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Francis Willard once said: "There is no 'I' in the Lord's prayer. It is all 'we.' It is all the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God."

It is probable that when Otis starts home he will turn ship back after he gets out of the harbor, return to Manila and send one more dispatch declaring that the war is over.

D. Clem Deaver returned last Saturday from a long trip through the east and the south. He made his report to Rosewater who published it in the Bee under a scare head. He does not say in his report who paid the expenses of the trip.

The Independent requests a few of its readers to go out and ask some of their republican neighbors if the war in the Philippines is over, then report their answers. From a letter received from the interior of the state it seems that they really do believe that the war is over.

This war has been a dead failure in the creation of heroes. Desperate efforts have been made but every one of them have petered out including Dewey, Hobson, Funston, Teddy—every one of them have gone into premature decay. So mote it be.

Any man who will go to Porto Rico and accept one of those high priced official positions and take the money taxed out of those poor, starving people without their consent should not be allowed to come into the kitchen of a respectable christian. Let their names be covered with eternal infamy.

Under the bill for the government of Hawaii the governor is to receive an annual salary of $5,000, $500 for incidentals and $2,000 for a private secretary. What do you think of that, plodding, hard working republican farmer? How do you like imperialism as far as it has developed?

The first man in America to advocate the referendum was Thomas Jefferson. He sought to have it incorporatod into the constitution of Virginia. The slave interests feared such a measure and defeated it. But Jefferson favored it and did what he could to have it included in the organic law of that state.

A farmer writes a letter to the Independent (not for publication) in which he places great reliance upon what the supreme court is going to do to imperialism. The Independent puts no faith in that body as now constituted. When that court declared an income tax unconstitutional after it had been affirmed five times during a hundred years, is not entitled to the confidence of the people. It is just as likely to decide that the constitution is out of date as anything else.

The populists and democrats of the Seventh district in Kansas held conventions and failed to agree upon a candidate. Then they both nominated candidates and adjourned. That insures a goldbug imperialist from that district if the matter is not mended. Why on earth a democrat or populist wants to run for congress in that district, spend the time and pay the expenses of a campaign when he knows that he will be defeated is past comprehension. Tuat way of making assistant republicans out of themselves is just as bad as joining the fuzzie wuzzies. The Independent has no patience with them.

Donnelly says it is the same old democratic party of the sixties, and in that Donnelly lies. The men who were democrats in 1860 are nearly all dead, so that the millions of voters in the democratic party today are not the men of the sixties. Of course there are a few of them left but their votes all told would not seriously affect an election. The democratic national platform of today is the very antipodes of the platforms of the sixties. Nearly all of the old codgers who voted the democratic ticket in the sixties and who are still alive, are assistant republicans or republicans out and out, like Dr. Miller, or republican bushwhackers like J. Sterling Morton. The democratic party of today is composed of new men and its platforms and principles are entirely different from the democracy of 1860. So when Donnelly says it is the same old democratic party of the sixties he prints a whopper the size of a young mountain.

THE LEGISLATURE OF 1901

The legislature of 1901 will have plenty of work to do. Two United States senators must be elected, and there are several important legislative matters which require attention.

The two United States senators must be members of the reform forces, and the only way to insure their election is for every populist, democrat and silver republican to see to it that his vote is recorded for the fusion candidates for the legislature. To hold in line for the legislative tickets in the various districts the full fusion vote, it is imperative that the best men be nominated, regardless of whether they be democrats, populists or silver republicans. However, in districts where the democrats constitute the major portion of the fusion forces, it will doubtless be found advisable to nominate men who affiliate with the democratic party; and in districts where the populists outnumber their political allies, populist candidates will probably be more successful in holding the fusion strength. But party affiliation should in all cases be made a matter of secondary importance and subordinate to fitness for the position, great personal popularity and ability to make a successful campaign. The Independent believes it inadvisable for legislative nominating conventions to pledge candidates to vote for any particular candidate for United States senator, because legislators of undoubted integrity—and the fusion forces must elect no other kind—may safely be relied upon to be guided by the preponderance of public sentiment among their constituents when the time comes to elect the two United States senators. And the Independent urges that every county avoid placing upon the ballot the name of any person to be voted for as preference for United States senator. Purely as a matter of allowing the voter to express his preference, there is no objection to the plan: but shrewd republican politicians invariably take advantage of the situation and are more than willing to trade votes "for United States senator" in exchange for votes for republican candidates for the legislature. In practice the plan has never been a success, and until the people can elect United States senators by direct vote there is nothing to be gained by using the makeshift. When the proper time comes, the fusion legislature of 1901 will elect two United States senators that will not only be a credit to Nebraska but also to the nation.

