

The Nebraska Independent

PREISE BLDG., CORNER 15TH AND N STS
ELEVENTH YEAR
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
\$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

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Anonymous communications will not be noticed. Rejected manuscripts will not be returned.

For President..... WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN
For Vice President..... CHARLES A. TOWNE

A national debt is a national curse, and only a fool or a knave would argue otherwise.

Three-hundredths of 1 per cent of our population own twelve billions of dollars. How is that for concentration of wealth?

Read the premium offer and send in a club of twelve. Help to increase the circulation of the Independent. It's the surest way to get results at the election this fall.

Pingree is the most influential public man in Michigan and his accession to the Bryan ranks is most cheering to the friends of reform. "Verily our cause is marching on."

Hand your Independent to your neighbor after you have read it and invite him to subscribe. Read the editorial "announcement" of special premium offers in force June 1st.

In 1892 the annual interest on the United States bonded debt was about twenty millions; now it is about forty millions. The farmers and mechanics have to make this difference up in actual work.

This administration is great on coinage phrases. It has given us "plain duty," "criminal aggression," "benevolent assimilation" and now it adds "supplementary allowance" as distinguished from "additional salary."

Jennings says in his new work, "People and Property": "On many of our coins may be found the words, 'In God We Trust.' Let now some mighty word blot out the second and third words, and you have the whole story."

In 1880 there were 1,943 concerns manufacturing agricultural implements. In 1890 there were only 910 concerns, and their capital stock had more than doubled. What will they be in 1900? Wait for the census returns.

This fall for the fifth time in history, the occupant of the White House will be opposed for re-election by the candidate whom he defeated four years before. It is significant that on each of the former occasions, the man in the White House had been defeated. After November 6 there will be five cases of this instead of four.

Mr. Towne resisted every appeal of warm partisans to come to Sioux Falls to further his own candidacy, maintaining to the last the lofty view that he could only be a candidate except in response to a call to duty. That it came unannounced and irresistibly, appeals all the stronger to the people in their rallying cries of the campaign.

The once great republican party, whose administration has declined to express sympathy for the Boers of South Africa, has stricken down the Filipino republic and spread death and destruction throughout the Philippine archipelago, only 25 years ago—1872—declared as follows in its national platform:

"The national government should seek to maintain honorable peace with all nations, protecting its citizens everywhere and sympathizing with all people who strive for greater liberty."

That was while the memory of the sainted Lincoln still hovered over his party, and before the advent of Hanna McKinleyism.

WHAT THE FLAG STANDS FOR

In America, for the good old constitution and for the Declaration of Independence, which declare for liberty, for men, of all races, of all climes. In the islands of the sea, under "Criminal Aggression," the flag stands for the destruction of human freedom, and the suggestion of a feeble though liberty loving people.

In America, for freedom to white and black men alike. In the Philippines, it stands for conquest of people whose skins are brown and whose stature is small.

In America the flag stands for the American home, with one wife and one mother for the family. In Sulu it stands for polygamy, with as many wives as the Sulu chief can support on his McKinley salary.

FACTS VS. BOMBAST.

The would-be republican national committee for Nebraska, smarting under his failure to prevent "Coal Oil Johnny" from being a delegate to Philadelphia, has turned his attention to state matters. Totally oblivious of the fact that his building, "the pride of two continents," has never been assessed as high as much other Omaha real estate, he launches out in the following tirade against the state board of equalization:

A SURRENDER OF THE RAILROAD The fusion members of the State Board of Equalization have fixed the assessment of railroad property in Nebraska for the year 1900 at the same figures as last year, with the exception of additional mileage constructed since that time. The total as it stands on the new assessment roll is \$26,287,570—this in spite of the fact that under a republican administration in 1893, with a smaller mileage, the assessment had been as high as \$28,661,822.

No more complete surrender to the railroads, on the part of public officers sworn to uphold and protect the interests of the people, is recorded. The members of the state board elected on pledges of reform and promises of relief from railroad oppression have turned their backs upon the farmers and producers and made common cause with the great corporations.

Will any one contend that the railroad property in Nebraska is worth less in the year 1900 than it was in the year 1893? Every railroad doing business in the state has a greater earning capacity at the present time than ever before. Every railroad is carrying more rolling stock than ever before. The increase in the price of steel makes its trackage more valuable, to say nothing of the natural increment of the right-of-way.

