

The Nebraska Independent

Consolidation of THE WEALTHMAKERS and LINCOLN INDEPENDENT. PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY THE Independent Publishing Company AT 1202 P STREET. Telephone 538.

LINCOLN, - - NEBRASKA

\$1.00 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE.

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

The republican idea seems to be that 'the honor of the nation must be upheld' by crime and dishonor. That is the only way that they have proposed so far.

The editor of the Southern Mercury started out to write a sizzling article headed "No Chance for Bryan." He got so tangled up that he stopped in the middle of a word—not the middle of the road—and let it go at that.

"I said in my haste all men are liars," remarked King David. If he had read last Friday's State Journal he would have added: "This is not hyperbole, when speaking of the editors of this paper."

Mark Hanna seems to have had his ear to the ground for he announces through his friends that he will not conduct the campaign for the republicans next time. We are very sorry that he will not. No other man would suit the populists so well for the position.

Rosewater ran the republican campaign in Omaha and wrecked the machine, he ran the exposition and wrecked the stockholders, he ran his son—he, the son, wrecked the life of an innocent young girl. As a wrecker Rosewater beats the Algerian pirates.

New York news last week was to the effect that money was so plenty in that city that the great publishing house of Harper Brothers went into the hands of a receiver and the New York Sun is so hard pressed that it rattled its office and out down the scale paid Union printers. These are two of the par excellent gold bug institutions of that city.

The banks never say anything about "specie payments" any more. Wonder why? Those of us who fought in the ranks long years ago remember that that was the battle cry of the money power for many campaigns. The reason is that the bankers are determined to have business done with paper money hereafter and they are to furnish the paper.

There seems to be an almost universal demand in the populist papers of this state that Clem Deaver should resign his place as national committeeman. But Clem will never do it. There isn't enough manhood in him and never was to perform such an act. He will have to be kicked out. The kicking will be done at the next meeting of the national committee.

By selling bonds for 101 and buying them back at 112 the sound money men of Washington have presented to the bondholders \$8,000,000 and given them a high rate of interest besides. Any man who denies that that is patriotic financing is a copperhead and wants to haul down the flag. Don't say a word. It isn't safe in these days of McKinley despotism.

Several papers in this state are denouncing the State Journal in the most unmeasured terms for its unspeakable villainess. The Beatrice News says: "This paper (The State Journal) that thus advocates these principles of immorality, at our state capitol should be excluded from every college, every school and every home in the state. Its morals are pernicious and poisoning to the rising generation wherever it goes."

The republicans want to base our financial system of confidence—a thing that has neither length, breadth or thickness and always vanishes when most needed. It exists only in the imagination and if it has anything "intrinsic" about it neither a magnifying glass or a chemical analysis has ever been able to discover it. That is what they call "sound finance" and if you don't believe it is, you are either a lunatic or a copperhead.

McKinley has recently issued an order which puts the postal system of Porto Rico back where it was twenty-seven years ago under the old Spanish rule. The recent improvements made by the Spanish have all been abolished. The Porto Ricans have sent up a great protest. But what good will that do? They have no rights under our constitution or under any other constitution. They are simply subjects under McKinley. There is no congress and no court to which they can appeal. McKinley is their czar and they must obey him. If they don't, some more troops will be sent to "defend the flag."

THE STATE JOURNAL. The Independent desires to spend a little time in a review of one issue of a sheet published in Lincoln called the Nebraska State Journal. It is a fair sample of its daily issue—at least it does not contain any more lies than are printed from day to day by that concern.

The first item is as follows: Washington in one of his letters recommending the education of the boys and girls of this country at home instead of sending them off to Europe spoke of the United States as an "empire." So it seems that George was the first bloody imperialist.

The editor of course knows that Washington never, in all his life, ever spoke or wrote a word in defense of the annexation of distant islands and making the inhabitants "subjects" of the United States against their will. He knows that the word "empire" as used two or three times by the founders of this republic, was always used in regard to the extent of territory and not in relation to the form of government. New York has long been called "the empire state," wholly on account of its size when compared to the other New England states. With just as much fairness could the word be taken from any modern speaker when he made some remark about the Empire state, and claim that he was in favor of wars of conquest and ruling subject nations by force.

The next item is like unto it, and is as follows: McClellan's celebrated euphemism of "change of base," when he got the worst of it in his grapplings with Lee in the early part of the civil war, is pirated by the Boer dispatches from Pretoria. They vary it a little by saying that after this or the other battle, the Boer commanders "took another position."