The Independent has no desire to usurp the prerogatives of the governor in suggesting work which should be done by the legislature of 1901. But there are matters which legislative candidates should discuss in the coming campaign, and in respect to which learn the wishes of their respective constituencies.

A constitutional convention seems to be an imperative necessity. The need of one was suggested to the legislature of 1899 by Governor Holcomb, but no action was taken. Among the things which require attention are constitutional provisions respecting an increase in the number of supreme judges or a system of calling district judges to aid the supreme court in disposing of cases, whichever is deemed preferable; increasing the number of avenues for investment of the permanent educational funds; providing for a better system of equalizing the burdens of taxation; fixing a new schedule of salaries for state officers; and cutting away some of the restrictions which now render amendment of our constitution an extreme improbability if not an impossibility. Other matters may be suggested, but these are among the most important ones.

Very little new legislation is needed. Nebraska has now an abundance of laws; in some respects a redundancy. But there are many rough edges and sharp corners which can be smoothed by the legislature of 1901. Of prime importance is the revenue law; yet the Independent believes it unwise to attempt the passage of an entire new revenue act. Legislatures, regardless of political complexion, are usually conservative bodies; and the task of enacting a complete system of providing revenue, especially one revolutionary in its nature, is too great and too important for any legislature to complete in one short session. But the legislature of 1901 should provide for a tax commission of about three members to make thorough investigation of the subject during the summer of 1901. In the event of a constitutional convention, this commission should be authorized and directed also to report to and confer with the convention respecting needed constitutional provisions.

To relieve the people of the burden of paying interest on about $1,750,000 of general fund warrants, an amendment to the present revenue law is needed allowing the state board of equalization to levy for general fund purposes not more than 7 mills on the dollar valuation, instead of 5 as at present. Inasmuch as the necessity for a levy for sinking fund is now a thing of the past (the last $35,000 of state bonds being paid off this month,) a 7-mill general fund levy would not materially increase the burdens of taxation, and, with economical state administration, every dollar of the state's floating debt could be wiped out in about four years.

Under the present practice of assessing property at from one-half to one-twentieth of its actual value the grand assessment roll shows only about $170,000,000 of taxable property in the state; and as each succeeding legislature finds it necessary to appropriate about $2,000,000 from the general fund, the state board of equalization finds it necessary to levy the full 5-mill limit on every county—and then, if every dollar were collected—the state tax lacks about $300,000 of meeting the legislative appropriations. This amount, however, is reduced somewhat by money received from fees of various kinds; but it is apparent that the state's general fund income must exceed its expenditures if any permanent reduction is ever made in the floating debt.

With the sinking fund levy abandoned, being necessary, and the full 5-mill general fund levy imperative, equalization can only be attempted by variations in the school fund levy, which cannot be less than one-half mill or more than 1½ mills. That this is wholly inadequate for the purpose of equalizing the marked differences in valuation as returned by different counties, must be evident to all who study the question.

Considerable improvement should be made in our corporation laws. Provision should be made for an annual report to be filed with the secretary of state by every corporation other than banks, railroads and insurance companies, (which report elsewhere,) and every corporation failing to report within a specified time should be regarded as having forfeited its charter.

Amendments should be made in all laws which provide for the payment of fees to any state officer other than the state treasurer, that these laws may conform to the constitution and the supreme court's construction thereof.

