

The Nebraska Independent

Lincoln, Nebraska. PRESSE BLDG., CORNER 13th AND N STS. PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY. FOURTEENTH YEAR. \$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

When making remittances do not leave money with news agencies, postmasters, etc., to be forwarded by them. They frequently forget or remit a different amount than was left with them, and the subscriber fails to get proper credit.

The Ticket

- For Governor.....W. H. Thompson (Democrat, Hall County.) Lieut. Governor.....E. A. Gilbert (Populist, York County.) Secretary of State.....John Powers (Populist, Hitchcock County.) Auditor.....C. Q. De France (Populist, Jefferson County.) Treasurer.....J. N. Lyman (Populist, Adams County.) Attorney General.....J. H. Broady (Democrat, Lancaster County.) Commissioner Public Lands and Buildings.....J. C. Brennan (Democrat, Douglas County.) Supt. of Schools.....Claude Smith (Populist, Dawson County.) CONGRESSIONAL. First.....Howard H. Hanks (Democrat, Otoe county.) Second.....Gilbert M. Hitchcock (Democrat, Douglas County.) Third.....John S. Robinson (Democrat, Madison County.) Fourth.....William L. Stark (Populist, Hamilton County.) Fifth.....Ashton C. Shallenberger (Democrat, Harlan County.) Sixth.....Patrick H. Barry (Populist, Greeley County.)

The harmony of the republican party over in Iowa is hardly of the angelic kind. Don't forget Mickey. He's running for governor. It seems that a good many republicans are trying to forget it. Don't let them. The "spotted cow called Speck" and the "boar black pig" strike out for the woods every time they hear the name of Mickey mentioned. "Our man Mickey" is still a candidate for governor. The Independent makes this announcement for fear that he will be totally forgotten. Republican prosperity consists in the kiting skyward of the prices of all the necessaries of life while wages and salaries stand still. The trusts desire very much to have a president that will stand without hitching. That makes them cast longing eyes toward Mark Hanna. The trusts will have to select a new man for speaker for the next house. They will get one who will do their bidding all right enough if there is a republican majority. Please don't fail to mention to your neighbor that Mickey is running for governor, especially so if he is a republican. A good many of them are wanting to forget all about it. The "big six" republican senators met the president at Oyster Bay Tuesday to give him the necessary instructions concerning how he should talk when discussing the tariff on his western trip. It is next to impossible to buy iron and steel from the trust direct. Every purchaser is referred to some middleman and a big rake-off is taken in above the list prices. That is one way the monopoly has of fooling the mullet heads. Those two lowly followers of Christ and modern evangelists, J. Pierpont Morgan and Mark Hanna, have united in an appeal to the public for money to spread Christianity in the Philippines. Be sure to send them a dollar by the next mail. According to Secretary Shaw the gold standard is a complete failure. To prevent a crisis he is sitting up nights inventing schemes to get "more money" in circulation. If there is gold enough to do the business of the country, what is he fretting about? It is said that the failure of the president to make mention of the tariff at any time during his New England trip was owing to the advice of Lodge. He did not mention it when in West Virginia. Did Elkins give him some advice also? Alabama republicans scratched the name of every colored delegate to their state convention off the list of members and then proceeded on the "illy white" plan. Will the next national convention of the republican party cut down the representatives from the south in that body because the negro vote has been suppressed?