The editor knew when he was writing that item that it was a lie made out of whole cloth for the fact is that the Boers have sent no dispatches either of that sort or any other, for the simple reason that all the telegraph and cable lines are in the possession of the British army. He knew that it was impossible for the Boers to send a dispatch at all, and he simply lied because it is his nature to lie.

A little further down this Ananias says:

The Modder river was bank full and the Boers had blown up the bridge and hence General Methuen had no chance to settle the fortunes of the day with a bayonet charge.

This sentence is a curiosity. The whole intention of it, as is plainly seen on the face of it, is to lie to the readers of the paper in regard to the contending parties in South Africa. The British are so superior that all they needed was a chance to make a "bayonet charge to settle the fortunes of the day." Fancy a general ordering a bayonet charge where the enemy is armed with the modern repeating rifles! What would likely become of that general's army? Bayonet charges are things of the past. But this editor would have us to believe that the Boers are so inferior to the British that all the British want is a chance to make a bayonet charge! General Joubert would be very happy to give them such a chance three times a day.

The next article is an anti temperance one criticising the recent action of the Georgia legislature. It contains the following lie, which is also made out of whole cloth:

It is related as an experience of Admiral Dewey that his ship having entered a harbor in Maine, his sailors asked permission, as usual, to go ashore. The admiral thought a moment and said, "Yes, this is a prohibition state, and the men cannot get liquor," and he sent them all ashore for recreation. In about an hour a messenger put off from the town to the ship with the report that the sailors were on a big spree and the police could do nothing with them. The admiral had a hard time corralling the boys with the few sober men left him and he said it was the last time he would give his men liberty in a prohibition state.

The next article is about Cuba, and starts out with the following lie—it, too, being made up out of whole cloth.

It is pretty generally believed down in Cuba that the popular outburst against the military government and the protests against changing the military government for a civil government organized for the nonce by Uncle Sam, arises from the disgust of the people of Havana and other cities because of the persistence of the Americans in cleaning up the sewers, streets and dwellings of the microbes infesting towns. They object to being put to the trouble of keeping clean.

The only conclusion that any sane man can come to after reading that is that lies bubble forth from the State Journal editor like beer from a bung hole. The audacity of it is the only redeeming feature. How does he know what is "pretty generally believed down in Cuba?"

The next article is about the Chicago big drainage canal. While there seems to be no motive to lie in such an article as that, yet the writer is so habituated to avoiding the truth that he cannot escape the habit. So he says:

What troubles New York is not the sewerage, but the fact that this is really a ship canal, connecting with the chain of great lakes.

That canal a ship canal! But that is only an innocent whopper, and so let it go without further comment.

The next paragraph starts a good big broad gauged lie of the sort that the readers of the paper expect to see every day. The editor says:

Since the Dingley bill was passed the treasury department has been collecting and locking up millions of dollars every month beyond even the extraordinary expenses of the government.

Now of course that editor knows that the surplus in the treasury was put there by the sale of \$200,000,000 of bonds, and

the revenues produced by the Dingley bill fall far short of paying the expenses of the government. Besides that, enormous expenses and losses have recently occurred in connection with the war in the Philippines that have not been paid or even entered upon the government accounts yet, among them one fine war ship which was a total loss, cargo, equipment and all.

The next article contains this statement:

The croakings of the British mugwump about the absolute hopelessness of the effort of General Methuen to relieve the Kimberley garrison because of the obstinate courage of the Boers are still loud, but the daily news of a ten mile advance, and the driving of the enemy from another stronghold on a hill, seems to indicate that Methuen is getting there about as fast as his men can march after all, in spite of the obstinacy of the Boer fighting.

Whether it was the Journal's intense love of British imperialism or whether the editor is incapable of writing an article without telling a lie, that was the occasion of the production of that paragraph it is hard to say. The news that all other people have about the advance of General Methuen's column is to the effect that his first encounter with the Boers was at a river which he attempted to cross and failed and fought one of the most desperate battles in the annals of old England, that he was himself wounded and suffered a heavy loss as well as the Boers. Ten miles a day is more than an army can generally make when unopposed, upon a steady march.

The last editorial begins this way: Down in New York the other day, a Cuban applied for his naturalization papers and before he could get them, he was compelled by the clerk of the federal court, who had the matter in charge, to renounce his allegiance to the king of Spain, "whose subject he is."

