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SOLDIERS' HOME

Exposure of Republican Lies About This Institution Figures From the Records

It will be remembered that last week we quoted two tables prepared by the republican press bureau at the capitol, one published in the State Journal, April 16, and the other in the Lincoln Evening News, April 17. The first table purported to show the total appropriations made for eleven different state institutions, omitting the penitentiary, Kearney industrial home, Milford soldiers' home, and state normal school; the amounts expended for "the first 12 months," and "surplus from first year's quota." The totals of the figures given in this table were not given by the State Journal, but being footed show as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Rows include Appropriations for 2 yrs., Expanded first year, Surplus, etc.

As was shown last week, the appropriations were made for a two-year period, which would make \$721,505 available for one year; hence, if the amount given as expended the first year were correct, the "surplus" would look like this:

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Rows include Surplus, Grand total, etc.

The figures in this table for the soldiers' and sailors' home at Grand Island are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Rows include Appropriations for 2 yrs., Surplus, etc.

But let us see what has been done in the past for this institution. Appropriations for any state institution may be divided into two distinct classes: For current expenses and for permanent improvements and repairs. New buildings or additions, dynamo, engines, etc., have been included under the head of permanent improvements.

Comparison is made of appropriations made by six different legislatures for the soldiers' and sailors' home at Grand Island:

Table with 3 columns: Item, 1899, 1901. Rows include Commandant, Adjutant, Surgeon, etc.

Total current exp., \$78,750 \$97,810. Net increase, \$19,780 \$840.

Grand total \$94,870 \$97,810. A great howl went up from the republican press in 1900 because it was evident that this institution would run a deficiency for fuel and lights; but the incoming republican administration got an increase of 50 per cent over the appropriation of 1899.

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Rows include Officers' salaries, Employees' wages, etc.

The second table, taken from the Lincoln News, prepared by the republican press bureau, purports to be a comparative statement of expenses at this institution under two administrations. The fusion year, under Governor Dyer, is said to include expenses from April 1, 1899, to April 1, 1900; and the republican year, under Governors Dietrich and Savage, is said to include from April 1, 1901, to April 1, 1902.

Table with 3 columns: Item, 1899-1900, 1901-1902. Rows include Commandant, Adjutant, Surgeon, etc.

It will be noted that the republican press bureau's figures are correct for the republican year, but lack \$1771 of agreeing with ours for the fusion year (or eleven months, as both "years" are in fact). This is a fair sample of republican methods in "making a showing." The average republican statistician conceives it to be his duty to juggle figures where he can and lie outright where it seems necessary.

current expenses was \$2,155.95 greater than the fusion cost. It requires considerable gall to include the expenditures for buildings, etc., as current expenses. But the republican bureau of misinformation is equal to any demands along that line.

The soldiers' home, so far as appears from the figures, seems to be one of the best conducted institutions under this administration. Wait till we investigate some others.

FORGERS AND CANDIDATES

Jonathan Higgins Has a Word to Say About the Fifth District g. o. p. Candidate for Congress

Editor Independent: The man who is nearing his allotted time of three score and ten, one who came to Nebraska in the early fifties and has personally witnessed the changes of various kinds wrought both in territory and state, and can scarcely realize or believe the truths of his own experiences and observations.

Many of these changes have been such that every Nebraskan can and should feel a great pride in them. But there have been other changes of such nature that they can but bring the blush of shame to the cheek of every good citizen of the state.

It is not necessary to enlarge upon the changes from the prairie sod to the grain and alfalfa fields; from the buffalo and antelope to the cattle upon a thousand hills; from the log and sod school house to the frame and palatial brick; from the stage coach and ponderous ox wagon to the palace car and iron horse; the crack of the "bullwacker's" whip to the shriek of the locomotive. This is all as it should be, but there have been changes wrought which are not that way, but are as they should not be.

The old fog practice in vogue in Nebraska in the earlier days of the selecting of officials for their known honesty, integrity and ability has been supplanted by the "get there" fellow, whether by fair or foul methods. The fouler, the more he is sought after by the nominating powers of the g. o. p. That party seeks the man possessing the greatest amount of glib, deceptive ability and who can play the bigger role of hypocrite, possessing the most election fraud cunning.

The shrewdest poll book forger expert is ever and always a preferred candidate with the powers that be of that party.

