

The Nebraska Independent

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A club of three new subscribers—yes, that's what we want.

That hill that Si had to climb proved to be a dead level plain after all.

Does a good crop diminish the populist vote? Will the republican editors all please answer?

The fusionists carried every precinct in Thurston county. Let us all give three cheers for Willie Peoples.

The first copperhead developed in the late contest was one Wm. McKinley. It was he who said that forcible annexation was criminal aggression.

Rosewater now calls John L. Webster "a snobocrat." If that has a tendency to mollify the quarrels in the republican party in Omaha, no one has so far reported it.

McKinley recognized an absolute monarch in the Sulu islands without the wink of an eye, but when it came to recognizing a republic in the Philippines he wouldn't do it at all.

A recently published statistical map shows that the centers in the United States of wealth, debt, crime and pauperism are all in the state of Ohio. Those four things always are found together.

If the republican postmaster of Lincoln would send out the university weekly news letter, he would be doing a much more popular and meritorious act than when he was rooting for the g. o. p.

Upon another page we announce a most liberal offer to readers of the Independent to get up a club of new subscribers. Read it, and then get up a club—do it this week—it will please us and pay you.

Speak to your neighbors and ask them to subscribe for the Independent. Read our offer for clubs on another page. Write for sample copies and subscription blanks. We will be pleased to send them by return mail.

Now that we are to have the supreme court it may not be improper to inquire if the farmers of Nebraska will still be compelled to pay 5 1/2 per cent higher local freight rates than the farmers of Iowa have to pay?

Mark Hanna made speeches all over Cleveland and Golden Rule Jones carried it by an overwhelming majority. Can't our national committee hire Hanna to canvass for them in Iowa? That seems to be the only hope for that mullet head state.

The Boers silenced their big guns and stopped all fighting when Sunday came. Those men believe in their Bibles. A subscriber sends a note to the editor saying that during our civil war, the party that began a fight on Sunday got whipped every time.

Some New York novelist of renown ought to write an article entitled: "Censorship and Glory." It would not be a bad idea to collaborate in the matter with some Englishman, for the plan is worked in the same fashion by Lord Salisbury and McKinley.

The republican editors take great delight in quoting from the Chicago Chronicle and the putting (dem.) after the name. It is just about as much demerit as Melting Pot Morton's weekly sheet. Deception is the only weapon that republican editors seem to know how to use.

Before the election all the administration organs declared that the future of W. J. Bryan depended on the result of the election in Nebraska. Now they as unanimously declare that the result of the election will have no effect upon it all. And all the mullet heads say: "That's so."

Secretary Gage finds himself between the devil and the deep sea. The Wall Street men want him to take up some \$30,000,000 of bonds which he can, under the law, redeem at any time, but the bondholders don't want that all. It is probable that Gage will side with the bondholders. The love that Gage has for bondholders passeth all understanding.

THAT SECRET TREATY.

That McKinley has made some sort of an alliance with Great Britain is becoming more apparent every day. The British being hard pressed in their efforts at conquest, are trying to cheer up the despondent by letting a little of the truth leak out. What other interpretation can be put upon the following extracts from leading London papers?

The London Post of November 8, publishes this significant dispatch from Washington:

"Negotiations in London have resulted in an agreement between Great Britain, China and the United States to maintain the open door in China, which power will undertake to develop both British and American trade.

An Associated Press dispatch from London, dated November 9, touching on this report says:

The Daily Chronicle, commenting upon the president's bold development of imperialistic policy in China, says: "This is the sort of courage which commands success. In these circumstances it seems almost inconceivable that he (McKinley) should fail to secure reelection."

The British are intensely anxious that McKinley should be re-elected. Why should they be so anxious if they have not some good reason to believe that he will go into some sort of an alliance with them in their further schemes of conquest? The British have no use for Bryan. He is altogether too much of a patriotic American for them to have any use for.

The London News says that the negotiations "have resulted in an agreement." What sort of an agreement is that? What right has McKinley to make secret agreements with the long standing and most persistent foe we have ever had? If this is not high treason it comes very near to it. It is absolutely prohibited by United States statutory law.

WOMAN'S RIGHT.