NOT A PARTY QUESTION The question before the people of Nebraska in this election is not whether this party or that party shall win the fight. In fact, it is not a question of parties at all, but whether the railroads shall become complete masters of the state and run it by "the authority of the railroads of Nebraska." The railroads are already the masters of the industries of this state. The profit that every man shall get out of his business is determined by men who meet in Chicago or New York and fix the rates that he shall pay. All business success depends upon transportation system. The whole railroad system of the United States will soon be a great trust, guided and directed by one omnipotent tyrant, located at New York City. The consolidation has proceeded very fast during the last year. It began by consolidating different lines into one. Then these great lines of from three to five thousand miles of trackage were combined into systems, four or five in number. These systems will soon see the "community of interest" and then there will be but one system. It is not by the authority of the "railroads of Nebraska" that this campaign is being carried on. There is no such thing as "the railroads of Nebraska." It is the railroad power of the United States that comes in here to get control of this state government. The men who own the systems, part of whose lines lie in this state, are not citizens of this state. They have no interest here except what they can make the people contribute to their accumulations of wealth. The churches, the schools, the hospitals, are no concern of theirs. Yet these men, located at New York, propose to take charge of the state government and have it run in their interest instead of the interest of the people who live and work here. Their hired agents, who do their bidding, may live here, but they have no will of their own. They are simply hired servants of the great railroad moguls and stand in the same relation to the rest of us as the "house servant" did to the "field hand" on the old slave plantation. The Thurstons, Mandersons, Burts and Holdreges, personally gentlemen of culture and refinement, are simply hirelings of the Goulds, Vanderbilts, Hills and Harrimans and must instantly obey every order they receive from the offices in Wall street. They are the house servants of the railroad slave masters. If the railroads succeed in this campaign, we will not have the honor of being governed by the great magnates themselves, but will be put under the control of their upper servants who act in the same capacity as the overseer on the old plantation. The state of Nebraska will be one of the provinces which the great universal railroad trust will rule from Wall street and from which it will draw millions of revenue. When Governor Taft enacted a new law in the Philippines, he promulgated it "by authority of the president of the United States." If "our man" is inaugurated as governor, the laws of Nebraska will be made "by authority of the railroads of Nebraska." What difference does it make to Baldwin or Manderson whether the railroads are taxed on \$25,000,000 or \$50,000,000? Their salaries will remain the same in any event. What difference does it make to the general managers of the roads here in Nebraska? It makes no difference at all. They are paid so much a month for their services. No one in Nebraska will be the gainer by taxing the roads for less than their actual value. It is the magnates down in Wall street whom these men serve for the money they get who will be the gainers. Let any party pay these men double the salaries they now get to oppose the roads and they would immediately become as fierce opponents as they are now advocates for them. It is simply a question of money with them all. But after all, it is not the question of taxation that the Wall street magnates are so much interested in. The numerous lines in Nebraska could each pay a few thousand dollars more taxes so easily that the Goulds, Harrimans, Hills and Vanderbilts, would not bother themselves about it. There is something of far greater importance to them. They want a state government that will obey their orders with the same alacrity that their attorneys and superintendents do. The question of rates is of far more importance than the question of taxation. Then there may be industrial troubles in the near future—there is a big strike on hand now—and the Wall street office may want quick obedience to orders issued to the state government. They know that they will get it if they succeed in this campaign. The state government in the hands of the railroads is what is wanted by Wall street. An order for the militia when they get into a dispute with their employes, if not instantly obeyed by the governor, might mean a great deal

