

The Nebraska Independent

Lincoln, Nebraska

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The Independent is in receipt of a well written communication from John Peters of Shelton, Buffalo county relative to the vice presidency, which was received too late for last week's issue.

They were going to give us a financial system where "every dollar should be as good as every other dollar."

The banker owes the depositors for every cent they deposit in his bank. He loans it out and gets interest on it.

Attention is called to the excellent article by Hon. Flavius J. Van Vorhis of Indiana, in another column of the Independent, entitled "Loss of Wealth in Foreign Trade."

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PAST COMPREHENSION

The New York Commercial remarks: "We observe that the charge is made that this company, (Steel and Wire) while it raised the price of its barbed wire, for instance, from about \$1.80 to \$4.20 per hundred pounds in the American market, has still found it profitable to sell the same thing in Europe at \$2.40 per hundred pounds."

It is passing strange how long it takes these great New York papers to find out anything that is of interest to the common people. For fifteen years the protected manufacturers in this country have been selling their goods in Europe and Canada at about half what they charged American citizens for them.

One plan to stop this sort of swindling is proposed by the Commercial. It proposes that American made goods shall have the privilege of free entry at our ports after they have been exported.

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After this the Investor goes on to give warning of a coming collapse. That is just what the Independent has said for three months.

The Investor begins to see a coming panic. The bill passed by congress was a panic breeder.

HANNA WILL DECIDE That Porto Rican bill was such an awful piece of robbery that the members of the house were frightened about their chances of re-election.

THE INVESTOR'S VISION The contempt for judges which has grown up in the popular mind during the last few years is not all based on the idea that the judges are all permanently prejudiced in favor of the great combinations of capital.

W. E. CURTIS says that it was the "intention" of congress that the telegraph and express companies should pay of tax and not the general public.

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AN ARGUMENT IN SUPPORT OF BENEVOLENT ASSIMILATION. Photographed in Luzon specially for the Independent

always, is unalterably opposed to all trusts and combinations having for their purpose the stifling of competition, and arbitrarily controlling productions or fixing prices.

If the republicans are honest in the above announcement do you think the trusts would contribute anything to carry their election?

It is really laughable to think how much maple syrup and sugar there is now in cities with not a maple tree in sight.

THE WAY THE ENGLISH TREAT THE BOER PRISONERS is a disgrace to the civilized world. They refuse to exchange, but send the Boers to the desert island of St. Helena.

Look over the republican platform laid down by the Nebraska State convention last week. It starts out with the following: "We rejoice that we are citizens of a mighty nation, whose resources are larger than at any previous period in its history; whose treasury is overflowing with gold; whose agricultural industries flourish as never before."

The party takes credit for an increased revenue. Any fool ought to know that increasing the taxes would increase the revenue. Why, weak tax the people to make the treasury overflow with gold?

There can be no other excuse, only that the rich people and the thieving officeholders get the overflow. Seventy cents a bushel in New York, for wheat is not a very big "flourish" for agriculture, when we take into the account that the farmer has to pay two prices for everything he buys and freight both ways.

"We point with pride to the remodeling of our tariff laws, which has increased our revenues and not impeded trade; which has opened the doors of mills and factories to the millions of American skilled mechanics, and is returning them the higher wages that are the just recompense for their toil."

Tariff is only another name for tax. The "remodeling" was only an increase of tax upon the necessities of the common people. Why do they not tax tea, coffee and other luxuries, such as common people can get along without? Why do they not tax imported wine seven hundred per cent, as they do home-made whisky? The poor men drink the whisky and the rich men drink the wine, is the reason. And why tax American goods, bought in a foreign land, when brought home? The only reason that can be given is that American people should be made to pay more for American goods than foreigners do.

"We endorse the legislation that has strengthened our financial system, and finally established the gold standard."

Of course the corporation, trust and banker's party "endorses" any scheme to take money out of the pockets of common people and put it into their own. The gold standard is the rich man's measure. The millionaire bankers of the east all favor it, in fact it is their law, they first proposed it and secretly carried it through congress. Had it been referred to the people in 1873 it would have been beaten 10 to 1. We favor the referendum.

"The United States treasury puts in evidence the \$120,000,000 in gold that has come to it within a year, and the \$413,000,000 in gold now held within its vaults."