The penalties in official bonds should be revised and made commensurate with the responsibility attached to the office; for instance, it is absurd that the deputy attorney-general should be required to file a bond of $50,000. Under a strict compliance with the constitution he handles no money, and a $10,000 bond would more than cover all the loss if he should steal every article of furniture, books and so forth connected with the office. Past experience with questions arising on official bonds make the people prefer those furnished by responsible bond companies; but the people should stand the expense of procuring such bonds, at least in the case of elective officers, because they have expressed confidence in the ability and integrity of such officers by electing them.

Other matters of amendment naturally suggest themselves, but lack of space forbids at this time. The Independent's advice to legislative candidates is to study our present laws and see where they may be strengthened; and then to discuss the question with their people freely and frankly.

It might be well for the government of these two great Anglo-Saxon nations to be turned over to the school boys for a while. They seem to have more sense than the statesmen who are at present running them. Last week gave an account of how the school boys—twenty thousand in number—sent a messenger to Pretoria to carry their sympathy to Paul Kruger. This week the school boys of Canada started two of their number to Luzon to carry a message of sympathy to Aguinaldo. The school boys are all right. They love liberty. Let us hope that when they grow up and take charge of the affairs of the world, that they will still love liberty and hate war.

This property qualification for voters which is being introduced in "our colonies," will soon be applied in these states. The Independent believes that the wage worker who never had at one time in all his life more than one week's wages is better entitled to vote than the millionaire who never did a days work in his life. In England where they had a property qualification a man voted for a long time because he owned two donkeys. The donkeys died and then they wouldn't let him vote any more. He meekly asked if after all it was he who cast the votes or the donkeys. Along with imperialism will come all the other fixings. You need have no doubt about that.

BRYAN SAYS, NO

The people of this country are more firmly bound hand and foot by the money power than they ever were before. Their destiny is wholly in control of the national bank trust. That power has been doubled since the bankers laid this fair land waste in 1893. Then they controlled only the credit money of the country. Now they have their hands on the greenbacks, silver and an added power to contract the national bank note circulation, congress having taken all restraints from them in that regard. In 1893 a little note sent to the banks all over the country telling them to stop loans and call in all paper that was outstanding, gave us four years of such suffering and disaster as the country never knew before. That power so exercised then has been greatly increased by recent acts of congress.

Four billion of credit money went out of existence in a twinkling of an eye when the orders went out from Wall street. There was just as much silver, just as many greenbacks, just as much gold in circulation afterward as there was before. But no one could get money to do business or pay debts and prices went tumbling day after day although production was greatly decreased. Why? The four billion of credit money had disappeared. The wrecked fortunes, the insane asylums, the prison cells today bear record of that fearful time. The bankers did it. They will do it again whenever it is to their interest to do so. The banks today as a whole are a hundred per cent richer than they were when they issued that practical order.

Today the whole American nation lies helpless at their feet. They will make prosperity when it is to their interest to do so. They bring calamity when they can increase the value of bank stock by the operation. They can expand their credits and they can contract them. They can put out their national bank notes and they can call them in. They can raise prices and they can lower them. They can, with a power and force never before known, do it any time, for silver and greenbacks will soon be things of the past and they will have nothing to manipulate but gold and national bank notes. No such power was ever exercised by any organization, king or emperor before. And they tell us that the money question is settled! They want Bryan to drop the silver question? They promise him the presidency and all the honors of the world if he only will. Bryan shakes his head and says, no.

There are a few disappointed applicants for political plums who are busying themselves manufacturing, distributing and peddling stories calculated to stir up an opposition to the re-nomination of Governor Poynter. Such busybodys should remember the shame and disgrace of those who not so long ago were engaged in a similar tirade against Auditor Cornell. Time has fully vindicated Mr. Cornell and his record as an honest official stands out as a model for successors to follow. Those who condemned the auditor without a trial have been at the mourner's bench seeking forgiveness ever since. Those who are engaged in a similar slander of the governor at present should profit by the experience of their friends. Governor Poynter's administration has been honest and economical and when anyone tells you otherwise ask to be "shown"—ask the slanderer to produce the evidence. The governor is a farmer, and his administration has been a credit to the farmers of the state. Every candidate to succeed him is a lawyer. The Independent believes the lawyers have their full share of the offices already. The lawers have a perfect right to "aspire" for the place if they want to, but the farmers should see to it that they don't get it.