more to them than the taxation for a whole year. A legislature that would attempt to reduce some of their extortionate freight rates might cause them more trouble and cost them more money than their taxes at full rates for five years. What the railroads want is a governor and a state government that will obey the orders issued from the New York offices. That is why they are spending so much money to elect "our man Mickey." With Prout attorney general and all the railroad attorneys gathered around him as "friends of the court," with a board of review opposed to taxing railroads at their salable value, with a governor with his ear to the ground to catch the orders from the Wall street offices of the railroads, a large and fertile province would be added to the dominion of the Hills, Harrimans, Goulds, Vanderbilts, and Morgan, the Grand Monarch of all. THE IOWA ERUPTION Speaker Henderson has declined to accept the republican nomination to congress. The reason that he assigns is that he does not agree with the Iowa republican state platform which declares that the tariff should not be used as a shelter for monopoly. He says: "You cannot kill the trusts by applying free trade without killing all our industries." There has been opposition to Henderson in his own district for a long time. Last winter most of the newspapers in his district, and for that matter in the whole state, gave him such a dressing down that he had to apologize. He was made speaker of the house by the trusts and he has formulated legislation to favor them until even the republicans of the district could not stand it any longer. The universal assertion by the Iowa leaders that he "was sure of election" is all bosh. Henderson's character may be judged from a few sentences from his letter declining to run. He says of the republicans who propose to revise the tariff and take off the protection to the trusts: "They propose to slaughter every interest in the United States whether capital or labor." Of the democrats he says: "No proposition has ever been made by the democracy, excepting to put everything on the free list and to give the country free trade." A man who will lie like that is a fit champion for the trusts. When did the democratic party ever propose "to put everything on the free list"? The last democratic tariff was the highest protective measure ever enacted up to that time. Even the declaration of "a tariff or revenue only," which is the farthest extreme to which the democratic party ever went, was not a declaration "to put everything on the free list." The charge that the purpose of the republicans who wish to take the tariff off trust goods "is to slaughter every interest in the United States whether capital or labor," is the talk of a man who is not only devoid of integrity, but shows a viciousness that would go credit to the devil himself. Their purpose is to destroy every interest in the United States! That is what they really wish to accomplish! Henderson, you are not only a villain, but considerable of a fool. Why should any man wish to destroy every interest in the United States? That would include his own interest. THE AMERICAN NAVY One thing grows more certain every day and that is that we can never get seamen enough to man the warships that are already built until the whole navy is reorganized and the Crowninshield influence eradicated unless a resort is made to the impressment of seamen. The indisposition of the naval apprentices to re-enlist in the navy after their term of service has expired amounts to 90 per cent, when figured in percentages. That is to say, only 10 per cent of them choose to continue in the navy after their preliminary training. The boys find it a dog's life from the start and they only wait for the term of their enlistment to expire so they can get out of it. They might endure the abuse of the warrant officers, who are encouraged by the officers in their brutality, if there was any hope that they could ever rise to a better position in the service. In the commercial marine a lad who starts as a cabin boy may become a captain of a great liner, but no boy who enters the navy can ever rise to the rank of the lowest lieutenant. The whole thing is utterly un-American. Many of the highest officers in the regular army came up from the ranks. Unless there is a reorganization in the navy, what is the good of building more ships? There are not half enough men to man those that are already built. Boss Tweed would have blushed at the thought of his puerile efforts if he had lived to have read the accounts of the municipal thefts committed by modern republicans. Philadelphia, Minneapolis and St. Louis republicans could give Tweed cards and spades and beat him every game.

