

# The Independent

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## REJECTED WITH SCORN

The Wailing of Widows and the Weeping of Children Was Made in Carnegie's Fears

The Ohio Valley trades and labor assembly, made up of the representatives of 36,000 men in all labor organizations in Wheeling, W. Va., and vicinity, last week took steps that will defeat the proposed and issue to provide a site for a library offered Wheeling by Andrew Carnegie, at the same time adopting resolutions scoring him mercilessly.

Every man in the unions was ordered to go to the polls on August 24 and vote against the library. The action of the assembly means the defeat of the proposition. The assembly made the following announcement:

"In view of Mr. Carnegie's attitude toward labor, it is the duty of the assembly of organized labor to adopt stringent measures to defeat the erection of this monument to the memory of the murdered heroes of Homestead. Doubtless in the minds of many this seems a very beneficent action on the part of Carnegie, but it is beneficence that prompts the robber to restore a part of his ill-gotten gains to the man he has victimized."

"When Mr. Carnegie's anxiousness for the spread of education that caused his heart to become like steel to the cries of distress that went up at Homestead on that memorable month of July in 1892? Was it his desire to spread education that stifled the finer instincts of his nature so that the wailing widows and weeping and fatherless children was as sweet as music in his ears? Could he have displayed peace, happiness and prosperity in their homes? Is this any better than the inheritance of slaves?"

"During Mr. Carnegie's active business career why did he compel his employees to work seven days a week, twelve hours per day? Where under God's heavens did he spend his time in his own homes? Why did he in 1892, if he was so deeply interested in educating the oppressed, reduce the men's wages?"

"The name of Carnegie is drenched in the blood of his fellow men; it is furrowed in the hearts of the fatherless children, and when mentioned in the hearts of widows who lost their husbands while fighting against shackles of slavery that Mr. Carnegie forced on them. In view of these facts it is our duty to show the money king who robs the oppressed wage-earner that it is not public or private charity the laboring classes want, but a just equivalent for his labor."

## COLORADO WOMEN

They Elected a Populist Woman a Member of the Legislature Where the Standard by Her Principles and Did Good Work

Editor Independent: In looking over a back number of your paper, my attention was attracted by an article headed "Something Wrong," and sub-headed "The Invasion of the sphere of man by woman, and vice versa in mixing things up."

I cannot help wondering why women, who are themselves out of their "sphere" when they pose as literary lights in the journalistic world, continue to appeal to such small ignoble prejudices as is signified in this expression of "man's sphere" and "woman's sphere," and the implied "Mason and Dixon's Line" between, across which neither must dare to step, for fear the beautiful balance of human adjustments will get in a hopeless tangle and Pandora's box of evils be poured out upon the race of mankind.

This production accredited to Dorothey Dix is worth remembering, as the Independent states (fine sarcasm that), but the chief thing to remember is how quickly and willingly is the author of it ready to close the avenue of advance to others who may wish to step beyond the confines assigned them by environment, for mutuality is the law of real freedom.

To be sure I cannot intelligently defend this particular fad of the New York women, in all its details, from actual knowledge of it, but it seems the boys were apt pupils and showed an appreciation of feminine arts, that will make them agreeable future companions for girls who do not marry to adore, nor to "hook up" to superior masculine developments, irrespective of mental tone.

I will warrant the boy who can take an interest in such diversion will spend his evenings at home instead of the streets in his youth, or the saloon in manhood, will not grumble about the waste of time and money spent on trifles of crazy-work and frilly stitches which delight the busy and gifted needle-woman, nor be mean enough to ask his wife to take her hands out of a batch of biscuit, to sew on a button which has been off for a week.

I have no patience with her remark, "That if these women want to further increase the number of old maids that is the most effective way of doing it, for when all the boys are taught to sew and cook, they will not feel the need of wives." Such sentiment is disgusting, since it takes for granted that we are raising our daughters to be near the polls, nor anything approaching disgraceful or discourteous treatment of the "fair sex;" decency and decorum everywhere prevailing in their presence, partially due perhaps to the ladies sharing the election honors as clerks and judges. I assure readers of The Independent I never saw so much deference paid to our sex as in Denver. I challenge the brother in the faith to refute this assertion,

and all experience proves that they joyfully hail a deliverance from such duties.