Most of the Nebraska roads have put hundreds of thousands of dollars into improvement during the past year, yet not one cent is added to their taxation. If the farmer builds a barn or enlarges his house the assessor quickly discovers the fact and makes note of it on his assessment. But the railroads, by the connivance of the sham reformers in the state house, have all of their improvements marked off. Not a cent is added to represent the value of the new Union Pacific station at Omaha, the new Elkhorn station at Lincoln, the new Burlington station at Kearney and new stations at a dozen other Nebraska points.

The following table gives a comparison of the years 1899 and 1893. It shows that in the year 1899 there were over three million more acres of land returned for taxation by the assessors than were taxed in 1893; that the

Table with columns: Acres or number, Valuation, Increase, Decrease, Per Cent. Rows include Lands, Lots, Horses, Cattle, Mules and asses, Sheep, Hogs, Carriages and wagons, R. E. Sleeping car, and All other property.

"Will any one contend," shouts the little editor, "that the railroad property in Nebraska is worth less in the year 1900 than it was in the year 1893?" Assuredly not. On the other hand, will the little editor contend that all the property in the state of Nebraska is worth \$26,000,000 less than it was in 1893? Will he contend that 31,000,000 acres of Nebraska land in 1899 are worth nearly \$10,000,000 less than 28,000,000 acres were worth in 1893? Does he believe that all other property in Nebraska, exclusive of the nine items given in detail, has depreciated in value nearly \$4,000,000 in seven years? Does he wish to go on record as saying that the property of Nebraska in that year of untold McKinley prosperity, A. D. 1899, has so shrunk in value since the Cleveland panic year, A. D. 1893, that it is returned for purposes of taxation more than 13 per cent lower on the average?

In his anxiety to find fault with the fusion state officers who compose the state board of equalization, Mr. Rosewater entirely ignores the patent defects in our system of taxation. Beyond a doubt the real value of every species of property in Nebraska, with the possible exception of town lots and horses, has increased since 1893 because there is an increase in such property. It is doubtless true that the value of lands in western Nebraska has to some extent depreciated; but it is not reasonable to say that all the lands of Nebraska have depreciated nearly twenty per cent on the average since 1893. It is hard to believe that horses have depreciated nearly 50 per cent, mules and asses 54 per cent, sheep 23 per cent, hogs 32 per

The taxes evaded by the railroads are, of course, shifted to the shoulders of other taxpayers, of whom the farmers constitute the vast majority. Will the taxpayers of Nebraska endorse this betrayal of confidence by retaining in office a party whose subserviency to the railroads is blazoned in this railroad assessment—Omaha, Bee.

Like all other special pleaders, the editor of the True Populist and another paper gives only a part of the truth, part of the facts, and allows his readers to infer that the figures omitted would sustain his argument. Half the truth is always worse than a whole lie, and Mr. Rosewater stands unrivaled in his ability to tell part of the facts, conceal the rest, and therefrom draw misleading conclusions.

It is a fact that the railroad assessment for 1899, made by Governor Poynter, Auditor Cornell, and Treasurer Meserve, sitting as a board of equalization, is nearly two and a half million dollars less than the assessment made against the railroads in 1893. It is further true that the assessment of 1900, made by the same board, is the same as that of 1899 plus nearly \$200,000 for new lines built in 1899. And upon this statement, without giving any figures regarding the assessed valuation of other property in 1893 and 1899, Mr. Rosewater raises a great hue and cry about "surrendering to the railroads." If there has been a surrender, the Independent wants to know it, and will gladly join with Mr. Rosewater in denouncing the board for its disregard of public duty. But the Independent believes in getting all the facts. Let us investigate the matter.

The following table shows the number of acres of improved and unimproved lands, the number of improved and unimproved lots, the number of horses, cattle, mules, and asses, sheep, hogs, carriages and wagons, and miles of railroad assessed in the years 1893 and 1899; the valuation placed upon the same, together with the average valuation placed upon each acre, lot, animal or other piece of property. Examine it carefully:

Table with columns: Acres or number, Valuation, Increase, Decrease, Per Cent. Rows include Lands, Lots, Horses, Cattle, Mules and asses, Sheep, Hogs, Carriages and wagons, R. E. Sleeping car, and All other property.

farmers and stock raisers of Nebraska in 1899 had over 450,000 more cattle, 222,000 more sheep, 645,000 more hogs, and nearly 6,000 more carriages and wagons than in 1893. Town lots show a decrease of 23,000 and horses 53,000. Examine this table also:

Table with columns: Acres or Number, Valuation, Average. Rows include Lands, Lots, Horses, Cattle, Mules and asses, Sheep, Hogs, Carriages and wagons, R. E. Sleeping car, and All other property.

cent, carriage and wagons 26 per cent, and "all other property" 18 per cent since 1893. In the single item of cattle the year 1899 shows an increase of nearly 13 per cent over 1893.

