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The republicans lost three Nebraska newspapers last week and gained the adherence of Matt Gering. We are willing to keep on swapping that way up until the day of election. Just keep it up.

By a decision of the supreme court, Mark Hanna gets his assistants on the ballot under the name of "Mid-Road Populists," to which Judge Norval dissents. They wanted the privilege of going on as "populists," a thing that might have deceived a few voters, but the court said "No."

The Chicago Tribune calls the democratic party "a once respectable party." When was that "once?" Was it when Cleveland was running it in the interest of the gold bug republicans? If so, why do they occasionally speak with such horror of that awful democratic time when the only industries started were soup houses?

One very good thing will come out of this campaign, which ever way it is decided. The populist party will be forever rid of a lot of scallawags and soundbriars who joined it in the hope of getting office. We will never more be troubled with such persons as Clem Deaver, Mrs. Lease, Walter and several more of the crowd in Indiana and elsewhere.

If Mark Hanna is badly beaten in this campaign, you will see a whole lot of the republican editors who are now exalting him to the skies, turn on him as wolves turn on a wounded member of the gang and devour it. If he is successful, they will continue to laud him to the skies. That is the way of all writers who fight battles for spoils and have no regard for principles.

Judge Day was the assignee when McKinley went bankrupt. As soon as Mark Hanna, Myron T. Herrick, Herman Kohlsaat and a few others had chipped in enough to pay off McKinley's debts, Judge Day handed back the property to McKinley. He paid Judge Day off with several fat offices, and the others he has not neglected. Every one of them got something except John R. McLean, from whom they begged \$1,000.

There is no sort of lying that the State Journal don't try its hand at. The other day it put up the following: "Is it a fact that Bryan's 'cross of gold' figure was stolen?"

It is true that it was used in a speech by a member of congress before the Chicago convention of 1896. Whether it was borrowed or stolen or merely secured by unconscious cerebration nobody seems to know or care. That lie is four years old and is exceedingly mouldy.

The best authority on the Philippines says:

"Normally the Filipinos are a quiet, orderly, peaceful and peace-loving race. Quarrels or wars among themselves or among the different tribes have been notably infrequent throughout their history. In the matter of internal dissension they compare more than favorably with any of the nations of the world. Ignorance or uncharitableness may charge them with 'savagery,' but their history refutes and disproves the charge."

Religion is receiving harder blows today than were ever given it by Bob Ingersoll and all the agnostics put together. The people have a right to expect that ministers shall always be found upon the right side of every moral question. When so many boldly and openly abandon the teachings of Christ and become the advocates of war, it is a heavier blow to the church than any outside enemy can inflict upon it. Here is one person who will not contribute to the support or attend the services conducted by a minister who advocates spreading the gospel by means of conquest. Not one cent shall ever go to any missionary society whose authorities advocate shooting Christianity into the heathen. He also knows of several other men who have been liberal contributors to churches and missions, who will never give another cent for such purposes until they get back to the doctrines of Christ. They can get their support from the plutocrats.

PROSPERITY.
The thing that republicans rely upon more than any other one thing in this campaign is the claim that the McKinley administration and policies have produced prosperity for the business men and a full dinner pail for the wage workers. They do not deny that they have engaged in a war of conquest and that they have nearly doubled the expenses of this government. In none of their speeches do they, after they get through with their personal abuse of Bryan with which they invariably begin, discuss or try to discuss any other question except "prosperity."

The price level which in 1892 was 106, is now at 100. But to make this, it takes the arbitrary rise in all those things produced by trusts, some of which they have advanced more than a hundred per cent. The lowest price level was reached about July, 1897, (75) and at the close of 1898, long after McKinley was elected, it was only 82.

The republican campaign text-book claims that McKinley should be continued in power for the four following reasons:

1. The promptness with which it has fulfilled its pledges.
2. The prosperity which has come to all classes of our citizens.
3. Evidences which that prosperity furnishes of the fallacy in the principles offered by the opposing parties in 1896 and still supported by them.
4. The extension of our commerce by the annexation of new territory.

In answer to this, the allied parties deny that the administration promptly fulfilled its promises for the hard times continued and the lowest point in prices was not reached for nearly a year after McKinley was elected.