Olive Schreiner had an article in the November Cosmopolitan entitled "The Woman Question," which for its grasp of modern economic conditions has not been equaled by any writer. The hired editors of the great dailies have already begun to steal from it without let or hindrance and without any compunctions of conscience whatever. We have noticed not less than half a dozen articles in the great dailies, every idea in them having been stolen from Olive Schreiner and the Cosmopolitan. Miss Schreiner treats the question entirely from the standpoint of economics. After going over the whole field of the production of wealth she sums up the demand of woman as follows:

"We demand, that, in the strange new world that is arising alike upon the man and the woman, where nothing is as it was, and all things are assuming new shape and relations—we demand that in this new world we also have our share of honored and socially useful human toil, our full half of the labor of the children of woman. We demand nothing more than this, and we will take nothing less. That is our woman's right."

IT MAKES A MAN TIRED.

The State Journal says: "It is fortunate that the financial independence of Nebraska has been in a measure achieved in the last few years, otherwise our present unpleasant political reputation would act as a real bar to growth and prosperity."

One feels after reading that, like telling the story of the man who was known to be the most accomplished and permissive swearer in the country. One day he was noticed driving up a hill with a lead of ashes. The end gate of his wagon was out and the ashes were pouring out of the hind end as he slowly drove up the hill. The neighbors reasoned that when he got at the top of the hill and saw his load scattered all along the highway, there would be some peculiarly scientific swearing done, so they followed along to hear it. When the man saw what had happened, he got off his wagon, rolled up his sleeves, spit on his hands and said: "By the—" then he stopped, took another look down the hill and surveying the crowd said: "Gentlemen its no use to try. I can't do justice to this occasion."

"The fusion victory would act as a bar to growth and prosperity." Now that is decidedly rich. When the fusion officers took control of the financial affairs of the state after thirty years of republican rule, they found its credit ruined, more than \$1,000,000 of its funds missing and its paper being hawked on the streets at five to seven per cent discount, although it bore seven per cent interest. In less than a year the credit of the state had so recovered that its paper was at a premium and the confidence of all the world restored in the honesty and ability of the people of the state. Such talk as that would make a green parrot sing psalms.

GOT A CINCH ON IT.

The Western Union seems to have a tighter cinch on the government than ever before. Notwithstanding that many business men in New York and other cities of the east are constantly sending protests to Washington, McKinley refuses to allow any cable to land in Cuba except that owned by the Western Union. One of them writes as follows:

What right has the government of the United States to forbid the landing of a cable in Cuba? Are the cable people disobeying any law? Will the landing of such a cable be injurious to this coun-

try? For what reason does the government forbid it? I ask for information merely because my cable bills to Cuba amount to many hundreds of dollars a year.

The government does not propose to make any excuse. It is despotic. It has the power and proposes to exercise it without making excuses. McKinley and Mark Hanna are under very great obligations to the Western Union, and they have that kind of gratitude that a politician knows—expectation of more favors to come—and they propose to let the telegraph monopoly tax the people as much as it pleases. This refusal to allow another company to land a line in Cuba is simply an act of despotism. It was first done by the orders of Alger, and Secretary Root, after a consultation with the representatives of the trust in the cabinet, Mr. Griggs of New Jersey, has confirmed the order. That is all there is to it. There is no way out of this but the government ownership of telegraphs, cables and telephones.

As far as is known, except the stampe of the German common people and some other nationalities—which could not be stopped—the anti-imperialist league fellows all supported the republican ticket. Look at Massachusetts! That is the headquarters of Edward Atkinson and the rest of them. If they are only going to talk anti-imperialism and then go to the polls and vote for imperialism, what good are they?

In concluding his speech on the occasion of presenting Lieutenant Brunby with a sword at Atlanta last week, Governor Candler, referring to this moment said: "Let it ever be drawn in defense of our country and our country's flag and our country's honor, but never against those who struggle for the liberty which we enjoy." What the Independent wants to know is: Is that treason? Will some republican editor be kind enough to inform us?

Bixby talks about the lack of intelligence among the fusion voters of Nebraska. When he finds a fusion voter such an idiot as to talk about wanting dear money and high prices, then he may justly claim that there is one idiotic voter outside of the republican party. As long as the republican party has to look for its majorities in the slums of the cities and towns, it is in no shape to talk about the want of intelligence among its opponents.

Lord Salisbury said the other day in a speech that all of England's trouble in the Transvaal came from allowing the Boers to purchase arms. No doubt England would have had an easy time in wiping out the Dutch republic if the praying, psalm singing old farmers could have been prevented from getting guns. If the English succeed in this war they will see to it that the constitutional right that all American citizens have to bear arms, is made a nullity in all Africa.

