

The Nebraska Independent
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The pops are just beginning to realize that they were not in it at all at the late election.—Sterling Sun.
For goodness sake go—sink your head.

Shall we haul down the flag from over a people where it has no right except that of purchase, or shall we haul down our high ideals of government? Which shall we do?

If Aguinaldo's army is broken up into small bands, as Otis says, who is guarding those 7,000 Spanish prisoners that McKinley agreed to turn over? Now, that is one of those things that no pop can find out.

A glance at the pop papers for the last two weeks would lead one to think that the whole fraternity had gone into the poultry business and that they were raising nothing but Shanghai roosters and fighting cooals.

Some of the newspaper boys at Washington are intimating that the president will soon appoint a harem keeper for the Sultan of Sulu. Did Wilowen have his eye on that job when he threw the State Journal over to the advocacy of polygamy?

A commission in lunacy should visit the Sage of Arbor Lodge. When a man of his years solemnly declares that he can find out the value of a thing by putting it in a melting pot, it is about time that he was put under some sort of restraint.

The Springfield, (Mass.) Republican, says that "the results of the election point to the nomination and election of Mr. William J. Bryan to the presidency in 1900." It is not the only republican paper that has said in substance that same thing.

Let us hope that McKinley will carry every state in the union like he did Ohio. When the votes in that state were counted, it was found that there were for McKinley: 315,000. Against McKinley: 305,000. That's the way McKinley carried Ohio.

From several items in the papers we infer that we have trouble down in Kentucky about the right way to settle the election bet or something of that kind. However Joe Blackburn the old fighter for free silver is to go back to the senate. They are all agreed on that.

In 1896 McKinley carried Ohio by a clean majority of 62,000. The result of the last election was a majority of 73 against him. It is the greatest political revolt of modern times. That Mark Hanna pulled his man through by a "plurality" does not alter the facts in the case.

McKinley is in favor of expansion in the Philippines and contraction at home, both under the direction of Lord Salisbury. England wants all the Klondike gold fields and McKinley says take them. There never was a gold field that England didn't want, and McKinley's "modus vivendi" seems to say that in Canada shall have the Klondike.

Read the following definition of imperialism, it is taken from the Standard Dictionary; and then decide how much of it you want: "Imperial state, character, authority or spirit; the system of imperial government, ambition to form an empire; a policy of territorial extension; as used of France, the spirit of the Napoleonic empire or advocacy of it or its revival."

The people have elected fusion officers in the state and in most of the counties. They will now demand of these officers what they give to their duties the most upulous attention. If any of them they will get no defense from the ones that elected them. Populist principles must be emphatically applied to the management of the county offices.

A whole lot of Kansas editors of week-end papers need two or three good lunches on the point of the jaw. They live the vote on the various officers without giving the party to which they belong. How do they expect that people outside of the county can know who Hale and Balderson are or which is republican or which is pop? If any man has an interest in the progress of reform down there will do the punching and charge up the costs to the Nebraska Independent.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

The editor of the Independent has received several letters asking him as to his unbiased opinion on the danger of the financial situation. He says to one and all that the Independent will endeavor to protect its readers from such suffering as occurred in 1893. Whenever it is convinced that there is danger it will so inform them. At present it is convinced that the general government will do all within its power to prevent a panic, instead of exerting its influence to bring one on, as it did in '93. A panic now would be very detrimental to the interest of the gold standard men. Prices can be slowly forced down and if the government stands behind the banks with the immense hoards of gold in the treasury, which the recent action of the secretary seems to indicate that it will do, a panic can be staved off until after the next presidential election.

There is not a particle of doubt that New York was on the verge of a panic last week. It has been in that condition three times during the last three months. The first time it was tided over by the secretary of the treasury by the advance of interest to the amount of about \$11,000,000 and the \$20,000,000 that Dewey day brought to the banks. The next time it took a much larger advance—about \$30,000,000—from the treasury to save them. Now again, Gage comes to the rescue with a purchase of bonds to about the same amount.

After a while every one of the expedients to avert a panic will be exhausted. The treasury will not be able to make any more advances. Clearing house certificates are already in use. In that day—the day of retribution for a false financial system—the blow will fall and those who have seen it will save themselves. The others will join the long list of bankrupts.

There is a way to avoid a panic altogether. That is to force down prices to the point where there will be money enough to move the crops and do the business of the country. But can it be done? Tremendous forces will operate against it. If done, it means bankruptcy to a great many. If wheat can be forced down to 40 cents and corn to 10 cents, then it will take very much less money to move the crops than it does at the present prices.