The measure of prosperity that has been realized was not the result of McKinley's election, for the same level of prices existed in England, Germany, France and other countries that were current here, and it is not reasonable to claim that the election of McKinley caused prices to rise in England, Germany, France and other countries.

That the events of the last three years have not demonstrated the fallacies of the principles advocated in 1896 by the populists, democratic and free silver republican parties, but on the contrary have demonstrated that those principles are true.

We deny that the foreign policy of President McKinley is beneficial to the people of this country and claim that if it is adopted and sanctioned at the polls, it will establish an empire in the place of this republic, inaugurate an era of foreign conquest, make necessary a large increase in the army and navy, will overthrow the Monroe doctrine, necessitate foreign alliances, and endanger liberty at home.

That the continuance of McKinley in power will give a new lease of power to the trusts which will grow until they will control the whole field of industries and make the people of this nation nine-tenths hirelings, who will have to depend for employment and the rights to live upon the will of trust magnates.

And finally, that this policy which McKinley has inaugurated, if continued, will result, not in bringing peace on earth and good will to men, but will excite the hatred of all those who are longing for liberty, especially those that are forcibly annexed, governed without their consent and taxed without representation, and instead of realizing the prayer: "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven," will result in "a hell on earth."

Those are the issues of this campaign. The republicans absolutely refuse to discuss every one of them except that of prosperity. Not one of all their great men who have appeared in this state has undertaken to prove by argument that the forcible annexation of far away peoples of another race, would be beneficial to the people of this state. Their addresses, including members of the cabinet, the speaker of the house, the president of the senate, the chairman of their national committee—all and singular—have been devoted, first to a personal abuse of W. J. Bryan and then talks about "honor," "glory," "world power," laudations of General Wheeler, the old rebel cavalry commander, and "prosperity."

This latter question The Independent proposes to discuss. In doing so it admits that there has been a rise in prices since McKinley's election from 79 to 100. But it claims that this rise has been almost wholly in trust controlled articles. That fact is of such common knowledge among all classes of people, it would be a waste of time to introduce evidence, of which there is more than an abundance, to prove it. The benefit of this rise of prices has gone almost wholly to the trusts. The trusts have prospered.

What caused this rise in prices?
THE COINAGE IN THIS AND OTHER COUNTRIES OF LARGE AMOUNTS OF SILVER AND THE ISSUE OF IMMENSE QUANTITIES OF PAPER MONEY.

McKinley has coined more silver and put it in circulation during his term of office than was coined under the Sherman act. The following is

the official statement of the treasury department of the number of silver dollars coined at the ratio of 16 to 1 during the first six months of this year taken from the government report of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900:

January	1,550,000
February	1,940,000
March	4,100,377
April	2,922,000
May	3,162,490
June	3,120,070

In addition to that, he has issued since the 14th of last March over \$100,000,000 of paper money through the banks. The act of March 14 added 10 per cent to the circulation of the banks instantly, for it allowed them to take out circulation for the full amount of bonds deposited, where before that they got only 90 per cent of the value of the bonds.

In addition to all this, there has been for the last two years a phenomenal output of gold, all of which has been hurriedly coined and put in circulation.

The republican platform says: "The democrats had no other plan to improve the ruinous condition, which they had themselves produced than to coin silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. The republican party denounced this plan as sure to produce conditions worse than those from which relief was sought and promised to restore prosperity by means of two legislative measures—a protective tariff and a law making gold the standard of value."

What have they done? Their secretary of the treasury announces that they have not established the gold standard, and that Bryan can still, under the very law, they themselves have made, pay off the government debt in silver, and the eastern republican dailies are constantly reiterating the statement and asking Bryan to answer whether he will so pay off the bonds, and they have coined more silver and issued more paper money than was ever before issued since the close of the war in the same length of time. The consequences of this policy is just what the populists and democrats said it would be—a rise in prices. It demonstrates beyond further cavil, that populist financial theories were sound.

The republican platform of this year says: "The volume of money in circulation was never so great per capita as today." That is an over statement, but an acknowledgement of an increase in the volume of money. But the campaign book goes further and says: "The amount of money in the hands of the people has increased \$620,000,000 and the amount is increasing every day." Which is a boast that the republication party has done just what it denounced in 1896 and declared was "repudiation."