"Opinion" failed to arrive this week, but the populist paper in Cass county, called the "Kicker," which is a live eight page, six column, genuine newspaper is still excluded from the mails by the republican post master who runs a rival sheet. Opinion was sent through the mails during the campaign at second class rates and given all the privileges of a newspaper when it was not a newspaper at all, but a press letter sent out from republican headquarters. If the publishers of this state do not take some action in this matter it will be a very strange thing.

The populists polled 200 votes in Matt Quay's old rotten borough of Philadelphia. They were not the Wharton Barker crowd, for his ticket was not on the ballots at all. He never controlled a populist convention in the state. All he has ever been able to do was to get a few to withdraw with him from the regular populist convention. In several counties in Pennsylvania the populists had their ticket recognized and in one or two, there was a fusion with free silver democrats. Where the weeklies get around we may find that some populists have been elected even in Pennsylvania.

Every man in Ohio who voted either for McLean or Jones voted against imperialism, McKinley and Mark Hanna, and there are 50,000 more of them than there were of those who voted for McKinley's candidate. With the characteristic mendacity that has been adopted by the republican writers, they now claim that the election in Ohio is an endorsement of imperialism. But that will deceive nobody. The fact is apparent to every one that in the state of Ohio, there is 50,000 majority against imperialism.

The Dunn agency reports in numerous iron products the highest prices for twenty-five years. It also cheerfully announces a falling off in the price of wheat, and with regret, a slight advance in corn. It did not, however, note the general advance in freight rates. New freight rates this week add about a dollar a ton to the price of most grades of coal in Nebraska. As the Nebraska farmer has to buy both coal and iron, the advances in both products do not add to his enjoyment as he watches the downward trend of wheat and the struggle of corn to hold its own.

COUNTY TREASURERS.

The ability and economy with which the state government has been conducted by the fusion forces since their representatives have been at the state house, was a tower of strength in the last campaign, but it has not been more so than the record that populist county officials have made in the counties controlled by them. That it had secured the confidence of many partisan republicans is shown by their votes, in which they showed their desire to turn over the conduct of county finances to the fusionists. Republican treasurers have continued their old policy in regard to county funds and the people seem inclined to say that they will have no more of it. That was the declaration in this county where the republicans have always had immense majorities.

The republican policy has been to keep large amounts of money in the hands of the treasurers, when there were outstanding debts to be paid and the interest stopped. Such a policy enables the county treasurer and the bankers whom he favors to gather in thousands of dollars and put it down in their own pockets that ought to go to lightening of the burdens of taxation. Even an average mullet head is able to discern that it is not to his interest to continue such a policy and many of them voted to stop it. Populist financial principles are true and sound, whether applied to national, state or county affairs. Even the republicans begin at last to indorse them.

WHEAT STILL FALLS.

Everything that the Independent has said about the course of prices for farm products is more than verified by the recent trend of the markets. There is a constant decline in the price of wheat although there is a world's shortage of about 300,000,000 bushels. There can be no doubt of this shortage, for all authorities agree upon it. The following are the estimates as given out by all of them:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Millions of Bushels. Includes: Estimate of the department of agriculture, 1898 (2,798); Estimate in Beerbohm's Corn Trade List, 1899 (2,303); Estimate Bulletin des Halles, 1899 (2,489); Estimate Hungarian Ministry, 1899 (2,477); Comparing the estimates for 1899 with those of the same authorities for 1898, the reductions in the world's wheat crop appears to be as below:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Millions of Bushels. Includes: According to Beerbohm (377); According to Bulletin des Halles (291); According to the Hungarian Ministry (312); The minimum reduction, that of the Bulletin des Halles, is 291,000,000, and the maximum, that of Beerbohm, is 377,000,000 bushels, the mean of all four being 327,000,000 bushels. On the whole a reduction of more than 300,000,000 bushels is pretty safely inferable, and it would seem that during the current crop year the farmer should obtain satisfactory prices for his wheat.

If the republican farmers of Nebraska who have been voting for the gold standard would lay aside their prejudices for only a few moments and "think," they could not fail to see that the higher price of wheat in this country for the last year or two was caused, not by the McKinley administration, but by the famine in India, the shortage of crops in Argentina and the absolute failure in other countries, while we had good crops. They would be further able to see, that even with a partial failure, when wheat ought to be bringing good prices, that under the shortage of money, it continues to fall, although McKinley is still president and we have the Dingley tariff.

ANTI-IMPERIAL PRETENSE.