This may appear to be rather a severe arraignment, but it is not more severe than true, and here in the Fifth congressional district every sentence is susceptible of proof: in fact enough of it is now of record proof, to sustain the charges. It is not necessary to go outside of my own county of Furnas to substantiate every allegation herein made insofar as deceptions, hypocrisies and poll book forgeries, and the preference for candidates possession the requisites are concerned.

possession of the poll books and pretended to discover an error in the canvass of the votes, but the evidence is incontrovertible that the books were changed after the precinct board made the return to the county clerk. This proof is in the shape of a private poll book made by a republican editor at the time of making the precinct canvass, and tallied with the official books at that time, but after Norris had had access to the official books this private book was short six tallies. Part of the precinct board have openly declared that the official books tallied by actual comparison with the private book when the count was made and not one of them have ever disputed this fact, although this same editor with this proof of forgery in his possession is persistently boomeranging Norris for congress and yet posing as a decent kind of a republican. JONATHAN HIGGINS, Cambridge, Neb.

The State Press

Populist and democratic papers over the state are beginning to move more space in discussing available candidates for governor. Up to this time but little has been said regarding candidates for the other offices.

I. M. Rice of the Valentine Democrat acknowledges receipt of a marked copy of the Red Cloud Nation containing an article which says "that Mr. Damerell is the coming man to nominate for governor." Mr. Rice inquires, "Who in Helen Blazes is Dr. Damerell? His brand does not appear in the Democrat." In another paragraph Mr. Rice states his position as follows: "We want a man for governor tried and true. Not some new man of whom our people have never heard and who is perhaps not known outside his precinct or nearest grocery. We would take pleasure in supporting some man who has done something to make him worthy of the people's confidence. Such a man can be found in the person of W. J. Bryan or W. V. Allen. We are tired of experiments and think it is time for the people to know the man they vote for."

The Schuyler Quill of course is energetic in advocating the candidacy of John C. Sprecher. It quotes as supporting Mr. Sprecher the Stanton Register and the Holt County Independent. Commenting on a paragraph in the Crete Democrat, wherein Editor Bowly suggested that "John is all right and would be a good running mate for auditor with C. J. Smyth for governor." The Quill says "not on your life, Bowly Sprecher is not seeking office and the Quill emphatically objects to using him to strengthen the ticket for some other candidate. If fusion is effected this year the populists will insist on their natural rights and furnish the candidate to head the ticket, and John C. Sprecher is a strong man. No, Bowly, that was the unkindest cut of all."

The People's Banner, renegade populist and now republican for revenue, thinks the papers that are booming Sprecher for governor might just as well "cork up their wind. If there is fusion in Nebraska this year the candidate will not be Sprecher or any other populist. He will be a democrat."

C. L. Mayes of the Rushville Standard is also in favor of "the tall sycamore of the Platte," knowing him to be a man of unquestionable ability, honesty and integrity. The Standard, however, admits that Dr. Damerell and Mr. Koenigstein would no doubt make good governors.

The Ord Journal brings out the name of Dr. C. E. Coffin for governor, saying: "He is clean in character in every way and his executive ability is far above the average man even in the position which is spoken of. Some of the doctor's friends, however, are urging him to become a candidate for auditor. The Journal says that if a democrat is to be nominated it knows of no one who would better unite the forces and make a better governor than W. H. Thompson."

W. H. Smith of the Seward Independent-Democrat says that "some of the Seward friends of R. R. Schick have suggested presenting his name to the populist state convention for the nomination of commissioner of public lands and buildings." And that Mr. Schick would make a good commissioner as he is quite well known over

the state and could undoubtedly go into the convention with a pretty strong following.

Wahlquist of the Hastings Democrat believes that "the talk of Congressman Stark for fusion candidate for governor is a great mistake. His services are needed in the Fourth district this year more than ever. He is by all odds the strongest candidate for congress and will take a strong and vigorous campaign in the Fourth district this year. A change in the Fourth district might be disastrous."

C. E. Williamson of the Pawnee Chief says that "up to date the republican situation may be summed up as follows: 'Damn Savage, but for God's sake see Bartley before making any nomination.'"