Some of the gold standard papers, fearing that the statement that the New York banks were on the verge of collapse would be detrimental to the administration, have denied the necessity of the action of the secretary in offering to buy bonds and put the money in the treasury in circulation. There is no manner of doubt of the necessity. In regard to the necessity, Russell Sage, and there is no man better informed on the condition of the banks or who is more interested in denying danger of a panic, says, as reported in the Associated Press:

"I believe Secretary Gage's action has saved the financial world from a disastrous panic.

"No one who has been in touch with business enterprises during the past few months can fail to have realized the stringency of the money market. Ready money appeared to be extraordinarily scarce, and those who had it held it or demanded the highest class securities before they let it go.

"I know of banks in different parts of the country which had the hardest kind of a time in realizing money, and yet they held securities that ordinarily would have been negotiable anywhere."

The readers of the Independent will see how correct has been the statements made in this paper, beginning early last winter and up to the present time, in regard to the condition of the banks. When the republican press was every day declaring that there were uncounted millions deposited in the banks, this paper pointed out that there were no such millions there. That what the republicans called "dollars" was nothing but bank wind—promises to pay—when there was nothing in sight to pay with except a few entries on bank ledgers. Banks cannot do business on one dollar of money and ten dollars of promises to pay. The day of reckoning will come, and when it comes those who have foreseen it and stood from under are the ones that gather in the salvages from the wreck.

EXPULSION.

There should be authority somewhere in a political party to designate who are members. The evil that can be wrought by men who proclaim themselves as populists and representing populist principles, when they are in the service of the republican party, is very great. So far the populists have been able, to a great extent, to neutralize this evil, but nevertheless it has been an evil. In the very beginning of our fight in this state, and ever since, we have had this thing to contend with. The editor of the Independent, finding that Paul Vandervoort had abandoned us, advocated that the state committee publicly announce his expulsion from the party, but that body thinking it did not have the authority to do so, at first refused. When they saw the evil work that he was doing, it at last did so. Nevertheless, Vandervoort went over the country declaring that he was a populist and organized within the populist party a set of men who were bent on fighting everything that the majority of the party advocated.

Now we have another case of the same sort on hand. D. Clem Deaver has abandoned the party, opposed the election of its candidates, and if he was honest enough to vote the way he worked, has voted the republican ticket. He is a

member of the national populist committee. It is not to be supposed that such a man as he is will have the honor to resign. He will go about claiming that he is a populist, and demand the right to enter its highest councils and cast a vote in the forming of its policies.

There should be some way to prevent such active treason as that. It is not right that when the national committee meets that there should be a man present to report to the enemy every plan formulated. A man who has held office in the party and been given high places of honor, who will, because he has been put out of office, desert, go over to the enemy and in the last days of the campaign assault its candidates, should not be permitted to occupy a place where he can be of still greater service to the cohorts of plutocracy. If D. Clem Deaver will not resign, then the national committee should expel him from that body. The good of the cause of reform demands that that should be done.

REPUBLICAN LEGISLATION.

The people got a dose of republican legislation at the last session of the legislature the effects of which they are just beginning to feel. The ballot that the republicans got up has proved to be the worst that the state has ever had. Thousands of men have been cheated out of their votes by it and under it several men will hold office that were never elected. A ballot that will confuse a hard working man, little accustomed to making close distinctions, is nothing short of a crime. That thousands of voters were so confused at the last election is beyond a reasonable doubt.

Their legislation upon insurance has thrown the whole business in this state into confusion. It has also provided for the working of frauds upon the people without end. The act creating mutual hail insurance companies is a sample of their work.

This act provides: "All persons so insured shall make application in writing and give their obligations to the company for the payment of losses and expenses as shall be required by the by-laws of said company." Then this law provides: "That in case the whole amount of such obligations shall be insufficient to pay all losses sustained after paying the expenses of the year, then the sufferers insured by such company shall receive their proportionate share of the funds realized, etc." Now here is the nicest little game for fleecing the farmers that a republican legislature ever invented. Who makes the by-laws? The few gentlemen who organize the company. The by-laws fix the amount of the expenses. Suppose the expenses are put at \$40,000. They go into business and collect from the insured that amount. Some man has a loss. He has paid for insurance and comes to get his money. These gentlemen say to him the by-laws provide for the payment of \$40,000 expenses. The salary of the president, secretary, treasurer, agent, clerk and rent of office amounts to just that amount and according to this law no losses can be paid until after this \$40,000 is paid.