The above articles constitute the whole of the editorial in that edition. The Independent defies anyone to find the equal of it for persistent, unqualified lying in one edition of any other paper published in the United States or in any other part of the world, or in any other world, hades included. Not an article that is not a bald faced lie or a lie by inference. That is the paper that could not live for three months if it were not supported by some professed christians and men who claim, at least, to live passably moral lives.

The State Journal people may claim that this edition of December 1st is not a fair sample—the writers having just returned from their Thanksgiving dinners—lied with more facility than usual. We will leave that subject to arbitration by any honest man who will look over a month's issues and compare them with this.

Is it not time time that the citizens of Lincoln took some means to establish a morning daily paper in this city that is fit to go into a decent family?

A VERY HEAVY HAND.

There was never a more infamous falsehood printed than the constant assertion that the Dingley bill has produced a surplus in spite of our enormous war expenses. In the first place there were bonds issued to the amount of \$200,000,000. Next there was a war tax imposed. That tax brought to the treasury, according to U. S. Treasurer Robert's report, last year \$46,553,419 in increase of customs and \$102,536,520 in increase from internal revenue. Here is an increase of taxation, outside of the Dingley bill, which has put into the treasury \$149,089,939. Even this enormous increase, added to the high tariffs of the Dingley bill, will not pay the expenses of this government under McKinley and imperialism. The present rate of expenditure is almost as great as in 1863 and 1864, and is greater than any other year of our history as a nation. In those two years we had over a million soldiers in the field fighting the most bloody battles of all history.

The effect of this heavy taxation manifests itself, as all economic forces do, very slowly. But it is beginning to be felt everywhere. Nearly every man is finding it harder and harder each month to meet his bills. Taxation, as well as trusts, necessarily raises the price of everything that the people consume. Every one is beginning to say that it costs more to maintain a family this year than it did last. It comes hardest on farmers and next on those men working for salaries or wages. But every one begins to feel the heavy hand that is laid upon him. He must work harder and live cheaper. If we will indulge in wars of conquest, a large army and navy, we must pay the cost, and the cost all comes out of the producers. This result is just what the Independent has said all the time would come upon us. From week to week we have constantly reiterated it. What an effect the reading of this paper would have on the voters if 50,000 copies of it could have been placed in their hands every week?

The pop editors have poked so much fun at the republicans for their attempt to convince the fusionists that if they wanted to win the next presidential campaign they must get some other candidate than Bryan, that all at once they have abandoned that sort of writing and now claim that they want Bryan to be the candidate so badly that they allowed the fusionists to carry Nebraska so as to make sure of it. Moral—When the coon is up the tree and you can't get him down—no matter how hungry you are for fresh meat—solemnly declare that you didn't want any meat no way.

THE CRIME OF CRIMES.

There has been much said about the crime of '73 and the crime of '93, but a crime greater than these and greater than ever committed by any parliament, any body since legislative assemblies existed, is about to be committed at Washington. The bill that the republicans propose to pass changes the contract under which the rich men of this nation bought all the bonds outstanding and makes them payable in gold alone. That will practically double the value of those bonds. By one stroke it will add to the riches of the rich over one thousand millions of dollars. It will do this at the request of the rich and without anything being returned to the people for it. It is a theft of a thousand millions from the producers of this country. It will increase the fortunes of the already enormously rich by that much and add that much to the burden of the already overburdened poor. There is no crime in all history that will compare with this.

In another section of the bill, which will be found in another column, there is concealed a plan to contract the currency to the amount of \$200,000,000. A careless reading of the bill would not reveal it, but there is tucked away in one of the sections a plan to retire all the Sherman treasury notes. A contraction of the volume of money and at the same time making payable all the bonds and obligations of the United States, both public and private, in gold, we repeat is a crime in the presence of which all other crimes fade into insignificance.

BRIBES AND PATRONAGE.

Mrs. Kellie, who prints the only middle of the road paper in this state—a small five column folio—says that "the populist press of Nebraska was crushed out to make room for a mongrel fusion press bribed with patronage." Both of these statements is news to this office. No populist paper was ever crushed. They are all alive and kicking worse than ever. And that patronage! We would like to see some of it. We have been chasing after it for a long time, but state officers seem to prefer the jobbing houses to job department of a pop paper. If the people of this state were in favor of the ideas that Mrs. Kellie advocates, she ought to be in clover all the time as she has the only organ of that sort to which they can subscribe. Her circulation ought to be immense, and instead of publishing a five column folio she ought to be able to issue an eight column octavo. Did it never occur to Mrs. Kellie that the trouble is not with the editors of populist papers, but that the men who organized the populist party in this state almost unanimously came to the conclusion that the only way to ever redeem this state, or the nation, was for all voters who oppose the republican party to get together and vote one ticket? It is strange that it has never occurred to her, but if she will stop and think about the matter she will see that it was not patronage, it was not bribes, or anything of that sort, but the conclusion that that was the best thing to be done, honestly arrived at after long study.