How was that increase secured?
BY THE COINAGE OF SILVER AND THE ISSUE OF PAPER MONEY.

How has it been possible to effect such a repudiation of everything financial advocated by the republican party in 1896? Why has the republican party gone to coining silver and issuing paper money?

It is because, by the aid of McKinley and his attorney general, they have nullified the law against trusts. By this arrangement the trusts secure all the benefit in the rise of prices. There was a fall in the level of prices from 1893 to 1896 of 13 per cent, brought about by the stoppage of the coinage of silver and the bankers' panic. Under this fall the money magnates gathered in unnumbered millions by the foreclosure of mortgages. Then they conspired together and by the aid of McKinley and his attorney general, they organized the trusts, after which they again began the coinage of silver and the rise in prices which resulted has gone into the coffers of the same set of men who stopped the coinage of silver.

That is the way The Independent looks at the present conditions. If there is any fallacy in the argument or falsity in the statement of facts, we will be obliged to any republican if he will point it out.

The republicans are working a new scheme. They will go out on the street, get up an argument and when they are cornered, they will shout at the top of their voices: "I'll bet \$100 that McKinley will carry the state." If no one calls their bet they will walk off in great triumph. If the bet is called, they will pull out a pocket book and at the last moment say: "Remember I bet that McKinley will carry the state, but I mean the state of Massachusetts." One fellow was even called on that and then backed out.

Among those who spend their days and nights inventing mean things to say about Bryan and posing before the public as Lincoln republicans is one Murat Halstead. This is what he had to say about the martyr Lincoln, when Lincoln was straining every nerve to save this republic:

Referring to Mr. Lincoln, Halstead asked: "Can't you take him by the throat and knock his head against a wall? I do not speak wantonly when I say there are persons who would feel that it was doing God's service to kill him if it were not feared that Hamlin is a bigger fool than he is."

WILL YOU TAKE A DARE?
The fusion papers have dared, bagged and bagged at the republican editors so long and so persistently to make even just one quotation from the writings or speeches of Abraham Lincoln to support their present policies, that at last they have resorted to forgery. They are now printing the following:

"There is no fear of the people losing their liberties. We all know this to be the cry of demagogues, and none but the ignorant will listen to it.—Abraham Lincoln."

The most exhaustive research of Hay and Nicolay and every other record of Lincoln's speeches, writing or sayings has failed to reveal any such sentiment expressed by Lincoln. It first appeared in the Kansas City Journal. Its editor afterward in a private letter admitted that it made an error and the words should be credited to General Burnside. The Independent again renews its dare to the republican press to print one line from Abraham Lincoln in defense of the conquest of foreign nations and holding them as colonies, in favor of the trusts, or advocating an immense standing army. If Abraham Lincoln ever uttered one word in favor of present republican policies, please print it. Let us see it.

THAT ONE PER CENT.
One of the most saddening things that this writer ever heard fall from the lips of a minister, he heard last Sunday. The minister who is a man of culture, said: "I would rather trust the one per cent who own one-half of the property of the United States than the fifty per cent of the poorest classes." That is plutocracy pure and simple, a government of one per cent of the rich, rather than by a majority if they are poor. It is the most dangerous sentiment ever expressed on American soil.

What service has this one per cent, who control this government, ever rendered mankind? That one per cent is controlled and directed, so they themselves have said, by twenty-four men. Among these men are the Vanderbilts, the Goulds, J. Pierpont Morgan, John D. Rockefeller and others of like character. The great accretions of wealth was made by the elder Vanderbilt when he went into his private office and by owning a majority of the stock of the New York Central, voted to double the stock of that road and went out \$50,000,000 richer than when he went in. Jay Gould came to Omaha one day, called the board of directors of the Union Pacific together, resigned his place of director, left the room and the other directors who were elected by the votes which he himself had cast, took up the bonds of the Kansas Pacific which Gould owned. In fifteen minutes, Gould came back and was re-elected director, having stolen \$15,000,000 in fifteen minutes. Rockefeller has bought legislatures and courts, has stolen the hard earned wealth of hundreds of men by the vilest means ever employed by man. So it is with the rest of these twenty-four men. And this minister would rather trust the one per cent who have stolen this wealth than the thirty-five or forty millions who created it!

