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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.)

Baer discounts Vanderbilt's "the people be d'd" about three times a day.

Secretary Moody has declared that there is at least one tariff duty that is "sneaking and cowardly."

The "full dinner pail" was a great factor in the 1900 republican campaign, but the empty coal hod does not work so well in 1902.

The Chicago board of health says: "As to diphtheria, no child need to die of this disease if promptly and properly treated with anti-toxin."

We have a tariff against Russian coal oil and Russian sugar. Is it any wonder that the czar claps a few duties on American products?

It appears that some of Omaha's distinguished citizens have been committing perjury to aid Dave Mercer and the railroads. The Bee furnishes the proof.

The Independent must still insist that Mickey is a candidate for governor. However hard the republicans work their "forgetters" they can't alter the fact.

When some of the foreign governments learn how a coal trust barren snubbed the president of this great republic with impunity, they may conclude to try it on themselves.

When a member of the cabinet begins to throw bricks at the tariff idol as Secretary Moody did in his late speech it is a sure sign that that administration has heard something.

General Coxie is on top at last. The secretary of the United States treasury has adopted Coxie's plan of loaning money without interest on municipal and county bonds. Hurrah for Coxie!

It is presumed that Cap. Billingsley has forsaken his civic federation and prohibition organization as he was seen at the Antlers the other evening practicing on Dietrich's old campaign speech.

The assessment for campaign purposes made on state judicial nominees in both parties in New York for years has been \$30,000 each. What may be expected from a judiciary under a system like that?

Teddy has for his secretary of the treasury a greater inflationist than can be found in all the ranks of populism. He inflates the currency, he inflates credit, and he inflates the tills of the bankers.

The republican who votes the railroad ticket this year without getting his cash down in advance is a natural born political idiot. As a straight business proposition the railroads can afford to pay from \$2 up for votes enough to carry the election, and what is more, the money is ready. Business is business. Why give away for nothing something that will bring cash down?

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THEM?

There are plenty of republicans in this state who still deny that the trusts sell their goods at a lower price to foreigners than they do to the citizens of this country. One of them, when shown the sworn statements of Schwab, John W. Gates and A. B. Farquar, all big trust magnates, before the industrial commission, in which they testified that they sold their goods "much lower abroad," still refused to believe it. He intimated that the big volume containing that part of the report of the commission in which this testimony appeared, was a document got up by the populist state committee.

Republican papers are published for the purpose of keeping the people in ignorance. When the democratic congressional committee wished to advertise, offering a reward of \$100 for one of these export price journals, the advertisement was refused by nearly all the leading newspapers in New York city. The editors did not wish to offend the trusts. The New York World published the offer, and the committee at last succeeded in obtaining several export journals, and the democratic campaign book contains fifteen pages of matter photographed from these journals.

These pages show that the trusts sell their goods to foreigners at a difference of from 11 per cent to 261 per cent less than they do to Americans. The least advantage that the foreigner gets is on steel armor for cables, which is 11 per cent, their greatest is in galvanized wire rope where the difference is 261 per cent. Foreigners get sewing machines for 59 per cent less and barbed wire for fencing 45 per cent less, than the farmers of the United States can buy those things for. Now, honestly, isn't the American farmer who walks up to the polls and votes the republican ticket a ninny? What's the matter with them any how? The Independent could never find out. Is it partisan insanity or is it downright stupidity?

STUDENT VOTERS

There are four universities here in Lincoln and several thousand students in attendance upon them every year. In the state university, Wesleyan, Cotner and Union there are many men old enough to vote. The railroads in the interest of the republican party have every year here an agent to bribe the students to vote the republican ticket with passes. Scores of them were given passes last year to go home and vote and return. The man employed in that dirty business even went so far as to hunt up students and press passes upon them. There are few students who have a right to vote here under the supreme court decision, which is to the effect that a student having no other place of residence and not deriving his support from his family or others located at his old home, has a right to vote. In years past a great many students have voted here, when pressed to do so by the ward heelers and railroad special agents, who had no right to vote. The different university authorities would do the right thing and aid their institutions if they would send to the election board in their respective districts a list of the students who have a right to vote here. Of course these young men are unknown to the regular residents and unless every one of them was challenged, those not entitled to vote could not be known.