TOO SUBTLE FOR HIM One of the old workers for reform in this state writes to the editor as follows: "I sometimes think that you take it for granted that your readers know more of the subtleness of political economy and the intricacies of government than most of them really do and you expect them to do more thinking than they are capable of doing. I will give one instance, but in the Independent there are generally several of the same kind each week. You have frequently said Wall street or the plutocracy have engaged in a new scheme by which these men intend to capture all the great increase of wealth resulting from general education, the advance of science and invention and there you leave the subject to be thought out by your readers. I can tell you that not one in a hundred of your readers ever thinks it out, and the senator, while loaded to the brim with truth, is worth no more than so much blank space to all except a few. That sentence has caused me weeks of thought. I am not half through with it yet, but how many have given it more attention than they would a squib about Mark Hanna or Morgan? I have tried twice to write an article about it, but the subject is too wide and all-embracing for me to handle. A man who is not used to writing can't put things in a few words like one who has followed the trade for years." The Independent has been telling the people for years that they must do their own thinking and not trust others to do it for them and it is encouraging to see that even one man has been doing some thinking. In regard to the sentence which is the subject matter of the above letter it may be said that the American workman is acknowledged to be the most efficient in the world. He will produce twice as much wealth in the same number of working hours as the wage-worker of any other nation. Science has enormously increased the production of wealth. It has added 20 per cent to the value of the cotton crop by the utilization of the seed. Some twenty commercial products have been evolved by science from corn. The utilization of what was formerly the "offal" of slaughter houses, mainly resulting from the application of the science of chemistry, has added millions to the wealth of the country. In a hundred other industries science has done the same thing. Invention has enabled a man by the use of machinery to produce as much wealth, in the same length of time, as twenty men could in former times. All this should be evident to every man. It should have resulted in an enormous increase in the comfort and luxuries of the whole people, but instead of that, it has resulted in the creation of a few fortunes such as the world has never before known and in but a slight increase of the welfare of the masses of the people. Furthermore, these owners of immense fortunes are planning to take all the future increase of wealth to themselves except a bare living to the workers. One of the most potent things to accomplish that is the organization of trusts with stock watered to the amount of hundreds of millions. If the people are forced to pay interest on this watered stock in the increased price of all those things that they consume, the result will be that all the increase of wealth resulting from education, science and invention will go to the few and the masses will toil on for the ages to come, while the few enjoy the benefits of the labor of the nation. There are other things besides the trusts invented by the same men to accomplish that purpose. One of them is exorbitant tariffs whereby the American consumer has to pay about 40 per cent more for his goods than the same goods are sold at a profit to foreigners. It is the same old game that plutocracy has played for the last thousand years, changing their schemes as the years go by to suit new conditions. The last scheme was to double the debt of the world by doubling the purchasing power of money. The foundation of many of the great fortunes were laid in that way and especially that of the house of Rothschilds. The tremendous upheaval caused by that plan and the escape from the effect of the revolt by so narrow a margin, and costing millions to buy elections, caused the abandonment of it and the adoption of the present scheme of watering stocks and destroying competition. SOLD OUT FOR CASH That the trusts are slowly buying up democratic caucuses and conventions can no longer be doubted. The democracy of Massachusetts has been sold as sheep in the shambles and the cash was paid in advance. There never was a condition in public affairs so favorable to democracy as this year in the old Bay state. Most of the voters are hirelings, receiving a stated salary. The cost of living has gone up by leaps and bounds, but the salaries have remained stationary. The result has been not only inconvenience, but actual want and suffering in many rather well-to-

