican ticket. And the eyes of many republicans in that audience were opened.

At all of the places at which Mr. Bryan has spoken similar scenes have been enacted and similar crowds have gathered to hear him. The same is true to a large extent of all the meetings that have been addressed by Cyclone Davis and Gen. Weaver. Gen. Weaver was so impressed by the crowds that came to hear him in Gage county, the very hot bed of republicanism in this state, that he telephoned Chairman Edmisten that he believed that the pops would carry Gage county. One thing is certain. There has never been such enormous crowds in attendance upon populist meetings this early in the campaign since the party was organized. And there has never been such earnest attention to public speakers in any campaign waged in the state. For the first time the republicans turn out to hear populist speakers. The new doctrines preached by the supporters of the McKinley administration is bringing into life the love of liberty that has so long lain dormant in the hearts of the straight republican voter. On with the fight. It is a glorious cause.

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FRIENDS MADE ENEMIES.

Imperialistic Arrogance and Blundering Stupidity the Sole Cause of the Filipino War.

A year ago the Filipinos were anxious to live under our protection. On September 24, 1898, Aguinaldo asked the Hon. John Barrett, former American minister to Siam, to send a message to the American people through the Journal. In this statement he said:

"Please inform the president, congress and people that we are true friends of the Americans. We trust them to save us from Spanish misrule. All allegations of treachery toward the Americans were unfounded and unjust. I have never given one order nor taken any step that could be called treacherous. If at any time our attitude seemed unfavorable to the Americans it was because they misunderstood our plans. We feared they might allow Spain to retain control of the islands. The only reason we are slow to evacuate our positions around Manila is because we are fearful Spain may yet try to occupy the same. The Americans and Filipinos have been, and will be, friends. They can reach a perfect understanding as to the government of the islands if Spain is allowed no voice. It is a mistake for the Americans to think we wish to fight them. All our hopes and plans are centered in opposition to Spanish rule."

Mr. Barrett commented on this: "I personally believe Aguinaldo and his followers would accept American control without resistance provided it were managed with diplomacy; but they will never yield to Spain." That was over four months before the outbreak of hostilities, but even then Mr. Barrett said:

"It is feared that military hero, desiring the glory of a victory over the insurgents, are not using sufficient diplomacy, and represent them worse than they are for selfish reasons."

Nearly two months later, on November 14, the Filipino Junta at Hong Kong gave Mr. Barrett another memorial to President McKinley and the American people, in which they said:

"While the fate of the islands is still undecided and we are doing all in our power to prevent a conflict between the Americans and Filipinos—awaiting patiently the conclusion of the Paris conference—we implore the intervention of the president, supported by the will of the people, to end the slights shown our leaders, soldiers and people by some of the American military and naval officers."

While the chief offender in the devil's work of alienating a friendly people anxious to come under our flag was General Otis, some of the responsibility rests upon others. Even General Merritt is not free from a share in it. In a recent interview he said, in answer to a question about Aguinaldo:

"I never saw him personally, but from what I heard of him while in Manila I judge he is a pretty smart man. When I was in Manila he sent one of his aides to me asking for an interview, but I was too busy to see him."

ANTI-IMPERIALISTS.

Boston, Sept. 23.—The anti-imperialist league has issued the following:

"Unauthorized statements having been made as to the objects of the anti-imperialist conference at Chicago October 17, it should be said that there will be no attempt there at negotiation with any political party. It is hoped that this conference may plan for a systematic effort to establish anti-imperialist leagues and committees through the country with the intention of developing and crystallizing the occasion. It is true that in doing this the anti-imperialists must denounce Mr. McKinley individually, because he has unlawfully initiated the slaughter in the Philippines by his declaration of war December 21, 1898, at a time when the United States was solemnly bound by the protocol to preserve its status. Because of this fact, neither the country or any political party is responsible for Mr. McKinley's war or is in any way bound to support it. The anti-imperialists hope to arouse their fellow citizens to the gravity of the issue which has been forced upon the people so that no candidate for the next presidency can expect success unless he disavows the colonial and imperial acts which have actuated Mr. McKinley and his pernicious advisers."

A YORK REPUBLICAN.