Why do we need so much gold lying idle? Why not reduce the taxes a little? If I were still a member of the republican party I would not boast of such kind of economy and financing.

"While we are unalterably opposed to imperialism and militarism as practised by European nations, we are opposed to a large standing army in time of peace."

Bryan discusses these questions, or republican platform makers would pass them by. It is plain to be seen that the republican party see the necessity of agreeing with him as far as possible in order to take the thunder out of his doctrine. Imperialism means emperorism and empire differs from a kingdom in this: a king can rule only one people, and when by military force he subdues and rules other peoples he becomes an emperor. Victoria is queen of England but empress of India. McKinley is president of the United States but emperor of the Philippines. Now, how can republicans favor McKinley and yet oppose imperialism? "But the republican party, now, as

not to miss the deeper causes that may be stirring beneath it.

A number of amusing things occurred at the recent republican state convention in Lincoln. Chairman Jenkins flashed a carefully written speech on the convention to show his appreciation of the honor conferred upon him; but he took occasion to "crib" portions of Mark Hanna's Columbus speech without giving credit to the Ohio senator and trust magnate. Four separate and distinct times the editor of the True Populist and another paper had, previous to the convention, printed in an obscure sheet he publishes at Omaha, as an annex to True Populist, a cartoon of Hon. John Mellen Thurston (often referred to irreverently as "Coal Oil Johnny"), representing the senator from Nebraska in the dual role of United States senator and attorney for the Standard Oil Company; and many loud were the protestations this editor made against allowing "sugar and oil" to be sent as delegates to the republican national convention.

In this fight the little editor was ably seconded by D. E. Thompson. But when the roll of counties was finally ended, it was found that 609 republican delegates out of 1033 desired their "trusted" senator to be a delegate, while the editor of the True Populist had made a score of 362. The four delegates at large are Rosewater, Erhardt, McClay and Thurston.

It was rumored that Rosewater had had said that if Thurston were elected delegate, he (Rosewater) would refuse to act if elected; but after the election, "you couldn't have dragged him off the delegation with a team of mules," as Dinah would remark.

It must have been a bit humiliating to Senator Thurston to receive such a light vote while the most thoroughly hated man in the republican party received over fifty per cent more votes. The World-Herald staff correspondent, in his inimitable manner, sized up the situation after this fashion:

There is no disguising the real situation. The republican state convention embraced its opportunity, and did the thing that a lot of the wise ones declared to be bad politics. It ignored the fact that Senator Thurston had appeared in court as the champion of the Standard Oil company while drawing a salary of \$5,000 a year as United States senator. Thereby it strangled its convictions. It also tried to make Edward Rosewater believe that it loved him still. Therein it stifled its conscience.

Freight Rates. Hon. M. L. Lockwood, in his testimony before the Industrial commission, stated that the average rate of moving one ton of freight, one mile is eighty-five hundredths of one cent (.0085), but that individual shippers pay from 4.32 cents to 13.57 cents per ton mile. He then asks, "How much less than eighty-five hundredths cent per ton mile do the trusts, monopolies and favored shippers pay in order to bring the general average down to a low figure?"

Suppose the trusts ship ten times as much as merchants and others who ship in car lots; and a hundred times as much as all the small shippers of the United States who ship in quantities less than car lots. Let us figure a little:

Table with 2 columns: Tons per mile, Rate per ton mile. 10 tons one mile, @ .1357, \$1.357; 100 tons one mile, @ .0432, 4.32; 1000 tons one mile, @ .0028, 2.823

1110 tons one mile, @ .0085, 8.50

It would appear that by such discrimination the favored shippers do not pay to exceed one-twentieth as much as the merchants and less than one-sixtieth the rate paid by smaller shippers. Discrimination in freight rates makes monopolies possible in many lines; but it often proves disastrous to the railroads, notwithstanding their rates to ordinary shippers may be exorbitant.

Four or five years ago the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad went into the hands of a receiver, and about the first thing that that receiver found out was that the officials of that road in a short time prior, two or three years, had paid out to monopolies, trusts, favored shippers, over seven millions of dollars in rebate, and while this was a state's prison offense, there seemed no disposition on the part of the attorney-general to bring these great criminals to judgment. These great railway and monopolistic combines seem to oxbershard the government and dictate and control the action of its officials."

Sharples Cream Separators—Profitable dairying.

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