WHAT GOOD IS IT.

In another article in this issue there is a review of one day's issue of the State Journal in which it is shown that every editorial is based upon a barefaced lie. It differs from other gold bug papers in that every article was a lie while the others usually print some that are not. The New York Times does it in that way. Here is one from a recent issue: All the labor and sweat and wind of our free silver friends has been for naught. All the speeches they have made, all the editorials they have written and all the loud street talking they have done has floated away in noxious gas and will be heard no more. Only the un-avory odor of it all remains. The democratic national committee has held its meeting, big with destiny, and has decided that the question of the free and unlimited coinage of silver shall not enter into the next campaign.

The Journal not satisfied with the amount of lying that it did that issue on its own account, also reprinted this, knowing that it was a lie. If one was to judge of the moral standing of the American people by the gold standard press he would come to the conclusion that Sodom was a respectable community in comparison with them. What good do they suppose will result from this sort of journalism?

TAKING OFF THE MASK.

For twenty-six years the republican party has worn a mask. All this time it has had the determination to give the gold standard the validity of law and all the time it has proclaimed in its platforms and in the speeches of its leading senators and representatives that it has been for bimetalism. At last it has thrown off the mask and declares for the gold standard without any equivocations. The bill that is printed in another part of this paper lays down what they propose to do and the manner of doing it.

Never in all history can there be found an example of such hypocrisy. President McKinley during the last campaign, when hard pressed with the charge that the republicans intended to do this very thing, came out on his front

porch and denied it in toto. It was by deception and perfidy that the election of McKinley was made possible. The party was pledged to promote international bimetalism. All the time the sole purpose was to more firmly establish the gold standard.

By placing the government in the hands of liars and scoundrels—men who were frauds and hypocrites—we have not only given them the power to make slaves of the people of this nation through endless bond issues, but also the power to establish a great standing army, numerous enough to hold us in subjection at the point of the bayonet. Of all the scoundrels who have ever cursed the world—the most infernal hypocrites are the men who for nearly thirty years have run the republican party.

SUBSCRIBE NOW.

Next year will be the year of the greatest presidential campaign ever fought in this country. The basis of that fight will be laid in the action of congress during the coming winter and spring. No one will be prepared to take active part in it unless he keeps posted on what is done in Washington during the next few months. The reformers who have fought the battles so far, know how much reliance can be placed upon the reports of the gold bug dailies and associated press. As an example we are just getting at this late day the true returns from the late election. They come to us through the reform weeklies in the various states. There is no other way to get at the truth. The Independent proposes to get the facts and publish them each week. An arrangement has been made for a letter from Washington. This letter will not contain anything that is sent out by the associated press or the special gold bug correspondents at Washington, but the news that is suppressed. Through this letter you will learn what the populist senators and representatives are doing. They are never spoken of in the dispatches. The fights on the floor of congress, and they will be hot ones, will be reported by an eye witness and the part borne in them by the men who are fighting for liberty and the common people will be given to our readers. Therefore for the good of the cause we ask the populist workers in this state to extend the circulation of the Independent and get the subscriptions now.

The people of Nebraska are entitled to know why Superintendent Jackson retains in his employ regularly a clerk not authorized by law and pays him \$75 per month of the people's money. The populist party is entitled to know what reason Mr. Jackson has for keeping in his employ a republican, Mr. Alex Bentley, not specially qualified when there are hundreds of more competent and just as deserving young men and women who are populists. Why is it that Mr. Jackson has recently raised the salary of this illegally employed republican clerk from \$60 to \$75 per month? In the beginning of his term Superintendent Jackson attempted to save to himself all the profits of his office by employing his wife as an assistant. The Independent made the fact known and public sentiment was so opposed to his selfish policy that he was compelled to take her home and give her place to another. It is equally disgraceful and insulting to his populist friends for him to keep a republican in his employ. It is ungrateful to the party that elected him. Perhaps there is a "profit" in it to him as there was in the employment of his wife. It is certainly as bad and as insulting to the organization that elected him to office.

The superintendent's office will have several things to explain at the next convention.