A republican farmer came to town with 70 bushels of oats. He got \$10.50 for the load. We asked him if that was prosperity for him. He said it was sound money and that was all he wanted. The man wanted wire enough to put two wires on one side of his quarter. He went to Hutter's and figured on wire. He got wire there last year at 24 cents a pound and was mad when he had to pay 42 cents this year for the same kind of wire. The wire cost \$14.80. The man gave the 70 bushels of oats and \$4.30 for the wire. Last year 70 bushels of oats bought the same amount of wire and the farmer had \$5.10 left. The money is very sound when it buys farm products. Splendid money then. Takes lots of oats and wheat to get little of it. The same money is not so good and sound when it buys manufactured goods. Takes lots of the money to get a little wire and a few nails.—York Teller.

SWORE AT OTIS.

Fred Tobin of Mitchell was one of the men ordered out of the hospital by Gen. Otis and sent to the front. He had been wounded, a bullet entering his throat and passing downward through his lung and out of his back, a terrible wound. But he was ordered to the front just the same. He could not walk and was sent by bull cart. Dr. Warne met him and astonished and indignant asked "What are you doing here?" Tobin told him he was ordered out of the hospital and told to report for duty. "Well," said Warne, and it is said he used a cuss word or two, "you get back into the hospital and don't you come out again till I tell you to. Otis, be damned!" Tobin says that there is no doubt at all but that Dr. Warne saved his life. But Dr. Warne was arrested for writing his opinion of this kind of work.—Dakota Ruralist.

POOR LICHTY.

Lichty is to be pitied. Even his quondam friend, the State Journal, has deserted him. On the editorial page of last Sunday's issue it discuses Lichty as follows:

"Samuel Lichty is one of the sickest men who ever exposed a hornet's nest. When he proclaimed the Palm letter he is said to have had an idea that he would be the biggest man in the state. Now he tells his friends that there will never be another such clump in the place. 'But in dealing with the insurgents Otis treated them as savages, and the result is that we have an unpleasant war on our hands.'—Brigadier General C. McC. Reeve, Chief of Police at Manila at the outbreak of hostilities, as quoted in a special dispatch from San Francisco, to the Philadelphia Ledger.

declared then that his real home was in that county. Later he was found sitting in the prohibition state convention as a full fledged delegate from Lancaster county, where he had lived and voted for two years. In the meantime he had attended a middle-of-the-road convention at Kearney, the object of that meeting being to place a middle-of-the-road populist ticket in the field and to show up the state house gang. So far as heard from Mr. Lichty has missed going to but one convention, that being the republican state convention."

LIEUT. COLONEL EAGER.

There has never been a more dastardly, devilish, copperhead piece of work done in the United States since 1861 than the attack upon Lieut. Colonel Eager of the First Nebraska. A few republican weeklies, imitating the viper that edits the State Journal have engaged in this to the discredit of the whole state and especially to the profession of journalism. The editor of the Independent, on his own behalf and without any request from Colonel Eager desires to make a full statement upon this subject:

The truth about Colonel Eager's appointment with Cyclone Davis is known to him, for he was present when the arrangement was made with Mr. Edmisten, chairman of the state committee. Mr. Edmisten asked Col. Eager to go with Mr. Davis for the following reasons: The populist party has no daily paper, and Mr. Edmisten was anxious to extend the circulation of the Independent so that he could reach the workers in the party in every precinct in the state through the paper. He therefore requested Col. Eager, who is the proprietor of the paper, to go with Mr. Davis and at the meetings get subscribers. He went on to say that the people were very anxious to hear all about the boys while they were in the Philippines and everywhere he would have attentive hearers. Col. Eager positively refused to use his position as an officer in the First to get subscribers. No sort of persuasion could move him to agree to it.

Mr. Edmisten then pressed upon him the desire of the people to know the facts about the situation in the islands and said that he owed something to them for the honors that they had conferred upon him. At last the colonel agreed to go, with the express understanding that he would have nothing to do with the subscriptions. Upon this understanding the public announcements were made. To these facts this writer is willing to make oath.

The night before Col. Eager was to start, the office of the Independent was destroyed by fire. It was a total loss and no insurance. There is not one of those editors who have been saying that Col. Eager dare not face audiences in this state, but knows enough about the publication of a newspaper to know that under such circumstances, it was impossible for Col. Eager to fill his engagements, and no one but a republican editor would be vile enough to suggest the reasons given. Ever since the fire, Col. Eager has been overwhelmed with work in trying to get a plant together with which to continue the publication of this paper.