do families. The advance in trust-made goods has caused an advance in rent. Fuel and most of the household supplies have doubled in price. The exaction of corporations have been greater than ever before. The people of the state were ready for a revolution in politics. Many of the manufacturers are demanding a revision of the tariff. Thousands of men have been thrown out of employment by the removal of manufacturing concerns to the south to get the benefit of child labor and to Canada where they can get trust-made material 40 per cent less than in the United States and escape the retaliatory tariffs of Russia and other countries. With this condition of affairs there came to the front a Mr. Hamlin, a democrat, who put out a program, which he pledged himself, if elected governor, to do all in his power to enforce. It was just such a set of principles that perhaps nine-tenths of the voters of the state would have in their hearts approved. It was a plain statement with no double meanings. In substance it was the doctrine of the populists and Bryan democrats on trusts, high tariffs, municipal ownership of public utilities, the referendum, concentration of wealth, special privileges to the few and matters of that nature. Under the conditions existing in the state, no one could doubt that with such a candidate and such a platform that the democratic party would have polled a larger vote than it ever did before in that commonwealth. What did the state convention do under these circumstances? It nominated Colonel Gaston, the creator of more grinding corporations and the most perfect representative of modern plutocracy that could have been found in the whole state. He was the moving spirit in the subway and rapid transit corporations and the whole city of Boston as well as the state government have been carrying on a fierce conflict with him for years to prevent some of his projected robberies. An attempt was made to hiss down George Fred Williams in the convention for opposing him. The convention was four to one for Gaston from the very start. How did this come about? As conservative a paper as the Springfield Republican charges that a fund of \$50,000 was raised last spring which was used in getting Gaston delegates elected to the state convention. Under the circumstances existing in the state the republicans were exceedingly anxious that Gaston should be nominated and \$50,000 is probably but a small part of the money expended to secure his nomination by the democracy. Now the situation is this, as described by a Boston correspondent: "All the republicans will have to do to throw the democrats into utter discredit is to point at Gaston's record and laugh. They are doing it already, and every democrat in Boston knows that they are saying only the truth. Every democratic leader who supports Gaston may expect to see himself scorned as one of the biggest fools of the state for presuming to suppose that the people did not know a corporation man when they saw him, even if he had resigned his corporation connection in order to be the party candidate. Considering the emphasis laid today upon trusts and monopolies, the extreme sensitiveness of the public mind upon the subject, the distrust of most of the public, especially the democracy, of capitalist influence, and the fact that this is the great national question upon which the democrats are to join issue with the republicans, for the Massachusetts democrats to take a conspicuous representative of the capitalists and call him their representative is the wonder of the time. The republicans are already fearing the democrats for it, and it is evident that Gaston's nomination will mean a small democratic vote. Yet it looks as if the democratic leaders were preparing to advertise themselves as just such foolish managers, and were deliberately taking a course they know will forfeit their claim to public confidence and strike the democracy a blow from which it cannot recover for years." This makes the fifteenth democratic state convention that has refused to endorse the Kansas City platform and gone over to plutocracy. The wisdom of maintaining the populist organization is more apparent than ever. The Gage County Herald says: "C. Q. De France may not be an adept at handling railroad 'mathematical problems,' especially when it comes to watered stock, but it is safe to say he made Colonel Browne's petulant letter look like '30 cents' in his reply published in last Monday's World-Herald. Good for De France! Let us make him our next state auditor!" Secretary Shaw is experimenting with every desperate scheme that he can invent to get out more money to prevent a crisis before the election is pulled off. Any kind of money is good enough for him except honest silver dollars not redeemable in any other kind of dollars. His preference seems to be for national bank money. When 20 per cent was offered for money on Wall street, Shaw began to think that the end was in sight.