The editorial columns of the great dailies are a disgrace to this age and nation. There is not one of them that employs an editorial writer of ability. The place where once appeared profound and scholarly articles is now filled almost exclusively with the merest gossip. It does not pay a thoughtful man to waste the time in reading them. The plutocratic magazines are not much better. They, one and all, have abandoned any attempt at accuracy of statement. Their articles all bear the marks of the special pleader instead of that of the honest seeker after the truth. To sum it all up: Editorial writing in the great dailies is "no good."

The republican papers continue to disgrace the state by discussing Senator Hayward's successor. Not a word of that kind has been printed in any popocratic organ. All that has been said by them are words of sympathy with the senator and his family. But the brutes who edit these gold bug trust papers have kept it up. Stinging rebukes are now appearing in many of the populist papers. It is no use however to hope that these scavengers can be made decent. They were not brought up to be decent.

The ten per cent gain in the republican vote of Kansas which was so widely circulated by the associated press turns out to have been a ten per cent loss. No reader of a republican paper will ever see the truth about it, or anything else for that matter, in any of his partisan papers. The mullet heads will all continue to firmly believe that "the republicans made great gains in Kansas."

WHO SHALL BE SENATOR

As strange as it may appear to thousands of the readers of this paper, the question of who shall be appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Hayward has become a very vital one. Governor Poynter has signified his desire to hear from the people. The Independent asks every reader of it as soon as he gets this edition to sit down and write a short letter to this office naming the man who he thinks should be appointed and his reasons therefor. Let it be short and to the point. The greatest battle of the century is to be fought in the United States Senate in the next few months. Who should be sent to represent the people of the state in that contest?

WHAT SHALL IT BE?

We have reached the point in the meeting of congress when the question must be answered whether this nation is to go on in the way we have followed for the last 125 years, declaring that all governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, or whether we will abandon that principle and attempt the government of subject nations. The secretary of war in his annual report discusses at great length the problem of colonial government. He recalls that the treaty of Paris places in congress alone the determination of the civil rights and political status of the native inhabitants of the territories ceded to the United States. He argues that this limitation completely deprives these people of the right to have the islands treated as states or as territory previously acquired has been treated, or even to assert a legal right under the provisions of the constitution, which was established for the people of the United States themselves.

The secretary says it is essential that Porto Rico should receive substantially the same treatment at our hands as she received from Spain when a colony.

Will congress decide this question as the McKinley administration demands? Will they declare that the Filipinos after they have been bought, paid for and annexed, "have no legal right under the constitution?" Will they say that Porto Rico shall receive at our hands "the same treatment that she received from Spain?" What will the supreme court of the United States say about these things when the question gets up to it? What will the people say when they review this question next fall on election day? Must a government by the people, for the people perish from the face of the earth? These are momentous times.

A NEW SCHEME.

Lucien Stebbins and his crowd of assistant republicans having made a total failure in attempting to organize a middle-of-the-road populist party in this state, have concocted a new scheme. It will prove just as dismal a failure as did their last. All the money that Mark Hanna, or any one else, put in this new venture will be a loss. They have sent out a call for a convention to be held in Hastings for the purpose of organizing a new party to be called the Union Reform party. The platform is to have but one plank—the initiative and referendum. As the populist party has advocated this principle for years, and as Mr. Bryan, speaking for the democratic party, has given it his hearty endorsement, the necessity of a new party to advocate it does not seem to be very apparent.

The call has thirty-one names attached to it—two of them women. A look at it shows a lot of disgruntled office-seekers, one or two out of an old bug and the remainder "are unknown to fortune and to fame."

About four fusionists, evenly divided between the pops and democrats, here in the city of Lincoln, all of whom had held offices of profit or honor in the two parties, because they could not get more office and more profit and honor out of their connection with the fusion forces, resolved to turn traitor and fight for the republicans. In their egotistic souls they really thought that they could ruin the reform cause. What was the result? The fusion forces cut down the republican majority on the head of the ticket more than a hundred votes, elected one county officer, and came within a hair's breadth of electing two more. It is to be hoped that the populists at least, are now rid of that kind of cattle. From Paul Vandervoort to D. Clem Deaver, they have never been able to do us any material injury.

The great republican gains in New York turn out to be the same sort they were in Kansas. After the official count was made the republican majority in the state is shown to be a little over 9,000. McKinley's majority in 1896 was 256,000. So the great republican gain was a loss of 247,000! The republicans think it a very nice thing to have the associated press and hundreds of great dailies to circulate their lies for them. But finally retribution overtakes them.