O. E. Walters of the Petersburg Index quotes from the Lindsay Post an offer of Edw. A. Brodboll to furnish Platte county with a court house free of charge in case the county seat is moved from Columbus to Lindsay. Mr. Brodboll says: "I will erect a brown stone court house, furnish it with all the latest modern furniture and fixtures to cost not more than ninety thousand dollars and pay for it all myself and donate it to the county." It seems that Platte Center and Humphrey have been making "goo-goo eyes" at the county seat and offer to erect a \$55,000 court house. So Mr. Brodboll raises the ante.

The populist county central committee of Custer county is called to meet in Broken Bow on May 24. J. A. Baird of the Cedar Rapids Outlook feels pessimistic over the outlook for regulating the trusts. In an editorial on the beef trust he says we are compelled to believe that the beef trust along with all the other trusts will go on flourishing like green bay trees. All intelligent people know that the government is in a very large measure controlled by the trusts. The only law we have against these institutions was passed when the trusts were in their infancy and when their power was infinitely less than it is now. If through all the years of their comparative weakness the law against them was utterly inoperative, how can we now hope to crush or regulate them? It is too late."

The populist county central committee of Phelps county is called to meet at Holdrege on May 10. Another change has taken place on the staff of the Red Cloud Nation, Mr. A. C. Hosmer, former manager, has resigned and Miss Emma Hale, a niece of J. P. Hale, takes his place. No change, however, will be made in its political attitude and the Nation will continue to boom Dr. Damerell for governor.

CAMPAIGN FUNDS

Populist Chairman Reports Collections to Date—Many Counties Delinquent

To the Populists of Nebraska: I deem it proper at this time to call attention to the fact that all indebtedness connected with past campaigns should be fully cleared up before the coming state conventions. The "old debt of 1900" was not fully cleared up before the campaign of 1901 began, and was a serious impediment to the collection of funds for the latter campaign.

Only 36 counties have fully paid up their share of this old debt, 22 of them having overpaid to the extent of \$287.84; and 54 of the counties are still delinquent for amounts ranging from \$2 up, aggregating the sum of \$1,054.84. About one-half of this unpaid balance is still needed to fully clear up the old accounts. The claim of Mrs. Gougar and part of two or three smaller claims are still pending. A detailed statement of each county's standing will not be given at this time.

Exclusive of the sale of Liberty Building cards (which will be reported separately), the total receipts from the beginning of the campaign of 1901 to the present time (May 5) have been \$1,309.14. Out of \$2,448 which should have been paid by the 90 counties, only \$865.14 has been received; and exclusive of county officers, populist officials, who during the year drew in the neighborhood of \$55,000 in salaries, have contributed all told \$386.00.

Up to the close of the campaign last November, the state committee kept strictly within its income, and did not owe a dollar at the time of making its

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Table listing county contributions to campaign funds. Includes Kearney, Lancaster, Loup, Nemaha, Nuckolls, Otoe, Pawnee, Platte, Red Willow, Saline, Sarpy, Scotts Bluff, Seward, Stanton, Thayer, Thurston, Washington, Wayne, York.

Total (49 Co's.) \$501 28 \$1,216 72. And 27 counties have not paid a cent toward the campaign fund of 1901. They are by no means all small counties, but include such counties as Cass, Holt, Johnson, Knox, Lincoln, Madison, Merrick, and Richardson.

Table listing individual contributions. Includes Banner, Blaine, Brown, Cass, Chase, Cheyenne, Deuel, Garfield, Grant, Holt, Hooker, Johnson, Keith, Keya Paha, Knox, Lincoln, Logan, McPherson, Merrick, Perkins, Richardson, Rock, Sheridan, Sioux, Thomas, Wheeler.

Total (27 counties) \$398 00. RECAPITULATION. 14 counties in full \$363 86. 49 counties, part paid \$501 23. 27 counties, nothing \$0 00. 90 counties paid \$865 14. Individual contributions \$444 00. Total amount due \$1,614 72. Respectfully submitted, C. Q. DE FRANCE, Chairman.

Horace F. Bishop, Attorney. To Frank E. Pelton, non-resident defendant. You are hereby notified that on the 24 day of May, 1902, Marie A. Pelton filed a petition against you in the district court of Lancaster county, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which is to obtain a divorce from you on the ground of extreme cruelty to plaintiff and grossly, wantonly and cruelly refusing and failing to support.

You are required to answer said petition on or before the 16th day of June, 1902. M. A. PELTON. By HORACE F. BISHOP, her attorney.

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