The Independent has often called attention to the indescribable villainess of one man who come to the universities every year to corrupt the youth with bribes of free passes. One act like that nullifies all the teaching in civil government and good citizenship which they receive during their whole college course. But there is not anything too vile or foul for a worker for the railroad ticket to do. Yet it would seem when they attack the very foundations of society by corrupting the youths of the universities, it is time that the authorities there took some decided action.

AN OPEN CONFESSION

Mr. Olney, and the republicans have always regarded him as an able lawyer, called the anthracite mine owners "the most unblushing and persistent of lawbreakers." For years they have defied the law of Pennsylvania which forbids common carriers engaging in the business of mining. For years they have discriminated between customers in the freight charges on their railroads in violation of the interstate commerce law. For years they have unlawfully manipulated the law of Pennsylvania in violation of the Sherman anti-trust law.

Mr. Olney's words have been quoted with approval in many of the republican great dailies. These republican editors seem to forget that here is a confession of the very crimes that the Independent has been charging them of being guilty. The republican party rules in Washington and in Pennsylvania. The national and the state governments have allowed this great, rich and powerful trust to openly violate the laws both of the state and the nation, while they have prosecuted ev-

ery poor man who has violated them. Furthermore, after confessing that these rich men violate the law every day they live, they do not even now propose to bring them to justice. Baer and his partners are still to be allowed to trample the state constitution under their feet, defy the interstate commerce law and make a mockery of the Sherman anti-trust act. The government is to continue to be a government of the rich, for the rich and by the rich. They are to be allowed to trample law and constitutions beneath their feet, while the poor man is to be held to the strictest accountability. That is the sort of government that the republican party, with shameless abandon, proposes to give us in the future as in the past.

CURRENT PRICE FOR VOTES

An old politician said to the editor of The Independent: "If you can only keep it from being known that there will be money at every polling place in Nebraska to pay for votes, you fellows might have a chance to win this time. If it is known that there is money everywhere for votes you won't have any show at all." That is the politician's idea. The Independent's is different. If there is to be money everywhere to pay for votes, the men who are willing to buy will see it to that the right parties know of that fact. It would be futile to try to suppress the fact that the railroads are willing to buy this election and are also willing to pay a good round sum for it. They could pay \$2 a vote for a majority in this state and make money by it in the one item of taxation alone. And there are hundreds of other ways in which they could make money by having Mickey and the state government. That being the case, any man who votes the republican ticket for less than \$2 is a natural born financial idiot and ought to have a guardian appointed to look after his business for him. There is no doubt that in some cases where the railroads think a republican member of the legislature is in doubt, they will likely pay as high as \$10 for a vote. It is no use to try to keep these facts from populists. They all know them. The other fellows will be informed at the right time. The only thing that will not be told them is that from every voter who sells his vote for two dollars, the railroads will take four this year and every year as long as they hold the government. Votes are bought because there is a big profit in the business. You get \$2 for your vote and pay the railroads back \$4. That's the way it works.

NEW YORK PROVINCIALISM

The Brooklyn Eagle, which poses as a democratic paper, but is the extreme of the republican plutocratic sheets, goes after Hill and his public ownership of anthracite coal mines with a vengeance. Among other things of the same sort, it says:

"A blush of shame ought to color even the experienced cheek of David B. Hill when he seeks to mislead an audience of democrats by telling them that the acquisition of the anthracite coal mines by the government through the exercise of the right of eminent domain would be neither revolutionary nor socialistic, but constitutional, necessary, and right. He knows better. He falls far in the public esteem when he teaches this wild doctrine that a sensible ape would reject and a lawyer's office boy riddle in half a minute."

After a lot of such talk the Eagle proceeds to let its readers know how provincial and ignorant a thing it is. In speaking of anthracite it says: "In the west and south only here and there can a family be found that burns it." That editor surely was never west of the Mississippi river and probably never this side of the Alleghenies.