OUR "REEDEEMER" GOETH.

A significant feature of the week has been the beginning of gold exports in volume this season. Although only $500,000 was shipped to Europe and an equal amount to South America, and the former shipment was only brought about by the payment of the extra inducement of interest during the passage, the high rates and firmness of the foreign exchange market point to further exports. Although money markets abroad have of late shown improvement, rates are well above local easy monetary conditions, and the tendency is naturally for gold to go to the other side. This movement is also stimulated by our heavy importations of merchandise, which, as shown by the government reports, are largely in excess over last year's, at this time. So long as our easy money situation continues, the outlook for gold shipments, usual at this season, will be bright, and bankers expect much larger exports of the precious metal during the coming month and almost surely during the coming week.—Brooklyn Eagle.

And every dollar that goes abroad is thus taken out of circulation here, which must, if heavy exports continue, result in the lowering of prices at home unless counteracted by at equal amount of other currency injected into the circulation.

Suppose this "other currency" be national bank notes, redeemable in gold. How long can this gold drain continue until the banks will be utterly unable to redeem their notes in "standard money?"

PLATFORMS AND MEN

The perfidy of political parties for the last ten years make platforms of small account. In most instances they have been put out as a blind and those who made them never intended to abide by them. The last canvass made for Cleveland was made on the tariff question. No sooner did he come into power than a special session of congress was called to stop the further coinage of silver. It is true that a fairly good tariff law was passed by the house, but when it came back from the senate with over six hundred amendments tacked onto it it was a law to delight the hearts of the tariff barons all over the country.

The republicans made their last campaign on a platform pledged to maintain the then existing gold standard and to promote international bimetallism. As soon as they got into power they proceeded to change the existing standard and to kill all hopes of international bimetallism. What worth was the platform? What is there to any platform unless we have men behind them of honesty and uprightness? Even constitutions are not worth the paper they are written upon if the men in power see fit to ignore them.

The fight henceforth must be for men. We have fought the battle of platforms over and over and what has it all amounted to in the end? We have made steady advances toward the permanent establishment of plutocracy. Platforms will never prevent the establishment of a great standing army, a costly navy, wars of conquest, the overthrow of the the constitution and the declaration of independence. It will take men to do that. Platforms will not stop the concentration of wealth in the hands of the few. Platforms will not stop the increase of paupers. It will take men to do these thing. It is a MAN that we want more than any platform. Without the MAN we will be helpless with the best platform that can be written by the hand of genius. We have the man at last. His name is W. J. Bryan.

The great governing body of the United States is the senate. The senate is governed by a human cattle driver from Ohio who, under a free ballot and an honest count could not be elected dog catcher in any township in his state. He is assisted by a New York boss who held one place by virtue of the machine and gave the other to a Vanderbilt employee. It is by such men that this nation is being driven from the foundations upon which it has rested for more than a hundred years.

The Grand Island Democrat in its last issue contained an excellent editorial upon the popularity of Edgar Howard as a candidate for the nomination for state auditor. The Democrat demonstrated clearly that the Lincoln Journal and Omaha Bee are great admirers of Howard and his writings. With remarkable frequency those two model papers have found delight in reading Mr. Howard's writings and in many instances have quoted them freely for the pleasure and satisfaction of their republican readers. Truly Edgar is a remarkably swelled and a very great man—if you doubt it read the Bee and the Journal. They'll prove it.

TWELVE BOERS WHO FOUGHT UNDER GENERAL CRONJE.