The board of equalization, as its name implies, was intended to correct inequalities and equalize the burdens of taxation. It was not created for the purpose of making any class or interest dear more than its just proportion of the taxes. Its powers in the matter of equalizing taxes are much too limited under our present laws; but a study of the tables given must convince a reasonable man that Messrs. Poynter, Cornell, and Meserve have done their full duty under the law. Year after year the various counties are struggling to keep down their assessed valuation in order that no other county shall contribute less toward the maintenance of state government, in proportion to the actual value of the taxable property. Many stocks of merchandise are assessed not to exceed one-twentieth of real value, and many kinds of personal property either escape altogether or are assessed at a ridiculously low valuation. The railroad mileage of Nebraska increased seven miles and a fraction from 1893 to 1899; the railroad assessment of 1899 is 8.8 per cent lower than in 1893. The taxable lands of Nebraska increased over 3,000,000 acres, live stock increased nearly a million and a half in number, and even the most hide-bound individual must confess that "all other property" is at least equal in amount; yet the assessed valuation of all property, exclusive of railroads, decreased \$28,136,128, or 13.93 per cent, from 1893 to 1899. In 1893 the railroad assessment was 14.7 per cent of

the grand assessment roll; in 1899 it was 15.4 per cent.

The Independent believes the railroads should bear their just proportion of the burdens of taxation; and the figures above, gleaned from the grand assessment rolls now on file in the auditor's office, convince it that all other property in Nebraska is assessed lower, value for value, than railroad property.

REPUBLICANS SURPRISED

What the Independent has been saying about imports and exports for the last year or two is at last being repeated in congress. The republican congressmen seem to be immeasurably surprised. They never heard of such things before. Mr. Ridgely made a speech the other day on the subject and Hepburn of Iowa nearly lost his head in contemplation of the facts. Among other things, Mr. Ridgely said was the following:

"A short time ago I took the trouble to look up the official statistics of the commerce of the nation with the outside world. To my great surprise, and perhaps to yours, these statistics expose this startling fact—that in about twenty years we have sent to the outside world more of value than all the outside world has sent to us.

"I took into account every dollar's worth of the precious metals and everything else of value that the entire world had sent to our country. Then I charged up to the outside world all of the exports, including the precious metals. And these figures revealed the startling fact that we had sent to the outside world thirty hundred million dollars more in value, the money metals included, than the outside world had sent to us, with all their money metals included.

Then as to whether the outside world owes us the balance or not, strange to say, the best information I was able to gather reveals the startling fact that in that time our debts to the people of foreign countries had magnified to such a tremendous sum that it takes \$300,000,000 to pay these foreigners the interest due them each year, making a foreign debt of about \$6,000,000."

PORTO RICAN TARIFFS.

It may be interesting to some of our readers to know exactly what the value of "plain duty" in Porto Rico is as fixed by the present administration. "Plain duty" levies taxes upon exports and imports, and denies to the Porto Ricans the right of any representation in the law making body that fixes the rate. Here are some of the charges: Corn, 2 1/2 cents per bushel; corn meal 3 cents per bushel; oatmeal, 9 cents per bushel; oats, 2 1/2 cents per bushel; whisk brooms, per dozen, 7 1/2 cents; candles, 1 1/2 mills per pound; coal, 10 cents per ton; cotton cloth, 3 to 6 mills per yard, according to value; shirting, six mills per yard; wire, 22 cents per 100 pounds; nails, 9 cents per 100 pounds; steel bars, \$18 per ton; boots and shoes, 3-7 mills on each \$1; India rubber boots and shoes, 2 1/2 cents on each 50 cents; cotton thread, 13-10 cents on each dozen spools worth 20 cents; clocks, 6 cents on each \$1; carpets, 2-6-10 cents per yard valued at 35 cents; dried herring, 1 mill per pound; writing paper, \$1.38 per 100 pounds; lard, 6 cents per 100 pounds; butter, 3 cents per 100 pounds; beans, 6-7-10 cents per bushel; household furniture, 5-2-5 cents each \$1; harness and saddlery, 6-7-10 cents each \$1; earthenware, 3-7-10 cents on each \$1; white china ware, 8-1-5 cents on each \$1; glassware, 6-7-10 cents on each \$1.