What have the "one per cent" ever done for mankind in any age of the world? Has not every great service been rendered to the race by men who did not belong to the "one per cent?" Lincoln was not numbered among them; neither was Garrison, Phillips, Sumner, Greeley, Chase, Grant, Sherman, Sheridan or any other man whose memory is dear to mankind. Every great reform has been secured by men outside of the "one per cent."

FOR A BIG ARMY.
Finding that imperialism and big standing armies were very unpopular in the west the distinguished plutocrats who came to Nebraska to capture the state for McKinley, Thompson and Rosewater, took to denying that they wanted a big standing army. The record is against them. McKinley in his message to congress said:

"The importance of legislation for a permanent increase of the army is, therefore, manifest, and the recommendation of the secretary of war for that purpose has my unqualified approval."

The recommendation of the secretary of war which can be found in his report and which McKinley indorses is as follows:

"It is earnestly recommended that the regular army be permanently increased to 100,000 men and the requisite officers."

That is the record and the denial of these distinguished gentlemen will not change it. That demands a "permanent" increase to 100,000 men.

Donnelly declares that Dr. Fay who has been the manager of the mid-road populists in Minnesota has so managed that the Barker and Donnelly ticket will not appear on the ballot in that state. In a signed article he says: "Dr. Fay would like to have them vote for Eugene Debs, and has resorted to all this trickery to force them to do so. It is criminal, it is outrageous. We hope no populist will support Debs."

We respect Ignatius Donnelly for

the good work he has done in the past, but he ought to have had more sense than to go in with such a gang as the mid-road populists, notwithstanding his shameful treatment by the regular populists in that state. As the matter now stands, neither Barker or Donnelly will receive a single vote in the state of Minnesota.

This state of affairs seems to have brought Donnelly back to his senses and for the first time in many weeks he has waked up to the villainies of Minnesota republicanism. He makes the charge and submits the proof that the republicans of that state stole \$12,000,000 from the school fund.

The bulwark of the trusts is in the United States senate. Senator Foraker left his seat in the senate at a critical time and came to Ohio to defend the Plug Tobacco trust in a suit brought by the attorney general of the state. Senator Thurston came all the way from Washington to Lincoln to defend the Standard Oil trust in a suit brought by his own state. Every trust seems to have one or more senators on its list of attorneys. There is more foulness in the United States senate today than ever before. That Augean stable needs cleaning out. For an act like that committed by Senator Thurston and Senator Foraker, a senator would have been ignominiously expelled by that body before it came under the dominion of commercialism.

One of the most disreputable things ever done by the republicans in the state of Nebraska was to put at the head of the department of journalism in the state university the managing editor of the State Journal whose idea of journalism was that it was necessary if one became a journalist to forfeit good manners and become as boorish with the pen as a foul-mouthed libertine. His idea as reflected in his journal was that the adoption of the profession required a man to set aside every code of honor, every thought of consideration of the feelings of others, every maxim of good breeding, all thought of logic, adopt the slang of the saloon and the gutter, defame private character and engage in everything else that is by common consent put outside of the character of a gentleman. To set such an example as that up before the young men of this state, The Independent declares to be one of the foulest things that the republicans of this state ever did.

The republican party has begun already to pay back to the railroads their contributions to the campaign fund, and they are doing it the way they always do, taking it out of the people. The member of the cabinet who came out here to help capture the state for Mark Hanna, Rosewater and Thompson, has ordered the weighing of the mails during the last month of the campaign, so as to fix the compensation of the railroads for the next four years. He knows, that at that time, the cars are loaded down with campaign literature. It comes, not by the sackful or carload only, but by the train load. Several times before the railroads have tried to have the mails weighed during a campaign, but until Mark Hanna got to running things, no official at Washington had the cheek to do it. The longer the republican party remains in power, the bolder it grows in its robberies.

WHAT DO THEY MEAN?
Any writer who uses the term "honest money" does so for the purpose of deception. He is dishonest himself. As to the term anyone who is not an idiot or insane, knows that money, being a material thing, without moral qualifications, can be neither honest nor dishonest, any more than a stick can be honest or dishonest.