There was not an officer in the First Nebraska whose military record will bear a closer scrutiny than that of Col. Eager. He served six years as a cadet at the state university, drilling three days each week, which is equivalent to eighteen years in the state militia. In a close competition, for there are no favors shown at the university, he was commissioned captain in 1893, the highest rank in the institution at that time. Before this, in 1889, he had won a medal for individual drill. When captain with his company he won the first place in the competition drill. In 1893 he was commissioned captain by Thomas J. Major, acting governor, while Governor Crouse was out of the state.

He was for two years first lieutenant in the Nebraska national guard, and held that position when the regiment was called into service of the United States. The first order that was issued by Brig. General Bills when the troops assembled at Camp Alvin Saunders was as follows:

Neb., April 26, 1898, IV—First lieutenant, Company F, Second regiment, is hereby appointed commissary of subsistence in the field, and will report to the commanding officer at once for duty, and will receipt for all subsistence stores as received from the contractor. (Signed) CHARLES J. BILLS, Brig. Gen. Commanding.

Col. Eager was the first man sworn into the service of Uncle Sam, with the exception of the medical staff. He was mustered in as adjutant May 8. Upon the recommendation of Col. Pratt he was promoted to captain and the appointment was made by Governor Holcomb May 10.

April 18, 1899, Capt. Eager was promoted major upon the recommendation of Col. Stotsenburg and the appointment was made by Governor Doynter.

The record in the adjutant general's office at the state house contains the following:

Pumping Station, Manila, P. I., March 11, 1899.—I also recommend for brevet of major, Captain Frank D. Eager, for holding pipe line and road to the San Juan bridge on the night of February 3, and the morning of the 5th. Very respectfully, your obedient servant, JOHN M. STOTSENBURG, Colonel First Nebraska Infantry, U. S. V.

Page 152, letter 304. Letters sent book. Records of the First Nebraska U. S. volunteer infantry.

On June 22, he was promoted lieutenant colonel upon the recommendation of Col. H. B. Mulford.

It will be seen that his promotions were all recommended by different colonels and all of his commissions were signed by different governors. All the colonels who recommended his promotions were republicans except Stotsenburg and he was a gold democrat. The only man who has checked enough to charge favoritism under these circumstances is a republican editor, for Col. Eager is, and always has been since he became of age, a populist.

His official military record inscribed on his discharge paper is as follows:

Non-commissioned officer: No. Distinguished services: Recommend brevet major by Col. Stotsenburg, March 11, 1899, for conduct in battle of Santa Mesa, February 4 and 5, 1899.

Battles, engagements, skirmishes expeditions: Battle of Manila, August 13, 1898. Outpost before Manila, July 30 and August 5, 1898. Battle of Santa Mesa, February 4 and 5, 1899. Skirmish February 14, 22 and 25, 1899, near Deposito and pumping station, Manila, P. I. In skirmishes between Deposito and pumping station. Battles: San Francisco Del Monte, March 25, 1899. Tuelikan river, March 25, 1899. Meycanayan, March 26, 1899. At Marilas, March 27, 1899. Santa Maria and Santa Clarie, March 29, 30, 31, 1899. Malolos, March 30, 1899. Outpost at Malolos, P. I., at Quinga, April 23, 1899. Pulishan, April 24, 1899. River Grand, Calumpit, April 25, 1899.

Wounds received in service: Gunshot wound, left foot, near Calumpit, P. I., April 25, 1899.

Remarks: Here follows the date of muster in, rank and promotions after which is list of special orders detailing Col. Eager for special service issued by General Otis. Then closes with these words: "Duty continuous except April 26 to June 16, 1899, (that was while he was in the hospital from effects from his wound). Services honest and faithful."

H. B. MULFORD, Colonel First Nebraska Infantry, U. S. V., Commanding Regiment.

This is the history of the military service of Lieut. Col. Eager taken from the official records. It would seem that there was no one in Nebraska vile enough to attack a soldier with such a record as that but a republican imperialist editor. Republican politics in Nebraska are viler than anywhere else in the world. If Col. Eager would declare for imperialism these excesses on humanity would laud him to the skies.

Here is an officer who was present and fought in every battle in which the First Nebraska was engaged and was finally carried wounded from the field, being attacked by a set of cowardly curs who never melt gun powder in all their lives. What do the people think of them?

Camp Alvin Saunders, Lincoln.

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