POPULIST IDEAS IN NEW YORK.

It would seem that some of the people in New York have at last begun to think. Some of the officials of the city have even acquired a dangerous populist idea in favor of the municipal ownership of a public utility. Recently the ice dealers of New York City formed a trust. It seemed, to New Yorkers, like a harmless sort of thing to do. They had read of the tribute the trusts of the east were levying upon the people of the central and western states, but as they were unaffected thereby they gave the matter little attention. The ice combination began its operations. Ice, an absolute necessity in a large city, began to rise in price. Thirty cents, thirty-five cents, forty-five cents, sixty cents per 100 pounds, and gradually the people began to think. Many remember the populist literature they have read in the past and wonder if it is too late to begin a reform. The New York Journal has caused the arrest of nearly a dozen of the principals in the organization of the combination upon a charge of violating the criminal code prohibiting conspiracy in the state of New York. Of course the trial will come to naught,—it will fizzle. The populists of Nebraska have been all through the "struggle in the courts" stage. The disease requires more heroic treatment. Government ownership, that populist idea, is growing in favor in New York city just now, as the following statement of BIRD S. COLER, CITY COMPTROLLER of greater New York, shows:

"I am heartily in favor of the construction by the city of an ice plant large enough to set the price at which ice shall be sold at New York."

Think of it—at trust headquarters in the city of New York, a prominent city official advocating the public ownership of a public utility. It's a good beginning. A little more trust and a little more study and the comptroller of the city of New York will be described in the republican press as a "howling, be-whiskered pop." May the good work go on.

Will Bryan and Towne carry Nebraska? By 25,000.

ELECTION OF SENATORS

Senator Clark of Montana has resigned his seat in the senate. The report of the committee on privileges and elections made to the senate some time ago declared that Mr. Clark had secured his election to the senate through the expenditure of large sums of money, that members of the Montana legislature had been influenced thereby, and that as a result Mr. Clark's election was illegal. The report was adopted by a majority of one vote. This was sufficient to indicate to Mr. Clark what the final result would be. In anticipation thereof he has placed his resignation in the hands of the governor of Montana.

The case of Mr. Clark is different in but one respect from a large number of others. That there are many senators who have secured their election by methods of bribery directly or indirectly everyone admits. In most instances however the successful senator has not had a competitor for the same place with uncounted millions of money to follow up the contest and prosecute the investigation to the final end. Marcus Daly, the Copper king and multimillionaire of Montana jealous of Mr. Clark has devoted his time and unlimited means to the persecution of Senator Clark. As a result of Mr. Daly's liberality the people of the United States have been furnished with the details of the doings of the Montana legislature. Mr. Daly unable to defeat Mr. Clark before the legislature has sought it to a successful finish in the United States senate. He is now engaged in an effort to make the people believe that he did it because he was opposed to the use of money in politics. He will not succeed however. The people understand too well the jealous hatred he has for Mr. Clark. Mr. Clark was a resident and honored citizen of Montana years before Mr. Daly entered the state. When Daly became rich he began to spend money to destroy Mr. Clark, and Clark in return was compelled to spend money in his own defense or suffer defeat. Mr. Clark is wealthy beyond the powers of imagination. Mr. Daly likewise. The sums of money which they spent, enormous in the estimation of poor men were almost nothing to them. It was a battle between giants. The legislature desired to elect Mr. Clark to the senate. Mr. Daly tried to prevent it. There were members of the legislature whom Daly could influence with money, and Daly was willing and anxious to do it. Must Mr. Clark sit quietly by while Daly destroyed his hopes for political preferment? Or was he justified in a measure in making a defense? This is a question that the senate could not try. The man who spends money to prevent the election of a senator is equally guilty with the man who spends money to secure the election. The weakness is with the present system of electing senators. Their election by direct vote of the people would void a repetition of such occurrences.

AN EXCELLENT CHOICE The selection of Nebraska's able chairman, Mr. J. H. Edmisten to be national vice-chairman of the people's party means much for the success of the party. Mr. Edmisten's ability as an organizer and campaign manager is too well known in Nebraska to need any argument in its support. It is conceded by everyone. He will give the same attention and energy to the national campaign, and in a short time doubtless the republican press of the nation will be quoting from that model republican sheet the Journal, its cautious words "watch Edmisten." He will have control of the campaign and on account of the other duties that Chairman Butler must attend to will be in reality the head of the people's party in the nation. The national headquarters, western division including all the strongly populist states, will be located at Lincoln. Mr. Edmisten will devote his entire time to the work and will begin the work of organization at once. Every loyal populist should assist him in every way. With proper support from the rank and file of the party under Mr. Edmisten's management results will be apparent.