As to a hundred-cent dollar, it is like the babble of a babe. Every dollar must have a hundred cents in it or it is not a dollar at all, so when they talk of a fifty-cent dollar they talk of something that never existed and cannot exist. The only cents that are in existence are made of copper. Do they mean a dollar is worth a hundred copper cents? Copper is worth about 17 cents a pound and a gold dollar according to their definition, would be a very cheap dollar indeed. That is a cheaper dollar than was ever advocated by the most rabid populist. A gold dollar according to their talk, is equivalent to an ounce or so of copper which can be bought in the open market for less than 18 cents a pound.

Do they mean a gold dollar is worth a hundred gold cents? That would be impossible for there never was such a thing as a gold cent. Do they mean that a gold dollar would be worth as much in one chunk as if it was cut up into a hundred pieces? That would be equivalent to saying that a gold dollar is worth a gold dollar whether it is one piece or in a hundred pieces.

What do they mean by a hundred-cent dollar? The Independent is of the opinion that they are such infernal economic idiots that they don't know what they mean themselves. No one was ever able to get one of them to try to tell what he meant. Most of them are simply parrots. They have heard the sound of the words and keep repeating them.

SILVER COINAGE IN INDIA.
The editor of The Independent has received a most scurrilous letter from a man who says he is a republican. He need not have said so in so many words for the fact was apparent from the style of his writing. Republicans on the stump and in the press are all distinguished for their malice and scurrility. This one says: "The editor of The Independent lies and knows he lies when he says that English government has opened the mints in India and has gone to coining silver. He lies when he says that McKinley is coining silver at the ratio of 16 to 1."

The editor will not reply to a letter couched in language like that, but reflecting that in the numerous references to the coining of silver in India, he has taken it for granted that he was writing for an intelligent public, all of whom know that the India mint has been running at full blast for many months, has not quoted authorities, he has thought that it might be well to quote some authority on the subject.

The president of the "Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China," addressing the stockholders of the bank in London last Wednesday, in referring to the Indian currency said: "The supply of rupees, in the absence of internal demand for gold, proved insufficient, and the authorities were compelled to purchase nearly \$4,000,000 worth of bar silver during the current year, in order to increase the circulation. The profit on this would yield the government a surplus of \$1,500,000. But, whether such an adventitious addition to the revenue is desirable, from an economic standpoint, is debatable."

That is better authority than the ranting of a malicious republican who relies solely upon the State Journal for his information.

The London Statist—but as The Independent is being handed pretty freely to republicans who have no knowledge whatever of economics or of the great financial papers in this country and Europe—it may be well to tell what kind of a paper the London Statist is. It is the oldest, most conservative, richest, gold standard paper in London. It is devoted wholly to finance and commerce. Any statement of fact it makes, is accepted as authority the whole world over by all men of learning in every nation. The Statist says:

"The currency requirements of the country (India) are no longer met either by the release of hoarded silver or by the release of rupees in the currency department. Hence a third stage has come—the necessity of coining rupees—and this explains the fact of the free purchases made of silver not only last year, but especially this year by the Indian government. If, as seems likely, the natives of India will not take gold, the natural yearly growth in the demand for currency must be met by silver rupees."

It will be seen from this authority, which is indisputable, that the English government in India has bought \$20,000,000 worth of silver during the year, coined it into rupees for the purpose of "increasing the circulation."

Here is another refutation of the republican party. They claim in their platform that to increase the circulation by the coining of silver "as sure to produce conditions even worse than those from which relief was sought."

Jerome Shamp set in the front row of seats at the Hitchcock-Rosewater debate. At one point he asked Mr. Hitchcock: "How about North Carolina?" Mr. Hitchcock said: "That is a fair question, and I suppose that the gentleman means to assert that some of the colored people have been deprived of the suffrage. If that is the case, it proves that we have a great race question here at home yet unsettled." Mr. Bryan's position on that question was stated in the most unequivocal language in an address that he delivered to the colored people at St. Paul. He said: "If by the suffrage of my countrymen I become president of the United States, you may rest assured that the rights of a citizen of this country, regardless of color, creed or condition, will be protected as far as the executive has the power to protect them"

THE NON-PRODUCERS.
There is in the city of Lincoln, which has a population of 40,140—287 lawyers who have been admitted to practice in the courts of the state. There are numerous others, besides the judges, who of course are all lawyers. A glance at the court calendar in the various counties will show about the same proportion of lawyers all over the state. The doctors are even more numerous than the lawyers. There are other numerous non-productive classes in the state and in all the states. If we add to these a large standing army, which is not only non-productive, but destructive, it will be seen that those who do produce wealth will have a very heavy burden to bear in the future. All these things were discussed in the farmers' alliance years ago and the populists of the state well understand them. The "unearned increment" of some of these non-producing classes is enormous.