The Independent has no higher opinion of Hill than the Eagle now has, although it has been Hill's chief backer for many years. If the time should ever come when Hill's vote would secure the government ownership of anything, he would cast his vote against it.

Aldrich, who rules the roost in the United States senate and whose close connections with Rockefeller and Havemeyer are known of all men, has promulgated a platform in his little balliwiek of Rhode Island. Of the great combinations he says they are "erroneously called trusts." That is the extent of his condemnation of them.

The republican mode of addressing the followers of that party are unique. Senator Allison says that free trade would help the trusts and for that reason he is against free trade. The said party followers all reply to Allison: "Yep. That's so."

At Plattsburgh the other night, Burkett, as reported in the Bee, said: "I refuse to discuss the Fowler bill because it is not an issue." He, however, carefully refrained from saying that he would vote against it when it came before the house. That sort of spell-binding is even worse than sap-head politics.

STRANGE POLITICAL SITUATION

The private ownership of railroads has produced a political situation in the state of Nebraska that must attract the attention of every thinking man. The proposition before the people is to increase the assessment of the railroads to \$40,000,000—a very modest valuation for the property they own in the state. If that is done and the roads are prohibited from raising rates so as to collect the additional taxes from the people, they will have to pay over many thousands in taxes. Everybody knows that if "our man Mickey" and the rest of the republican ticket is elected, the roads will not have to pay any more taxes than they do now. Therefore the roads have a direct money interest in this election. As a business proposition it will pay the roads to expend thousands of dollars to defeat the fusion ticket. That they will do it no one denies. Voters will be brought into the state by the hundreds, just as they were in the last presidential campaign and at the Dave Mercer primaries. Every vote that can be bought for cash will be obtained. It is simply "business." Votes are worth just so much cold cash to the railroads and they will be paid for on that basis. There was never before such a demonstration of the danger and demoralization resulting from the private ownership of railroads.

DEMAND CASH IN ADVANCE

Why should not the republicans out in the country get some of this railroad money? The republican voters in the cities get scads of it. The populists will confer a favor of their republican neighbors in the country by informing them that there is money at every polling place to pay for votes. If they insist on it, every one of the men who intend to vote the republican ticket can get some of it, if they let it be known that they won't vote for Mickey and the railroads unless they are paid for it. Don't be ninnes. Walk up to the agent and get your pay. You are just as much entitled to it as the fellows in the cities. The bosses will only despise the voter who does not demand his money in advance. The railroads expect to make a big pile by carrying this election. They are willing to pay liberally for votes and have the money to do it. The man who votes their ticket without pay is simply a saphed, when he might as well have the money. Get it in advance for they will not pay a cent after the votes are counted. Don't let them fool you. Tell them it is "cash in advance" every time. Some of the Mercer voters down in Omaha got as high as \$12 each. That is, probably more than they will pay on the average. Be sure, however, to get the top price. Don't let them fool you with the idea that they won't pay more than fifty cents, or a dollar for a vote. On a business basis the vote is worth more than that to them. If they can elect Mickey and the board of equalization, a dollar a vote would be dirt cheap. If the voters stand out, the price will probably run from three to five dollars per vote.

CLASS CONSCIOUS

Socialists certainly assume a contradiction when they talk about the "brotherhood of man," and then make a campaign on "class consciousness." In speaking of this the Denver News says:

If the socialistic hope ever comes to pass it must come through evolution, not revolution. It must come through good will, not hatred. It must come through the consciousness of human unity, not class consciousness.

The sentiment of the people all over the nation, in all parties, is turning more and more toward government ownership. There is a general movement in the democratic party toward taking up that issue. But the socialist schemes government ownership. That is not radical enough to suit him. If he cannot get all of the thing at once he will have nothing. If he cannot jump a hundred feet he will not take a step. But all history shows that the people move slowly. They go inch by inch. They grow into things. They do not transform themselves suddenly. So will it be in this case. They will try the ownership of first one public utility; if that is successful, then of another. They are not going to turn a double somersault and abrogate private property in a minute. Experience teaches that. So does common sense.