FOR VICE-PRES. CHAS. A. TOWNE

When the national convention of the People's Party met at Sioux Falls, all were a unit as to the nominee for president. William Jennings Bryan of Nebraska was the only name suggested. His selection was unanimous. As to the proper course to pursue in the matter of the selection of a vice-presidential candidate there was some difference of opinion. It soon developed however, that the sentiment in favor of the selection of Hon. Charles A. Towne as Mr. Bryan's running mate was nearly as unanimous as the choice for first place had been. The only difference in opinion was as to the surest method for bringing about the result desired. All favored his nomination but some believed that it should be left to a conference committee selected to go to Kansas City and with the assistance of the silver republicans endeavor to secure his selection by all three factions of the fusion forces. Others believed it the better policy, more certain to secure results to make the nomination at Sioux Falls. After considerable friendly and earnest discussion the plan to nominate was adopted. It is now the duty of every loyal populist and silver republican who can afford the time and expense to do so, to go to Kansas City and assist in

securing his nomination by the democrats. That Mr. Towne will be the choice of the silver republicans is unquestioned. The democrats of Michigan have already declared for Mr. Towne and similar action will be taken in many other western and northwestern states. Mr. Towne's selection will add strength to the ticket where strength is needed. By his assistance Michigan, Minnesota, the Dakotas, Illinois, Indiana, and the western and Pacific coast states will certainly be found in the fusion column. Mr. Bryan and the democracy will insure the solid south and probably one or two eastern states with Ohio and New York in doubt. It is immaterial to the result if New England and Pennsylvania should declare unanimously for the republican electors. The Independent is not in favor of the nomination of a man with a barrel from Maine or any other New England state. Such a course would be a mere waste of sweetness. Nominate Hon. Charles A. Towne, the honest and fearless American, the brilliant orator and statesman from Minnesota and success is more certain than by any other course. Never in the history of the government has any political party shown such loyalty and devotion to principle as has the people's party by its patriotic course at Sioux Falls. Individual ambitions counted for nothing. The triumph of principles was the only end sought. Two leaders, embodying almost every principle of the party were chosen—one from the democratic party and one from the silver republican party. Its own leaders were all cast aside in order that relief for the people from trust extortions, bank robbery, and imperialism might be assured, in order that a government of the people by the people for the people might be established. The people might not perish from the earth. Such sacrifice and patriotism deserves the plaudits of liberty loving people in all parts of the world. Will the democratic party when it assembles at Kansas City show sufficient devotion to principle and loyalty to the interests of the people to join hands with the peoples party in the election of Bryan and Towne? Will it rise to the occasion?

ANNOUNCEMENT

Many have taken advantage of the low rates for campaign subscriptions to send in clubs. From one county in the state we received a club of one hundred and twenty-two names and from many we have received clubs of more than fifty each. No better method for securing results at the coming election can be found. All who have tried the plan have been more than satisfied with the good accomplished. The rates which we have made are low, very low when the price of white paper is considered. We have added four thousand five hundred new names to the list since the first of January and hope to add twice that many more before the close of the campaign. From time to time as the campaign grows shorter we shall reduce the campaign rate accordingly. After June 1st the rate for the remainder of the campaign will be only 25c in clubs of three or more. For a club of three at that rate we will send as a souvenir to the party sending it in a beautiful photograph of Mr. Bryan 17 by 21 inches, an elegant picture made from the latest Townsend negative, suitable for framing, a picture that is a handsome decoration for any parlor in the land. For a club of five at the 25 cent rate we will send three of the best books that can be found for circulating during the campaign—"Coin on Money, Trusts and Imperialism;" "Private Smith in the Philippines;" and "Imperialism—extracts from speeches, interviews and articles by W. J. Bryan." These books retail at 25c each. We send ALL THREE OF THEM to any one sending in a club of 5 campaign subscriptions at twenty-five cents each after June 1st. For a club of 12 at 25 cents each after June 1st we will send our elegant premium watch. These offers have never been equaled by any reform paper in the United States. We are not trying to make any profit on these transactions. Our object is to get everybody to read the Independent. Remember these offers are in force the first of June. Get your clubs ready and send them in on or before that date in order that you may get the full benefit of the offer. Sample copies and subscription blanks will be furnished free to all who desire them.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In the arena of the Seaside Sporting Club in New York, James J. Jeter in a contest of twenty-three rounds defeated James J. Corbett for the heavy weight championship prize fighter in the world.