For years and years we constantly told the free silver republicans that there was no way to prevent the establishment of the gold standard in this country except to down the republican party. They would not believe us. They went on voting the republican ticket until the party declared for the gold standard. Then only a few of them quit. They thought the grand old party would get international bimetalism and still voted the ticket. Now they are doing the same thing again in regard to imperialism. Hundreds of thousands of republicans are as much opposed to standing armies and wars of conquest as we are. But they go on voting the imperialist ticket because some few republican leaders declare they are anti-imperialists. That these pretended anti-imperialists are the main support of imperialism, never seems to occur to the party followers. By their action—that is by denouncing imperialists and supporting the republican ticket—they held hundreds of thousands of voters to the support of McKinley and his wars of conquest, who would otherwise have voted against him. It is the same game they have been playing for the last twenty-five years.

ONLY A PRETENSE.

The Chicago Record, after having proclaimed that the election in Nebraska would have a very great effect upon the presidential campaign in 1900, tried to sneak away from its own position and announced the great victory, which it had said would be a Bryan victory if the fusionists carried the state, in the following fashion:

In Nebraska Holcomb, the fusion can-

didate for supreme court judge, and Reese, his republican opponent, have run a rather close race, but the election of Holcomb seems to be foreshadowed.

This is a fair specimen of gold bug journalism. If the election had really been close, or the republicans had carried it, there would have been a great display of head lines and a glorious whooping it up for McKinley. The Record pretends to be fair and independent, but it only pretends.

Thursday morning it announced that, "so far as national issues are concerned the elections of Tuesday, taken as a whole have decided nothing." This is the kind of journalism that the men who have planned to exploit the producers of this country for ages to come have employed from the beginning. There is none more disreputable than this same Chicago Record. It is a sneak in journalism and a scab paper in the field of organized labor. It sneaks into thousands of homes where it could not find entrance except for its false claim of independence in politics, while at the same time it is the most partisan of all the gold standard papers. It never fights in the open, but always from ambush.

In the same issue with the above it published several statements to the effect that Holcomb's increased majority all came from his personal popularity in the state and had nothing to do with party policies or principles. It certainly did not get that news by scanning what the republican papers said about Holcomb during the campaign. It would not have obtained such an idea even from the Papillon Times. In fact it never had any such information. It made the story up in the office. Holcomb is no stronger than the forces that oppose standing armies, wars of conquest and the establishment of the gold standard.

Every one who burns coal will now have to make an additional contribution to the railroads. They have a power to increase taxation that is not possessed by any potentate on earth. For several months past the rate from Chicago to the Missouri river, on both hard and soft coal, has been \$2 per ton. After November 15 it will be \$2.50 on hard coal, and \$2.25 on soft coal. This will be a tax almost exclusively upon the poor and the charity organizations. The rich, having plenty of money ahead, laid in their supply of coal for winter some time ago. "That's just the kind of a thing we like," says the mullet head voter. "It would never do to let the government own and operate the railroads. That's a wild-eyed pop notion."

NO IMPROVEMENT.

The chastisement that the Journal received in the late election made no improvement in its morals at all. It continues to lie in its old variegated fashion. Listen to this:

The popocratic press exults beyond measure in the fact that the monster Mark Hanna was "knocked out" in his own town and county, notwithstanding he carried his own state by an increased majority.

Now, the Journal knows that Mark Hanna lacks about 50,000 of having a majority in Ohio at all, but that makes no difference to it. If it says that Mark Hanna has a majority in Ohio, every mullet head in the state will answer back: "That's so."

The next legislature should pass some kind of a law that will force every voter to exercise his right of franchise. Notwithstanding the great fusion victory in this state, several of the populist papers make note of the fact that a good many men staid away from the polls of whom they have personal knowledge. A poll tax of three dollars a head should be levied and when a man votes he should be given a receipt. Those who do not vote should be made to pay and the money put into the school fund so the next generation could be educated up to the point where they would understand that the American voter is responsible for the policies of the government.

The next opportunity under the constitution to make a new apportionment came to the pop legislature of 1897. The State Journal.

Now, that is a good one. The constitution provides that the apportionment shall be made when the U. S. census is taken and every five years thereafter and at no other time. 1895 was the time to make the apportionment and if one had been made by the pop legislature of 1897, the republicans would have said something worse than damn the constitution. "The next opportunity to make an apportionment came to the pop legislature of 1897." Now, that is decidedly rich.