Recently, the supreme court of Ohio rendered a decision in which a lawyer's fee was contested on the ground that it was unreasonable, giving the lawyer a fee that was proved to be \$20 a minute for all the time that he spent in the service of his client, the sum total being \$37,000. It is no use to contest the fee of a lawyer in the courts, for it comes before men of his own craft for settlement. Some of the fees of the great corporation lawyers make an income equal to that of the great financial magnates. All of it, and all the income of all the non-productive classes must be dug out of the earth by the men who toil. The creators of wealth pay it all. If there should be a general crop failure for two or three years all over the land the income of all these chaps would stop. If wealth is not created, they would fall to gather it in.

CREDIT DUE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Attorney General Smyth on Wednesday this week had the satisfaction of delivering to Treasurer Meserve two United States warrants, aggregating \$35,454.27, covering the Capital National bank dividends due the state. Notwithstanding the fact that the state lost \$236,361.83 in the Capital National bank failure, as the result of republican carelessness and rascality, as soon as it was found that the receiver could pay a dividend, the same republican clique that helped to cause the original loss began a systematic campaign to beat the state out of its share of the dividend. Of course the matter was dragged into the courts; but Attorney General Smyth met the conspirators at every turn and routed them, horse and dragons.

These warrants, for \$23,636.18 and \$11,818.09, respectively, (representing dividends of 10 and 5 per cent) were issued by the Acting Comptroller of the Currency on September 12, 1900, but for some unknown reason they have been held back. Probably the republican administration desired to hold them back until after election. But the attorney general never rests. During the past week he has kept the wires hot between her and Washington, determined to have the money paid over, or know the reason why. The republican machine was finally obliged to disgorge, and the money is now in the state treasury, ready to be applied to the reduction of the state's floating debt, the outstanding registered general fund warrants.

With his customary promptness, Treasurer Meserve Wednesday morning made a call for \$50,000 registered warrants to be paid on November 2. The registry numbers run from 59,771 to 60,410.

Such is the contrast between republican and fusion administration. The republicans lost the state thousands of dollars, and the fusionists are recovering it as rapidly as the proverbial slowness of courts will permit.

W. M. Lakin, company A, 48th Indiana infantry, wants to know if Adlai Stevenson was a member of the Knights of the Golden Circle; why it was that McKinley appointed him to an important office on the bimetallic commission. He seems to think that if the story was true, that McKinley, who is the custodian of the honor of the G. A. R., the flag and the nation, would not have appointed him. He further declares that the Knights only wanted to destroy half of the republic and leave the other half alone, while McKinley wants to destroy the whole republic and build an empire in its place. As an old soldier, he has come to the conclusion that McKinley is worse than the knights.

The last game that Mark Hanna is playing is "bluff." He has his newspapers announce that hundreds of thousands of dollars seeking in vain for takers on bets that McKinley will carry New York at odds of 6 to 1 and no takers. There isn't a word of truth in it, except a few fake bets put up between republicans for effect. When Mark got back to Chicago he was overwhelmed with calls for help in New York and statements that the state was lost unless something was done immediately. He instantly recalled his most effective spell-binders from the western states and ordered them to New York. The same despairing cries came from West Virginia, Indiana and Ohio.

The Independent has been surprised to receive two or three inquiries during the week asking if McKinley signed the Sulu treaty. The matter was explained by a letter from the western part of the state saying that the republican speakers out there are denying that McKinley ever signed the treaty. That treaty was published in full in The Independent two or three times, copied from the official records with McKinley's name attached to it. If McKinley did not sign the treaty then there never was a treaty with the Sultan of Sulu. It couldn't be a treaty unless McKinley signed it. Anybody but a mullet head would know that much, so the spell-binders tell them that a treaty was made with the United States and was never signed by the president.