Now isn't that a nice little plan to provide salaries for a few men at the expense of the farmers? It is the sort of legislation that the republicans have been giving us for the last thirty years.

This is not the worst of the business by a great deal. The populists had planned to present the state to the people at the end of Governor Poynter's term, free from debt. They would have done it if it had not been for this republican legislature. These republicans well know that the constitution of this state prohibits the creation of a debt to exceed \$50,000. But they went to work and provided for a debt of about \$400,000. That is, knowing what the income of the state would be for the next two years, they made appropriations in excess of that income by about \$400,000. There was no sort of necessity for such action. It was only following out the long established policy of the republican party of creating large public debts.

There is much other legislation of the same sort that cannot be enumerated in this article. However there is one great consolation when we reflect upon the matter. That was the last republican legislature that this state will ever be afflicted with. So let us all take courage. The republican debts will all be paid off after a while and the farmers will not be burdened thereafter with the payment of large amounts of interest. The populist party is determined to stop that sort of thing and it will bestopped.

TRY IT.

The editor of the Independent wishes to call attention to the premiums offered by the Independent management for clubs. He can assure all who compete for them that the goods are just what they are recommended to be. The suits of clothing are of the very best material. Any one doubting, who intends to raise a club, will be furnished samples of the cloth. If correct measurements are sent, a fit will be guaranteed. Hundreds of young men can in this way, or old ones either for that matter, obtain a suit of clothes, stylish, well made and of the best material, with the expenditure of half the time that it will take to earn one in any of the ordinary employments. Try it, and see if it is not so. As soon as reliable and valuable goods can be found, something that can be recommended, like offers will be made to the ladies.

ATTACK ON THE CHURCH.

When the Farmers Alliance started the reform movement in the west, their main document and source of authority was the sermon on the mount. Scarcely a speech was made in which a part of it was not quoted. The speech of John J. Ingalls in the senate, which he now says was intended for sarcasm, but which every one at that time took to be his idea of how politics ought to be run in these United States, and which was in the main a repudiation of the sermon on the mount, was held up by hundreds of farmers in their meetings as a warning to the people. These men naturally supposed that they would have the support of nearly every pulpit in the land. Their astonishment was great when they found that most of the pulpits were against them. The result of this has been severe criticism of the ministry. Meanwhile there has been no lack of reverence for the Great Founder of christianity. His teachings have become a part of the political economy of the populist party. If there is any one to blame for these attacks on the ministers and the church, it is the ministers and the church themselves. They could not suppose that good men would stand silent while they believed that the teachings of the Master were being misrepresented by the very men whose duty it was to defend them. This attitude of the ministers and churches was described by Ruskin in the following words:

"Our national religion is the performance of church ceremonies, and the preaching of sorporitic truths (or untruths) to keep the mob quietly at work while we amuse ourselves." Every one will acknowledge the force of these words of one of the greatest of modern economists. It is not the teaching of the Master that has been attacked, but the false teaching of some of the ministers. The Master never proposed to extend his gospel with Gatlin guns, he never sanctioned wars of conquest, he never allied himself with the rich against the poor.

The Independent looks for a great upheaval in the church in the near future. Men like Sheldon, in Kansas, are becoming new heralds of old truths, and the influence of their lives and power of their preaching will make itself felt.

POLYGAMY IN LINCOLN.

In a special feature of the State Journal last Sunday was found a deliberate and studied defense of the doctrine of polygamy in the following words:

"It (polygamy) received the direct sanction of the Almighty in laws He himself dictated to his inspired teachers. Not one word in all that denunciation of all the sins of the Hebrews from the thunders of Sinai to the last words of Malachi is there a word of rebuke of this institution. Abraham, into whose bosom we all hope to fly, has no stain upon him except that he sent one of his wives away. The wisest man the world ever knew was also the most married. The fact that he admitted in his old age too much vanity and vexation of spirit justly concedes that he overdid the matter a little and does not effect the general principle, but merely teaches moderation in all things.

Christ, himself, never rebuked the institution and He certainly spared nothing He considered an evil.