CRITICISING SENATOR HOAR

Senator Hoar, the great republican leader, the aged senator that Massachusetts has honored with official position for more than half a century has declared in the senate and through the press against the policy of imperialism. He has denounced the surrender of the principles of the declaration of independence in language plainer and more forceful than any other eastern man of prominence. That he is honest in his convictions and his defense of liberty and the constitution none have been found to deny. He has begged and pleaded with his party and its leaders, hoped and prayed for the party which he helped to organize and by which he has been honored for so long, not to desert its history and the traditions and memories associated with it so dear to the American people; begged of it not to forsake the principles upon which the government was founded and in the advocacy and defense of which the republican party became great and powerful. It is a theme for a historian, for a MaCauley. Think of it, the venerable senator, the statesman for more than half a century, pleading with the younger and more selfish and ambitious members of his party to bring it back to the people—exhorting and beseeching them to avoid the quicksands of imperialism and despotism that have engulfed and swallowed up every republican government attempted by man. Will they hear his pleading and heed his warning cry? No. The once great and glorious republican party has drifted out to sea beyond his reach. The money power of the world has it in its grasp and destruction must be its fate or the government "of, by, and for the people will perish from the earth." The senator has declared that he is yet a republican—but he did not say how long he would remain one. For this statement he has been criticised. When passing criticism it should be remembered that it is difficult and painful for a man who has stood as long and as high in the councils of his party as Senator Hoar has in the republican party to quit it and transfer his allegiance to another. It would be dishonorable for him to do so without first making an honest and conscientious effort to reform his party and lead it back to its original teachings. If Senator Hoar had declared that he was no longer a republican, henceforth he would be denied a seat or hearing in its councils. He could not hope to reform it by such a method. The national convention of the republican party has not yet spoken. Upon the theory that "where there is life there is hope" he may be justified in waiting for the decision from the highest authority in the party before he quits it for good.

The republicans delight in having ruffians in the house of representatives just as the old slave drivers did. They parade their names constantly in the great dailies. They keep them constantly before the people. The slave drivers of the south never had a greater ruffian on the floor than the republicans have in their man Grosvenor. Here is a specimen of his talk:

"I hurl back the charge of bribery in the gentleman's teeth. I do not believe a republican made such a charge against his party. It is a lie. I do not say that no man made the statement, but if he did he is a liar."

That is the manner of a ruffian and Grosvenor indulges in such remarks almost daily and his side of the house cheer him. These remarks were made in reply to the statement of a newspaper man that a repuplican member had said that the Porto Rican measure was put through on account of promised campaign contributions by the trusts. Bob Tooms was no match for this Ohio ruffian.

UNDER TWO TARIFFS

The State Journal publishes the following, upon, as it says, the authority of the Denver republican:

When the valiant colonel reached the little town of Gallup he made the customary speech to the cheering people and added a fervent postscript when the mayor climbed upon the platform and presented him with a beautiful Navago blanket. The colonel's seraphic smile froze into a ghastly grin when he found attached to the blanket this insulting note:

"My Dear Mr. Bryan:—Under the republican administration the wool in this blanket sells for twenty-two cents a pound. Under the democratic administration it sold for six cents. Please tell this to your constituents."

The Nebraska Independent publishes the following upon no one's authority.

When the valiant Major McKinley visited Dakota last fall a sun-burned farmer climbed upon the platform and presented him with some nails and various other articles that farmers had to buy. Attached to them was the following note:

"My dear Mr. McKinley: Under the republican administration I have to pay $4.90 for these nails and for all other things that I buy I have to pay from 100 to 250 per cent more than I did before you were elected to office. Please tell this to your constituents."

STOP THE CARNAGE

If but half is true that comes over the cable from Manila concerning the carnage and butchery going on over there, then our forces are outdoing Weyler ten to one. There have been more Filipinos shot down in cold blood according to the cablegrams in the last thirty days, than the Spanish ever murdered in a whole year. Some of the acts of carnage recorded outdo the Duke or Alva or the Spanish invaders of Mexico. Those murderers reaped their just reward and the nation that permitted their barbarities is about to join the long list of such monsters, who one by one have disappeared from the face of the earth since Belshazzar read the writing on the wall.