This narrowness of soul, that sees no good in plans wrought out to the rank of which it is presumably incapable, is a greater obstacle to the interests of woman's cause than all the selfishness of the so-called stronger sex, because such thrusts against ladies who would better the moral quality of our kind by appealing to refining influences in the character-building of the boys who will be the fathers or posterity are unworthy advocates of "equal rights" and broader opportunities for women.

It is deplorably true that too many would-be "literary lights" who have an "open door" before them, content themselves with a frivolous notoriety, which acts as a stumbling block to the ranks of the real. Public notice and comments of common or insipid acts and attainments is not what these expanding times demand for woman's emancipation.

The article in question reminds me of an incident that came under my observation in the Colorado legislature last March.

Being an employe, I called upon the matron one P. M. for a little chat just before beginning of afternoon session, and found two little pages deeply engaged on needle work consisting of coarse stitches in cotton on large checked gingham, and their faces beamed with pleasure as they proudly showed me their achievements.

My regret is that many work along that line is not projected, for it will yield far better fruitage than that continuous cultivation of animal instincts and coarse material attributes, which is encouraged by great dailies and votaries of gross pleasures, and planned to attract the curious and thoughtless, the gay and the vulgar everywhere, that at present liberty is getting to mean license in its strict application.

However, I am glad to know and testify that the west produces better examples of progress and culture, with its grand possibilities fast becoming undeniable realities; and in the van of the movement are found such ladies as Mrs. Sarah E. Dicker, ex-member of the state board of charities and correction, of Colorado; Mrs. Mila T. Maynard, author of "Wider Selfhood" in Denver News; Mrs. Helen M. Grenfell, state superintendent of public instruction, and Mrs. Evangeline Heartz, twice member of the lower house of the Colorado legislature, with scores of others, all estimable and valued members of the home and best society.

Mrs. Heartz's faithful service in the 11th general assembly, elected as a populist, secured her re-election on the fusion ticket in 1901, to the 13th general assembly, one of four allotted to the populists and her plurality ranked with the very highest of male candidates.

Mrs. Helen Grenfell, elected in '98 on fusion state ticket as a silver republican, successful in her position on disposal of school funds, was again elected in 1900 on fusion ticket, still the nominee of silver republicans, running far ahead of state ticket.

I do not remember the exact figures, but do know positively that she left the governor, considerably in the rear when the official count was made at the capitol in January, for a Mrs. Wilson and myself cast up the figures on county returns, on the candidates for that office, all being women.

It is not my purpose to make a plea at length for "woman suffrage," but it would be a wise display of talents if those who sniff danger in teaching a man to sew and wash dishes, would quit their nonsense about "spheres" and assist to make masculinity more refined and fitting for close partnership and women more self-reliant and independent, matrimony may become more harmonious and congenial, with divorces less frequent in consequence; a matter of choice not necessity on both sides.

The "woman's rights" question is pretty certain to be a live issue in Nebraska politics in the near future, and I expect my brother populists to be wise as serpents when that time arrives.

The ballot once given to women will inure to the benefit of populism and true democracy, for women naturally allied with them are better informed on current topics and economics and less given to prejudice than the opposition as a rule.

Another reason why I shall look for generous treatment of my sisters in Nebraska is that the populists stand avowedly on a platform declaring for "equal rights" to all and "special privileges to none." Wherever the people's party avoids this issue or delays its fruition, it becomes a man's party and that detestable thing, a monopoly and special privilege party, and deserves not the palm of victory.

Do you see the point? I would make, Bro. Editor of The Independent? If you ever want to carry Omaha and Lincoln for the anti-trust, anti-imperialist forces, enlist the ladies as co-workers, and sharers of honors and dignities, for I say without fear of reliable contradiction that women in general are more industrious, more enthusiastic, more conscientious in political work than men.

that as long as you exclude your wives, sisters and mothers from your councils and the ballot box, you are not truly a people's party, your state government is not just, for it taxes women without representation, because it neither asks nor gains the consent of the governed (woman), and places them outside the protection of both flag and constitution, and classes them with the abused Filipino and Porto Rican.

I leave the case to the tender mercies of the spirit of western freedom and liberality.

MRS. A. I. LUCAS.

Denver, Colo.

## THIRTEEN THOUSAND LESS

That is What Polk County Lost by Having Republican Officials in the State House

If the republican national administration had anything to do with Nebraska's state school fund, until the Stromburg Journal inform its many readers why, under the republican administration of Benjamin Harrison, there was over \$13,000 less school moneys collected in Polk county from persons holding school lands than under the four years ending last December?