Monday morning the Journal management followed it up in an editorial in which it denounced the movement against polygamy among the women and leading citizens as follows:

The Journal is still of the opinion that these monster petitions to congress against the Utah contribution to that body in the person of Roberts, accused of polygamy, are in very bad taste. This is a matter that affects not only the citizens of this city and surrounding country, but of the whole state. This is a university town and there are thousands of young men and women here coming from the pure and virtuous families of the state. This vile sheet will fall into the hands of many of them. What do the fathers and mothers of Nebraska say to their children being brought under such teaching as that? The paper should be excluded from the mails and all those responsible for its issue should be prosecuted for sending indecent matter through the mails. It is to be hoped that the clergy will take some action in this matter. If they will not, then self-respecting citizens should take hold of it. If it is not done, very serious consequences may result to this city. Parents will not send students to a town where the leading daily paper is an open advocate of polygamy.

SENSELESS TALK.

"The country is prosperous, both capitalists and wage earners testify," says the Washington Post. But how about the farmers? More than one-half the population of this country is engaged in agriculture. How are they getting along? They find that the average price of all their products has fallen. Some things are a little higher and a good many things are lower. They also find that the average price of every thing that they have to buy has been raised from 10 to a 100 per cent. Where is the prosperity for them? The effects of economic changes come slowly. When this year's crop is sold and the farmer finds that it brings him no more than last year's crop, while his expenses have been doubled, will he be able to find any of this widely advertised prosperity? Wheat and corn slowly drop from day to day. When the first of January comes and he has to settle up, what then? There never was a more senseless thing than this cry of prosperity. Every

one knows that one-half the population of this state—the most prosperous state in the union—are not more than two years from pauperism. Let the crops fail for two years and starvation would be found everywhere. Can a people be said to be prosperous who, after years of toil, find that they have not accumulated enough to support them for two years? That is our condition and every one knows it. Yet some go around shouting prosperity! It makes one weary. It is only the cry of the unthinking.

SCHOOL BOARD DONKEYS.

Some of the greatest intellectual donkeys that this country has produced have been put on the school boards in the cities. One of these boards recently passed an order that no woman should teach in the public schools who had a child under two years old. The next day one of the teachers appeared in court and formally gave away her child to a sister. In other cities rules have been passed forbidding married women to teach in the schools, and still greater antics have been cut up by some of them. Now a school board has no business whatever to inquire into or pass regulations concerning the private affairs of the teachers. The only thing that it can legally inquire into is whether the teacher is fully qualified and whether she performs her duties in a satisfactory manner. Episonage into the private relations of teachers is about on a par with the paternal government of Russia. It has no place in free government. These donkeys on the city school boards should be sent back to private life and put to shoveling coal until they learn that this is a free country and the paternal government that looks into the private affairs of individuals has no place in it.

JOHN J. INGALLS.

John J. Ingalls has said more idiotic things than perhaps any other man who has written for the New York press, but the following taken from an article by him in the New York Journal is the most idiotic of them all: "In the bitter struggle for existence woman is the implacable enemy of man. And not the less so because many wives and mothers and daughters strive with uncongenial and repulsive toil to piece out the earnings of husbands and fathers that are insufficient for the comfort of the wretched home and the support of the helpless family."

If that can be beaten in all literature, the Independent will give a year's subscription to the man who will find it. Ingalls is simply a chatterbox. Not one thing that he has ever said or written will live. He was the output of that area of republican corruption in Kansas that evolved Pomeroy and other political cattle of that kind. Whether reporting prize fights or writing politics he is simply assinnity personified.

HEAVY DISCRIMINATIONS.

There is not a great manufacturing industry in this country that does not constantly discriminate against all of its customers in this country, and in favor of its foreign customers from 25 to 50 per cent. All the great railroad corporations do the same thing. Meat, put up in Omaha, is selling at retail in London for less than the Omaha people can buy it. All sorts of agricultural implements are sold in Europe for twenty-five to fifty per cent less than American farmers can buy them. The same discrimination is made against American farmers in what they have to sell. Any man can satisfy himself of that fact who will look at the London quotations and the New York quotations on the price of wheat. Wheat cannot be shipped to London and pay the steamship rates without a loss of two or three cents a bushel. It is that way all the time. How is this thing accomplished? There is but one explanation. The railroads make rebates on wheat that is for export. That is they charge more freight on wheat that is consumed in this country than what they charge for wheat shipped to foreigners.

With only a few exceptions, the directors of our great railroad companies are elected by foreign owners of stock, and they take this means of discriminating against the American farmer for the benefit of their own country. It is the legitimate result of foreign owned railroads in private hands.

Why should Americans be forced to pay more for goods manufactured in their own country and pay the taxes for the support of the government under which the goods are manufactured, than they can be bought for in cities of the old world? These are the facts. There tens of thousands of Americans who have traveled in the old countries who know that this is the truth. The American farmer and the American wage earner toil from year to year, raise food and manufacture goods and then are forced to pay higher prices for them than the people of the old countries after they have been transported thousands of miles by sea and land.