One dispatch says that General Bell rounded up 160 Filipinos, not one of them had a gun, they being armed only with bolos, and shot every one of them; threw their bodies in a river and let them float away. These brave American soldiers stood off out of reach of the bolos and deliberately murdered every one of these Filipinos without danger to themselves. Did the Spanish ever do a more dastardly deed than that?

Every decent man in America bows his head in shame over such deeds. The history of this republic never had such a stain put upon it before. The curse of Heaven never failed to rest upon such acts and it never will. A day of judgment will come. It has never failed to come in all the thousands of years of written history. A thousand Filipinos killed in one week! And still these men do not surrender! And still the carnage goes on! All the land is silent. No voice of protest is raised in congress. An omnious stillness reigns everywhere. But it is the calm before the storm. If no other man in America will raise his voice against this cruel slaughter, this writer will raise his. There were not many in Old John Brown's company when he joined it in Kansas in 1856. Some of them died on the scaffold and some on the battle field. But they conquered. The three or four of them who still live call aloud to stop this slaughter of innocent men in the Philippines.

The appointing power is ever a rose with many thorns. For every position to be filled by appointment some three to twenty applicants present themselves. Only one can be appointed. And it often happens that one or more of the disappointed ones conceives it his duty to work against the renomination of the officer making the appointment. But what the people as a whole look to is the public record of the officer in the discharge of his official duties other than making appointments; if that be good, the people approve.

Governor Poynter's record is good. He has shown that a farmer can possess executive ability as well as members of the professions. His state papers and public utterances are models of clear, incisive English. He is an old-time populist, heartily in sympathy with populist ideas and an earnest and convincing advocate of them. Beyond a doubt he is entitled to a renomination at the hands of the fusion convention in July.

There may be in places some little disaffection growing out of appointments made by the governor, but disappointed applicants should remember that where twenty apply for one place, nineteen must, in the very nature of things, be disappointed. And they should further bear in mind that—

"Laugh, and the world laughs with you;
Weep and you weep alone."

This is not said in disparagement of any person aspiring to the nomination. Indeed, it is a laudable ambition to be governor of the great state of Nebraska. But following a time-honored populist precedent, it is certainly eminently proper and just that Governor Poynter be renominated.

It is becoming more and more apparent every day that if McKinley is reelected an attempt will be made to annex Cuba. Every move of the administration for the last six months has had that tendency. All prominent Cubans, including Gen. Gomez, have been saying things of late which indicate that they believe that to be the case. Where will McKinley get troops to fight a war of conquest in Cuba? There will be a conscription. Let the republican farmer when he votns the republican ticket this fall remember that he is probably voting to send his son to Cuba to die in the hospitals or trenches. There is no doubt if he does reflect upon it, he will "vote 'er straight." That is what he has been taught and all needful information that would tend to enlighten his mind has been carefully kept from him.

WE THANK THEE OH! MCKINLEY

From reading editorials in republican papers one would come to the conclusion that what these editors would have their followers do as they look out on the green fields and see the fine prospects for abundant crops, would be for all of them to turn their faces toward Washington, fall down on their knees and say: "We thank thee, Oh! McKinley, thou omnipotent and omniscient One for all these things. We remember that when we had Grover Cleveland for president that the hot winds blew out of the south and the scorching sun baked the earth, the crops withered and died in the fields and we had hard times. But since thou hast been president, thou hast sent us the rains in due season, thou hast shielded the fields from the burning sun and the crops have been abundant and we have had better times. We remember also that thou hast sent the drouths and hot winds to other countries and their crops have failed. Thou hast caused 50,000,000 of people in India alone to so suffer and die for want of food and not only to stop their exportations of wheat, but to create a demand for our wheat and all the world is taking up collections to buy it and send it to India, making a better market and a higher price for what we have to sell.

"We thank thee Oh! McKinley be-