When the lately elected fusion county treasurer gets to the bottom of the vaults at the Lancaster county court house, will he find such a vacuum as faced the fusion treasurer at the state house when he hunted for the money that ought to have been there? We hope not but all we can do is to wait and see.

The Bee says: "The patriotic league had better change its name to popocratic league." Now, in the name of common sense how could a league be patriotic without being popocratic?

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SILVER RISES.

One thing that reform forces need and need badly, is some man in New York who will send to free silver papers a true, accurate and nonpartisan report of the condition of the markets. Here is a field that would, if ably filled, be of great benefit to all the producers in these states. The market reports that are sent out are so manipulated in the financial columns of the great dailies that they are made a bulwark of gamblers and the gold standard. Now the next day after the result of the elections in United States were known in London, silver jumped up five cents an ounce. This fact was not mentioned in the financial columns of any of the great dailies. The telegram concerning it was cut out of the financial column of the Chicago Record and printed on the last page of that paper, which always has less than a column of reading matter on it, and is almost wholly given up to advertisements. The London cablegram stated the matter this way:

Bar silver shows a big jump here and in London since Tuesday. It sold at 59 and 60 cents today, a substantial advance over yesterday. It is said this is a result of a heavy demand on the part of India, Hongkong and Shanghai, but some bankers regard it as the forerunner of a pronounced European movement in silver.

Now there is not an intelligent banker living, that is, a banker who has ever made a study of the principles underlying all market prices, who does not know that that sudden rise in silver was the effect of the continuous fight made in this country for free coinage of silver. Not one of them has any more doubt that silver would rise to a parity with gold at the ratio of 16 to 1, the moment that the passage of a free coinage law becomes inevitable, than that he lives.

SAME OLD GAME.

Senator Hoar wrote an article for a New York paper the other day in which he said:

The time has come to make up your minds. If you are to declare that you do not mean to subjugate them (the Filipinos) or to enslave them, that you will act towards them on the principles of your own declaration of independence, the war can be ended in an hour. The refusal to make this declaration in the beginning brought on this war and your refusal to now declare yourself is what is alone responsible for its continuance.

Now we have got to settle the question which the president has repeatedly declared is for congress or the people, whether we will complete the subjugation of the Filipinos; whether we will undertake to govern them as subjects or serfs, or whether we will help them to become a self-governing nation, either as a republic, as they seem to desire, or as a limited monarchy, like Japan, or as an absolute monarchy after the fashion in which we are now maintaining in power the sultan of Sulu, with his slaves and his harem.

That kind of talk is all very nice. It held at least 60,000 republicans in line in Massachusetts for imperialism. Ten dollars to two doughnuts that Senator Hoar voted the imperialist ticket from top to bottom himself. It is the same old tactics that proved so successful in the demonetization of silver. Not a republican platform and not a presidential candidate from 1873 to and including McKinley, but declared for silver. All the time they were planning and working for its entire overthrow. This same old gang got together and formed an anti-trust league just as they used to bimetallic leagues. From the president of their league down, every one of them voted for McKinley and imperialism. Melting Pot Morton is a fair specimen of them. He was a big man in the league. He pretended to fight imperialism in his paper, but before the campaign was over he was out making speeches advising every man to vote the imperialist ticket. He was speaking for candidates nominated on an imperialist platform. That is the same old game. We have been made very well acquainted with it in the years since 1873.

"ACCIDENTAL ADVANTAGE."

The State Journal says that, "The republicans owed their legislative majority on joint ballot and the election of their United States senator to an accidental advantage given them by the apportionment."

"Accidental advantage." Now that is decidedly good. When the republicans repudiated the constitution and refused to make a new apportionment in 1895 as the constitution requires, they secured a great advantage, not by accident, but by a criminal intention to hold the legislature when they were in a well known minority in the state. By that piece of trickery and crime they disfranchised to a large extent the western part of this state. They knew that they could rely upon the slums of the cities in the eastern part to hold their majorities as long as the campaign funds were available. In some of the western parts of this state it takes nearly a dozen counties to send one senator to the legislature, while in the eastern part from one to half a dozen are sent from one county. A great accident that was!

By getting up a club of three new subscribers you will help us and save yourself money. Read our offer on another page.

Thursday morning Rosewater found out that the state had indeed gone popocratic. He lays it all to Bryan. Bye and bye he will be denying that Bryan had anything to do with it, that he has no influence at all and is nothing but a free silver lunatic.