These are facts known to every intelligent man in the United States. These extra charges to Americans have been made for the last fifteen years. And still this foreign influence holds sway at the national capitol, and still these charges are put upon the producers of America for the benefit of foreign nations, because by these means a few Americans can become multi-millionaires and marry their daughters to dukes and lords.

NEW YORK MULLET HEADS.

The New York Post and World are printing columns of editorial to prove that Bryan cannot be elected president, and advising the democratic party that if it wishes to win in the next presidential contest it must change candidates and principles. The skillful writers on these papers use all their ingenuity and all the tricks of the trained sophist. They make a showing that is decidedly good if one does not take the trouble to analyze their statements. One of these is that at the late election the state of Ohio has given a majority in favor of the president's policy, when the fact is, that the president is in a minority of about 50,000 in that state. So severe a blow is this to the administration that it is announced from Washington that a fight will be made in the republican party on Mark Hanna and he will be displaced from the chairmanship of the republican committee.

One hundred thousand men in Ohio voted for Golden Rule Jones. Jones represents the most radical kind of populism. In California there was no state election, but the city of San Francisco, which has always been the stronghold of republicanism, went heavily democratic. In Kansas there was no particular party contest. The republicans won in some populist districts and the populists won in some republican districts. In South Dakota it was the same way.

The hypocrisy of these two papers is so glaring that it is a wonder that they can think that they would deceive anyone. They are very anxious, so they say, that the democracy should win. They therefore advise a change of principles and candidates. They well know that if they could succeed in getting the party to adopt such a course it would be wiped off the face of the earth. If it should change candidates it would lose 3,000,000 populist votes. If it should change its principles it would lose 2,000,000 free silver democratic votes. It would lose all of the free silver republican votes. Yet the political noodles who edit these papers advise that the democratic party do those things and say it is the only thing for it to do to win! Can two such mullet heads be found anywhere else on the face of the earth?

THE SAME BRAND.

The gold standard, imperialistic politicians of England are the same brand as their followers in this country. Deception is their main weapon of warfare. They will advocate a policy for the purpose of overthrowing it. They will make speeches in favor of a doctrine they intend to trample under their feet at the first opportunity. Now this is what Joe Chamberlain said in the House of Commons, May 8th, 1896:

A war in South Africa would be one of the most serious that could possibly be waged. It would be in the nature of a civil war. It would be a long war, a bitter war and a costly war. As I have pointed out, it would leave behind it the embers of a strife which I believe generations would hardly be long enough to extinguish. To go to war with President Krueger in order to force upon him reforms in the internal affairs of his state, with which successive secretaries of state, standing in this place have repudiated all right of interference—that would have been a course of action as immoral as it would have been unwise.

That speech and Chamberlain's present policy of conquest is on a parity with the gold standard manipulations in this country. McKinley, Thurston and the whole gang of imperialists in this country were always for silver, always for the declaration of independence, always for self government, until they had a good chance to set up the doctrines in which they really believed and then every one them made haste to do it with out any loss of time. Bye and bye the people will brand them with the red-hot iron of their wrath.

IT WILL COME OUR WAY.

Editor Independent: Inclosed find a good old greenback dollar. Well your township gave Holcomb a majority of twenty-four, a gain over last year of sixty votes. We were not idle and everything next year will come our way.

The democrats in Cuming county had no use for pops in home matters this year, and no pop was put on the county ticket.

Since Holcomb was elected Chief Justice of our state The Bryan wagon was enlarged The people to accommodate. Oh! The Bryan wagon, etc.

More of the same sort when wanted. L. R. FLETCHER.

Bancroft, Neb. The editor remembers when there was just one pop vote in that township. The next election there were three and at the next election we increased the vote a little over a thousand per cent. Now the principles for which we fought have carried the township, county and the state. But we don't seem to be in it when the offices are given out.

The loss of New Jersey to the republicans is one of the best evidences, under the circumstances, that could be given that Bryan will carry the state next year. The weak kneed chaps who controlled the convention were afraid to put in the platform the declaration of adherence to the Chicago platform and they got whipped out of their boots. Thousands of Bryan democrats refused to vote the ticket. Next year these chaps, having been thoroughly beaten, will take back seats and New Jersey will be all right. If they had won, then New Jersey would have been all wrong in the coming great battle. Every genuine democrat rejoices ever the defeat of the party in that state.