HARDY'S COLUMN

Our New Chancellor—The Nomination—School Money—Clam Devious—State Platform—Heard of Once Again—Buy Light—Subsidies—Surroundings Make a Difference—Republican Honesty in Havana—Strikes and Strikes—Just Assessments.

Mrs. Chancellor Andrews has been in the city three or four days looking up a house and making arrangements to move here in July. The Dr. is in Europe but expects to be on hand the first of Aug. It is no bad sign for a man to have a wife who is competent and willing to do the home business. Such procedure will not shock the best western sentiment.

We don't exactly like both the nominations made at Sioux Falls. The men are all right but they ought to be spread a little further apart. Then we want Towne for secretary of state and president next after Bryan.

There are plenty of county bonds in

the state that can be refunded to invest all the school money now in the state treasury. Why not refund them and pay the interest for educating our children rather than to the bond holders of the east.

We would like to know how much Mark Hanna pays Clam Devious for his summer's work in the middle of the road. They know the leaders of the movement could not carry a corporal's guard over into the open rank of the republican party, but they are in hopes to carry enough out into a narrow lane and hold them there until after election to defeat Bryan. They will have good pay no matter what the result.

All of the republican state conventions have declared against trusts that raise the prices of manufactured goods, and yet they are all for the high protective tariff that raises the price of goods. Now if one is wrong why is not the other, as long as the effect is the same. It is before election buncombe that is all. Raising the price of goods by trusts is just as good as doing the same thing by tariff.

We were told four years ago that Bryan would never be heard of again but somehow he is still held in memory of the great common people. They remember the end of the country to the other. The gold bugs seem to think he is still living for they are trying hard to fix up money matters so they cannot be torn down for thirty years.

It stands merchants in hand, as long as trusts are on the throne, to buy only small stocks of goods at a time for the market no longer depends upon supply and demand but upon the hand writing of one man. Nails would not be the other night about thirty per cent. Supply and demand never make any such jumps. Boards of trade are bad enough but trusts are worse.

Now the bill for granting subsidies to ocean ships that carry American freight to market is being discussed and also the bill for the increase of our navy. Why not increase the navy and make it do the carrying of freight. A little useful work would not spoil a man or ship for fighting when necessary. A little work will not hurt a soldier in times of peace.

We remember how the whigs used to talk to the abolitionists in '44-'48 and '52. They admitted both parties were evil but the whigs were the lesser of the two and everybody should choose the lesser of two evils. Just so we remember how the republicans used to talk to the prohibitionists in '84-'88 and '92. The republicans wanted us to stick to the old party, we could not do anything alone, but after the populist party was organized then they urged us to stick to our little party, we were right and would win if we only stuck to it. They knew we would go to the pop party if we did not stick, that made the difference.

The McKinley postmaster is short about a hundred thousand in Havana, while teaching the natives how to be honest and how to establish an honest government.

We hear of strikes and rumors of strikes all because of McKinley prosperity. To tell the truth about it the union labor fellows demand the right to run your business as they shall foot the bill. Why don't more of the men go to work for themselves? And why do not the carpenters take jobs themselves, work for themselves and do away with contractors entirely. Three or four could take a job of building a house and then do the work themselves and have as much money. They can tell as near as anybody how long it would take to do the job. Supposing they should take it too low they could work a little harder and come out even. But no the labor fellows say, you must not take a job and work for yourselves, an other fellow must furnish the brains and you the muscle.

We are glad that there is a little stir about the assessment in the city of Lincoln. There are thousands of dollars valuation in the city that never has paid a dollar tax. There is no need of raising the assessment of those who have paid. Go to the court docket, and assess the judgments that are drawing interest, including those against the city. Go to the city, county, and state treasury registers and assess the warrants that are registered. Go to the recorders office and assess the mortgages there recorded. Land and houses are assessed and there is no inquiry who owns them, so assess these interest bearing obligations. The law should be so changed that no delinquent more than a year or so could be collected by law unless it had been assessed and the taxes paid. The tax should be a lien upon the obligation the same as upon land. No note, bond or mortgage is collectable by law today unless the government tax on it has been paid.

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