If a republican set of officials can bring about the prosperity that the Journal would have us believe they can, they certainly ought to be smart enough to keep up the record made by the populists. But they are not doing it and don't try to. The facts are known to everybody that when Uncle Jake Wolfe went into the office of land commissioner with a full set of populist state officials in 1898, he found hundreds of republicans scattered all over the state who were delinquent in their obligations to the state school fund and for many months he rode the state over and compelled these favored republicans to either pay up and keep paid up, or get off the land and let some honest man on who would pay. That is one way populists had of getting a big school fund. Look up the land commissioner's report and see if it isn't so. Republicans are financiers when it comes to helping out the favored few, but only then. School children can't vote.—Polk County Democrat.

## REPUBLICAN THIEVES

The Perry Health Outfit Who Robbed the Seventh National of New York are Still Unindicted

The federal grand jury has adjourned for three weeks without action in the case of New York's Seventh National bank wreckers. When it meets again sixty-three days will have passed since the crime that has reduced scores of independent families to poverty. Meanwhile none of the stolen money has been restored, and the thieves who took it walk the streets unmolested.

There is never any question of catching the man who looted the Seventh National bank. They are known, they make no attempt to escape, and they are not arrested. Yet compared with them the men who raided the Selby smelter were criminals of a harmless grade. They simply broke in and stole. But the Seventh National wreckers broke something more important than steel bars—they broke that confidence which is the very basis not only of business, but of all social life, and without which organized society must crumble into ruins.

Against the burglar people can protect themselves. If he picks a lock or tunnels a floor we can have stronger locks and thicker floors. To deal with him is merely a question of mechanics. But men must trust each other or the life of the community must stop. The whole banking system is founded on trust. The depositor hands in his money and gets not even a receipt—nothing but an unsigned entry in a book. He trusts the bank to keep it safely and return it on demand. Usually that confidence is justified. If it were not people would cease to deposit money in banks, and the whole machinery of business would come creaking and groaning to a disastrous stop.

It is not necessary that all bankers, or a majority of them, should be dishonest to bring on this disaster. Let even a considerable minority of them act as the Seventh National wreckers did and public confidence in the entire system would come tumbling down about the ears of the rest.

A few years ago it might have seemed to make little difference whether a man invested his money in First National or Seventh National stock. The defalcation of Alford might have made the First National securities appear rather the less desirable. But the other day the First National bank declared a dividend of 1950 per cent, while the unfortunate Seventh National stockholders, in addition to losing the entire value of their shares, were called upon to pay an assessment of 100 per cent. Such uncertainties reduce business to the level of gambling. They destroy the value of judgment, and make luck instead of thought the essential of success.—Chicago American.

## Horses' Sun-Bonnets.

The wearing of sun-bonnets by horses in hot weather is by no means a modern invention. In an old Italian print, dated 1542, a gentleman is shown riding on horseback with an umbrella fixed over his own head and another over that of his horse. In Mexico horses are often protected by a small parasol rising over the head, and a horse similarly accommodated has lately been seen in Regent street. Unfortunately this head-dress annoyed the conventional "horse in the street," and it came very near causing more than one disaster on the way to Langham place.—London Chronicle.

## WAR SHIPS RENDERED USELESS

The Navies of the World of No More Value Than so Much Old Serapiron—New Invention Knocks Them Out

A great many thinking men, in the navy and outside of it, have been impressed with the possibilities of submarine ships. Walter Wellman writes from Paris to the Record-Herald as follows of the situation as it now exists:

When the right moment arrives France will astound and shock the world. Already the French have theoretically revolutionized the sea warfare, and it needs only a struggle upon the seas to demonstrate their wonderful achievement. They have not solved the problem of air navigation, but they have solved the problem of attack and defense under the water.

Today they have submarine craft which are almost entirely submerged, without taking in fresh charges of electrical energy.

"If this is true, and I believe it is, then the French in time of war could plant the Straits of Gibraltar and the waters adjacent thereto with these mobile torpedoes. They could close the Straits by blocking Gibraltar. They could make the Mediterranean a French lake. They would have the great east and west marine traffic line of the world at their mercy."