THE HAPPY POPULIST

For six years the republicans have been ranting about 16 to 1 and some of the eastern dailies are still at it, while during that time they have coined more silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 than was ever coined in the same time before and they make no sign of stopping the coinage or of changing the ratio. Six years ago they told us that there was money enough and poked fun at the populists because they said "more money" was needed, and if coined it would start the wheels of industry to whirling. Since that time, and especially during the last two years, the republicans have been coining silver by the ton and printing paper money by the ream and the pres-

sure for "more money" is still so great that all the resources of the treasury have been exhausted to furnish it. They told us that "the foreigner paid the tax" and the only salvation of this country was in high tariff duties. Now one-half of the republican party, and especially is that true in the east, are demanding that there shall be a revision of the tariff. Manufacturers say that they will be driven out of the country if the tariff remains at its present high figure and the wage-workers who voted for it are nearly all striking, and stopping the wheels of commerce because they say that their wages are not sufficient to pay the cost of living under the high prices charged by the "protected" trusts. They nearly all voted for the party of high tariff and did it with a whoop. Now they say that the tariff is squeezing the very life out of them. Meantime the populist has gone on his way trying to teach the deluded mortals who followed the lead of the tariff grafters and trust promoters, the true science of political economy, and point out the way whereby the "people" could be prosperous and not have all the prosperity go to the trusts and railroad magnates. The populist is happy at the thought of the good work he has done.

GEN. COXIE AND SEC. SHAW

The readers of The Independent will remember one Carl Browne and Jacob S. Coxie who invaded Washington in 1893 at the head of a crowd of about 600 ragged and half starved men, for the purpose, as they said, to present a petition to congress "with boots on." The substance of the petition was that the government should lend money to municipalities and counties without interest on their bonds. There was an uproar from one end of the land to the other. The great dailies sent corps of reporters and telegraphers to accompany Coxie's army and send detailed reports of its advance, and all Washington was in a state of excitement the day Browne and Coxie arrived. The senate and house adjourned, the whole police force was called out, the militia was on duty at the armories ready to march at a moment's notice and all because Coxie had the audacity to ask congress to allow the government to loan money to cities and counties on their bonds without interest. Now Secretary Shaw has done that very thing without asking the consent of congress at all. The only change he has made in Coxie's plan is that he has loaned money to the bankers instead of cities and counties without interest on the security of the very kind of bonds that Coxie proposed.

THE BITTER GOT BIT

Things do not always turn out as the grabbers and imperialists expect. The gold mine owners in South Africa are the ones who more than any one else were responsible for the war on the Boers. They howled about the tax on dynamite and wanted the British to get control of the government. Now Joe Chamberlain proposes to make them pay the principal part of the cost of the war and they are kicking worse than the famous American mule. They are so "put out" that they are making threats. The Pretoria correspondent of the London Times writes to that paper a furious letter of protest, referring to the American revolution, and as much as saying, "Look out, or there'll be Sam Adames and Patrick Henrys in South Africa." Waxing more furious in each letter, in his last this correspondent says: "The arguments for imposing taxation on the Transvaal to meet the cost of a war waged by the British government stand on exactly the same footing as the arguments for taxing the American colonies in order to lighten the burden of expenditures brought about by a great war waged largely to protect those colonies against French ambition. One need not press the analogy too far, but it is certain that nothing could more effectually damp the loyalty of the British South African, nothing could more certainly pave the way for a strong party in South Africa hostile to the imperial connection, than a making use of the temporary power conferred by crown colony control of the Transvaal to impose upon it a heavy tribute to the British exchequer. It seems that the boasted British loyalty and patriotism is based upon the amount of money there is in it. This is a sad case of the bitter getting bit.

Secretary Moody says that the tariff on anthracite was "smuggled into the Dingley bill in a sneaking and cowardly manner." That is what The Independent said both in regard to that and the tariff on petroleum, but if it should undertake to tell of all the "sneaking and cowardly" things in that bill it would occupy all the space in two or three editions.

If the republicans who go around in the northern part of the state declaring that Luckey is "a skin flint," "a mortgage shark," and "railroad tool" stick to what they say on election day, Mickey's name will appear in the "also ran" column of the dailies the next day.