Your Attention is Requested... At the beginning of this frank, open talk on a subject which presents interest to you we ask that you read this letter: ELK POINT, South Dakota. Armstrong Clothing Co. Gentlemen: Your clothes are the best fitting of any I ever bought, even tailor-made suits of four times the price. You can count on further business. H. J. G. Two things are to be remembered: This letter was not requested. It comes from a regular patron of our mail order department. The claim of this Clothing House to be able to supply your clothing needs better than any other store is based on a lifetime of practical clothing experience and the most minute attention to the multitude of little details that go toward making an ideal satisfactory trading place for you. There are not many business men willing to make the sacrifice of time and energy required to do this. So certainly sure are we that we can suit you in cloth, in tailoring, in low price, so true is it that we have the suits here suitable for this purpose, that we ask you to come or write and investigate. You may do this with the certainty that if you are not pleased in every way you do not pay one cent. Armstrong Clothing Co. The Store that "Suits" the public. 1231, 1233, 1235, 1237 O Street, Lincoln, Neb. DECREASE IN WAGES The census taken in 1890 and that taken in 1900 enables us to see what the trusts have done for labor. The republicans constantly chatter about the increase in wages under the beneficent rule of the combinations of capital. The facts are that the total of wages has fallen a little over 25 per cent since 1890. The census of manufacturing shows the following: 1890. Establishments..... 355,415 Capital..... \$6,525,156,486 Salaried officials, clerks..... 481,000 Salaries..... \$ 391,988,208 Wage earners..... 4,251,613 Total wages..... \$1,891,288,321 Miscellaneous expenses..... 631,225,035 Cost of material used..... 5,162,044,076 Value of products..... 9,372,437,283 1900. Establishments..... 512,339 Capital..... \$9,835,086,969 Salaried officials, clerks..... 397,174 Salaries..... \$ 404,230,274 Wage earners..... 5,316,804 Total wages..... \$2,328,691,254 Miscellaneous expenses..... 1,028,035,611 Cost of material used..... 7,348,144,755 Value of products..... 13,014,287,498 A glance at that census table shows two very significant things—the result of the organization of trusts. While the number of salaried officials, clerks, etc., decreased by 13.8 per cent, their total salaries increased by 3.1 per cent, and while the average number of wage-earners increased 25.1 per cent the total wages increased only 23.1 per cent. Those two things account for the accumulation of several fortunes greater than were ever known before and the protest of labor is manifested in numerous strikes. Salaries like that paid to Schwab and other magnates quickly run up that item. The number of wage-earners increased over 25 per cent, the total wages they receive decreased 2 per cent! That is republican prosperity for wage-earners. That is what trusts have done for workingmen in the last ten years. Another ten years of the same republican rule will reduce them to what has been called "the iron law of wages," namely, they will get only enough to preserve life and perpetuate their species. The census tells the story. It is the work of republicans and they can't impeach their own witness. The result of republican policies in fostering trusts, in maintaining exorbitant tariffs, in concentrating wealth in few hands, is just what The Independent has always said it would be. It will make of the people of the United States a set of miserable hirelings, dependent for their daily bread upon the will of a few trust magnates and owners of railroads. Remember that this result has been declared after the marvelous production of the most fertile continent on the earth, and after years of wonderful crops. What will happen when the lean years come? "After us the deluge." MICKY A "SKIN FLINT" Every intelligent voter in the state knows that Mickey is what the farmers call a "skin flint." There is no set of men who will waste more time denouncing skin flints than republican farmers. Every town in the state has one or more skin flints. They start a bank. They induce farmers to feed cattle and promise them the money to purchase stockers at a low rate of interest. Then they charge them a big rate and compound the interest every sixty or ninety days, so by the time the farmer gets his stockers fat and sold the skin flint has raked in about 25 per cent, which is all the profit there is in the business. That is to say, the farmer raises corn, works hard all the year round and gives to the skin flint all the profits of his labor above a bare living. The only consolation that the farmer has is that his land raises in value, which, if he continues to farm, is a detriment, for it raises his taxes while it adds nothing to the fertility of his acres. The Mickey style of skin flints do other things. They keep a sharp lookout for any farmer that is in debt and get a mortgage on his place. If there comes a year or two of bad crops, the skin flint takes the farm on a mortgage. The farmers out in Mickey's county say that he has gathered in a good many farms in that way. Finally the skin flint gets rich and a good many men who once owned farms have lost them and are eking out a miserable existence as "renters." The skin flint being so much like a corporation, that is, having neither soul nor morals, he is naturally the favorite of the railroads and they proceed to nominate him for governor, well knowing that the farmers who curse the skin flints for 364 days out a year will vote for him on the other day if he bears the label "republican." That is, some of them will. The others will cast their vote for the generous-hearted W. H. Thompson, who never took a poor man's farm from him on a mortgage or loaned money at 10 per cent, compounded every sixty days, to the corn raisers of Nebraska. It is said that 300 or 400 men in Mickey's county whom he has skinned during the last twenty years are out working for Thompson and there are a large number of republicans in other counties who have been Micked by other skin flints doing likewise. THEIR MENTAL CALIBRE The republicans were driven to adopt and put in force the populist demand for more money to prevent a revolution, and now a good many of them are demanding the immediate revision of the tariff which the populists have always insisted upon. There is one very queer thing about a republican. If a plain economic proposition is presented by a populist or a democrat, the said republican will denounce it as anarchy or socialism. If the same thing is advocated by some one who prefaces his remarks with the declaration of "I am a republican," that changes the whole face of the matter instantly. It is said that the republican crowds in Massachusetts who listened to George E. Foss while he talked populism and Bryan democracy "cheered with an enthusiasm rarely equalled in any presidential campaign." When Bryan and George Fred Williams said these same things four years ago, these same men denounced such sentiments and declared that their adoption "would ruin the country and bring back the reign of the Cleveland soup houses." Of such mental calibre is the American mullet head. The criminal laws of the United States are compulsory upon the poor, but optional with the rich. Any poor man who violates any section of the federal code as the trusts have the criminal law in regard to trusts would long since have been "penalized" and landed in jail. The reserves of the banks, and they are only nominal reserves at any time, being lent from one bank to another, were the lowest last week that they have been since 1890, just prior to the great Baring failure. The government's sub-treasury holdings are for the most part in the banks. What do you think is going to happen one of these days?