"But this is not all. In addition to the possession of a perfect means of defending all their ports, such as Cherbourg, Havre, Brest, Marseilles, Toulon, the submarines would control the channel. From Cherbourg, Havre, Boulogne, Calais they could easily destroy any ship of the enemy that attempted to pass. Worse still, from the British point of view, the waters about Portsmouth and Southampton would be open to their attack. It sounds almost like Jules Verne fiction to say that a half-dozen submarines could steal out of Cherbourg, cross the channel, and showing more than a few inches above the water now and then, themselves immune even if a great British fleet were cruising there, enter the roadstead at Portsmouth and destroy British men-of-war actually lying at anchor in the chief British naval depot. But I happen to know that the immediate possibilities of this fiction being transformed into fact at this moment under serious consideration at the admiralty in London."

"Asked if he was not exaggerating the offensive power of submarines and unnecessarily alarming himself over the progress the French had made, this expert replied:

"No, it is foolish to close one's eyes to the truth because it is an unwelcome truth. In my opinion the French have solved the problem of under-sea military operations. I believe the naval battles of the future—ships against ships—will be fought under the water, not upon it. Already the French engineers, encouraged by their success, dream of building submarines which shall be more than mere torpedo boats—under-water cruisers, in fact. Already they are building twenty-six submarines of the Gustav Zede type. They talk of building 200 more during the next half-dozen years. Unless they are deceiving themselves they have solved the problem of under-sea military operations. They have reached success already; now they are preparing to clinch it."

"But what new principle have they adopted—what discovery have they made?"

"We do not know. We are wholly in the dark as to their method. It has been impossible for us to get any information on this score. But this we do know: They have made so much progress that they are perfectly willing we should have all the facts about their earlier efforts, while they guard the secret of their later constructions as if the life of France depended upon them."

"Not long ago a Frenchman was walking on the quay at Brest. He saw one of the submarine torpedo boats passing out of the harbor, three or four feet showing out of the surface of the water. Having his camera with him he improved the opportunity to take a snap shot. He was at once arrested and locked up, charged with treason."

Another naval expert, who had made a careful study of submarines in France, was not quite so enthusiastic as to the future of these boats. But he expressed the opinion that the French engineers had succeeded in meeting these requirements:

1. Navigation upon the water, like an ordinary ship.
2. Navigation awash, almost masked, but visible.
3. Quick submergibility, and complete mobility under water.
4. Speed, fifteen knots afloat; twelve knots awash; eight knots submerged.
5. Ability to make full speed for two hours under water without rising to the surface.
6. Stability of submergence without using the motive power on the screw.
7. Ability to throw torpedoes under all conditions of attack.

This expert admitted that if these requirements had been met the submarines were practically successful.

## INCREASE OF LYNCHINGS

It Is the Fault of the Great Dailies and Could be Stopped if the Subsidized Editors Did Their Duty

Lynchings are on the increase both north and south, some of the most horrible in all history having recently taken place. If the daily press would make an unanimous onslaught onto this sort of barbarism it would be squelched in short order. Instead of that, the editorials are devoted to the most frivolous discussions and the management is satisfied with reporting the horrible details without a word of censure or comment. Every man knows that a public opinion against the practice could be created in a month that would put a final end to it. But the degenerate and subsidized press of this country is of no benefit to humanity any more. The Independent is glad to notice one vigorous protest in a daily paper, a democratic daily, and it is the only one that has been so far noticed. The Buffalo Times devotes a considerable portion of its editorial space in one issue to vigorous denunciations of all those who have been engaged in lynching bees as follows:

In view of recent tragedies in the south, it seems inconceivable that anyone can appear as a defender of the lynching habit, which seems to have broken out again with renewed violence. The old excuse for this diabolical crime was that the victim deserved death, and would not be properly punished by the law.

This sort of an "excuse for an excuse" cannot be offered in either the Carrollton, Mississippi, case, or those which occurred the other day at Smithville, Tenn., and Leeds, Ala. All the outrages which occurred were simply and entirely the unrestrained license of the worst kind of human passions. There was no excuse in any case. The mobs wanted to commit murder, and they did so, in spite of the all too feeble opposition of the authorities.

At Carrollton, three murders were thus committed, two of the victims being women. A commission, headed by the district attorney, had made a thorough and careful investigation of the charge against the prisoners, and reported to the mob that the three in custody were undoubtedly innocent, except that they might have been possessed of guilty knowledge in the matter. But the mob was determined to have a triple hanging; the victims were innocent, but that made no difference; they were "niggers," and that was sufficient; so they were hanged.