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INDEPENDENT VOTERS

In a week or two The Independent will have a few remarks to make to Senators Harris, Heitfeld and Patterson that perhaps they will be able to more fully appreciate than they would if made now. If this government is ever to be rescued from the rule of basses and gangs of capitalists employing the very best legal talent in formulating legislation in their interest, there must be a large mass of independent voters, and those voters must have a perfect organization. That has been the mission of the populist party. Nearly the whole mass of them are simply independents who formerly belonged to other parties and left those parties so they might use the force of their organized power for good government. They will nominate their own men and run their own candidates, or they will affiliate with another party advocating their principles and nominating men for office in whom they have confidence. That is what the people's party did in 1896 and 1900. If the Chicago and Kansas City platforms had not contained many of their principles or a different sort of a man had been nominated, the populists would never have affiliated with the democracy.

In Nebraska the legal name is people's independent party and that is a good description of the character of the organization. We have no bosses and no leaders. No populist editor, and there is a large number of them in the state, ever waits for orders from any headquarters concerning what he shall say on any public question. The principles for which the organization stands are so well understood by every member that there is never any dissen-tion over platforms. The expenses of the organization are paid by contributions from its members, an accurate account of which is kept and made public through the state paper. It has no assistance from corporations or banks.

This is the sort of an organization and press that is needed in the New England states and New York. With such an organization in Massachusetts the Gaston plutocrats could never have bought the control of the only opposition to republican policies in that state. That such an organization and press could soon gain a foothold and become a power for good in those states there can be no reasonable doubt.

Many assurances have come from prominent men in those states to the effect that if The Independent would move down there they would guarantee it a circulation of 100,000 within six months. They say that the papers in that region actually refuse to publish anything antagonistic to the rule of trusts, corporations and tariff grafters, and this writer knows from his own experience that they tell the truth, for he sent a few lines to one of the fairest and ablest of them, which it refused to publish as a communication or in any other way.

Perhaps it might be well to tell what it was. Having noticed the habit of the editor of occasionally making a contemptuous fling at Bryan and 16 to 1, one of these quips was quoted and these words added: "During the last six years the republican administration has coined more silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 than was ever coined in the same length of time before, of which any man can convince himself by a reference to the official reports of the secretary of the treasury and the director of mint. The present administration is still coining it and has never given any intimation at any

time that it would endeavor to change the ratio or stop the coinage. All the silver that is mined, except what goes into the arts, is coined. There is no considerable amount of silver bullion uncoined anywhere in the world." "The populists have never been 'silver lunatics.' They have discussed the money question from an entirely different standpoint."

But the editor would not allow that statement of facts to go into the most obscure corner of his paper, and we suppose that most of the voters in those benighted regions think that the republicans stopped the coinage of silver as soon as they got into power. "These being the conditions perhaps, the best thing to do down east for the present, is what the intelligent portion of them are doing—spreading The Independent all over those regions.

About the most ridiculous proposition ever promulgated is the republican plea: "Trust us. We will reform the tariff." That is enough to bring a smile to the elongated countenance of an army mule.

Hill's public ownership of the anthracite coal mines, which he advocated in his Brooklyn speech, would not amount to "a hill of beans" unless the public ownership of the coal carrying railroads went along with it.

It is said that the order of Secretary Shaw to the customs inspectors to "facilitate the importation of coal" is interpreted to mean that all anthracite imported is to be supposed to contain that 92 per cent of carbon and come in free. "This setting aside of a tariff law by a member of the cabinet is not a whit more imperialistic than some other things that have been done by a republican administration in the past.

Every once in a while one of the great dailies in a moment of sanity comes around to the populist view of things. Last Monday the Chicago Record-Herald printed the following in regard to the Philippines: "The Philippines mean to us merely an added responsibility with added cost for putting down rebellion and maintaining an enlarged military establishment. They are of less value to the individual American and his government than the moon, and most of the stuff that is written about their possibilities differs slightly from moonshine." When The Independent expressed exactly the same views, a year or two ago, the Record-Herald was of the opinion that The Independent was "a little American," "copperhead" or something of that sort.

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