At Smithville, the man accused was being tried in the court room, with all the due formality of legal procedure. This man was accused of having assaulted a woman. But legal process, although certain to convict and punish the culprit if guilty, was too tame for the mob spirit, which was determined to take no chances of being cheated of the chance to hang a "nigger." So the trial was interrupted, the officers of the law were fired, and the prisoner, after he had leaped from a second-story window, was seized and lynched; this, too, in spite of the fact that the father of the prisoner's alleged victim opposed the murder, and pleaded with the mob to let the law take its proper course. His plea, for right was ignored, the prisoner was murdered, while the sheriff, a deputy, a constable and the prisoner's father were shot.

At about the same time that all this was occurring in Tennessee, Alabama were having a little lynching-bee of their own. At Leeds, that state, a negro, accused of the murder of a white man of uncertain moral character, was strung up to a tree and riddled with bullets, his carcass being left as meat for the crows.

Not the slightest plea for justification can be made in any of these five instances. In each and every case the death of the victim was inflicted on the authorities, and would have received proper punishment. There can be no excuse, no palliation, for so monstrous a succession of crimes. The right way to treat the perpetrators would be to arrest all engaged in the lynchings and condemn them by legal process to the death, and the people of the north are a blot upon the fair name of the United States and it is high time that public sentiment made itself felt in condemnation of these awful practices.

**A Trip Around the World**

The great mass of American people are lovers and readers of good books. The rapidly developing literary taste of the millions of our population has created a demand for high grade literature. Any book of real literary merit and artistic value finds a rapid sale. This is especially true of "Our Islands and Their People," as seen with camera and pencil. The introduction to this unique, beautiful work of art from the pen of Major General Joseph Wheeler. A corps of skilled landscape artists traversed the length and breadth of Cuba, Porto Rico, Isle of Pines, Hawaii, Samoa, the Philippines and Sulu archipelagoes securing over 1,300 photographs which are reproduced in elegant nickel type half-tones and beautiful full page color types. The literary excellence of the work is in keeping with the high character of the artistic features. The author has a world-wide reputation as an entertaining story writer and war correspondent. The versatile, scholarly Jose De Olivares has woven a complete description of these islands into a charming story that secures the admiration of the most fastidious, the whole work being a fascinating panorama. Sold in Nebraska only in connection with subscriptions to The Independent. Write for terms and full particulars.

**The Real Democracy**

The real democracy of the U. S. can never forgive or forget Cleveland's treachery and his betrayal of the party, and it would be foolish to suppose that democrats who are not office-seekers would desert the principles laid down in Chicago and Kansas City to follow Dave Hill on a Cleveland platform—a meaningless thing, such as has been adopted in Ohio.

While it is doubtless true that the great hungry horde of pap suckers and leaders like Dave Hill do not care a rap what kind of a platform they have so they win, yet a democracy of this character cannot demand the respect or support of such democrats as sincerely believe in and fought for the principles declared in the Chicago and Kansas City platforms during the last two campaigns; nor is such a democracy deserving of the support or respect of any good citizen.—Exeter Enterprise.

## Populists Told Them So

The democrats throughout Texas laughed at Barney Gibbs years ago when he prophesied that some day the people of Texas would wake up and find a big hole in the state treasury and lots of the state's money gone, if they did not call for and have an honest "look at the books." The dispatches from Austin confirm Barney's prophecy. The First National bank at Austin has got up the same with something like \$200,000 of the people's money. Raymond's bank in the same city went to the wall on Monday last, and the people of the city are wild-eyed and excited. Barney was not such a fool as the democrats thought he was.—Southern Mercury.

**Inert Brains**

A Chicago doctor discourses as follows on some of the modern fads of civilization:

"Recently it was shown that the introduction of clothes into the Samoan islands had caused ravages of tuberculosis. Cabins instead of tepees for the American Indian have done the same deadly work. The Indians have been laughed at for putting their horses in the cabins and housing themselves in the tepees, but it has been self-preservation. Even at Carlisle, while every medical advantage has been offered Indian students from the west deaths from pneumonia and tuberculosis have been unusually large."

"So, rather than to see menace for a young nation in its mental activities, I should look to its physical environment. As to brain fever, the term covers meningitis in its common acceptance, and in this disease it is not shown that mental overwork is at all a cause.

"There are some peculiar phenomena in connection with the brain of even the most cultured of our own people. There are wide areas of the best brains of Chicago that lie inert. This is proved every day by the fact that tumors, lesions and even rupture of blood vessels may occur in brain tissue without showing mental symptoms."

The effort to force a complete change of habits in any people will be countenanced by no man who has common sense. It has been often tried and always resulted in disaster.