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MENTION THIS PAPER.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.

SEND FOR SAMPLES.

did all that he could to defeat Bryan.

Many of the editors of those papers know the truth, but for the most part they are hirelings, editing their paper on a salary for a corporation. One article of good sound economics would end their careers and they know it. That the leaders of the republican party know the truth cannot be doubted. Take, for instance, the Wellman interview with Secretary Shaw. Every sentence of what Secretary Shaw said could have been duplicated word for word from The Independent. But one paper in the whole United States printed that interview and it did not give the secretary's name. The people in the eastern and other states are very much interested in facts like those contained in that interview, and when they constantly find such facts in The Independent they are impressed with them and talk to their neighbors about them.

The statistics published in The Independent are always accurate. Men feel confident when they quote them. They can file them away and appeal to them with the assurance that they will not be caught in any fallacy in basing an argument upon them.

The Independent differs from plutocratic papers in another way. It often prints articles directly opposed to its theories, when offered in good faith by men who honestly believe in them. Every man is allowed to have his say as far as it is possible.

The editor would like to hear from the readers of the paper their opinion concerning the change in form from eight to sixteen pages.

POLITICS AMONG INDIANS

The departments at Washington are all handled in the interests of the republican party, the interior department and bureau of Indian affairs as much so as the treasury department. There are in Nebraska about four thousand Indians, all citizens and as declared in the severalty act with "all the rights, privileges and immunities of any other citizens." Consequently they have votes. All the year around these Indians are worked by the agents, traders and other republican officials for all that there is to be got out of them. Legally the departments at Washington have no more authority over these Indians than they have over any other citizens of Nebraska, but having indulged in a semi-imperialism under the old system, it proves to be almost possible to pry them loose, now that congress has made these Indians citizens.

Every year just before election the department at Washington and the republican politicians in the northern part of the state get to loving these Indians with a love that is indescribable. This year it was a little more so than usual. Some twenty years ago the Omahas sold some land to the government. The government resold it to settlers, got the money and has kept it, although the Indians have often made demands that it should be paid over. The department at Washington kept delaying the payment although \$100,000 of it had been ordered paid nearly a year ago. At last it was concluded that it would be a good stroke of republican politics to pay it

the week before the election and that the Indians would be so rejoiced at getting any of the money out of the grip of the republican office-holders who had held it for years, that they would all straightway go and vote the republican ticket. But these republican office-holders had no idea of handling over all that \$100,000, although there was still \$300,000 more long since due. Payments to the Indians are always made so much per capita, the heads of families receiving the money for minor children. These scoundrels proceeded to get up a new set of rules so they could retain indefinitely more than half of that money. They said no money should be paid on account of any minor child until a guardian had been appointed by the probate court. When that ruling was announced there was a high old time at the agency. The Indians withdrew from the paying stand in a body and declared they would not receive a cent of the money under such conditions as half of the money would have to be paid to shyster lawyers and the courts to get guardians appointed. Old White Horse, one of the leading men of the tribe and who has always worked with the republicans, walked up to the agent, shook his fist under that official's nose and said that the whole tribe would vote the democratic ticket solid if that order was not recinded.

Then there was a running to and fro among the republican politicians. The wires to Washington were kept hot telling how the republicans would lose one member of congress and perhaps the state ticket. An ex-assistant sec-

retary of war was hurried to the reservation with a score or more of republican workers. Finally word was received from Washington that the ruling would be withdrawn and the money would be paid to the minors the next day after the election without the appointment of guardians. More than a week has passed since the election and no money has been paid yet. The new rules when they came exempted a large part of the minors. While the Indians believed that they would not get this money unless they voted the republican ticket, yet there were small fusion gains in all the Indian precincts except one.

Now suppose these Indians had been in the condition of the Porto Ricans and Filipinos, without votes for congressmen or other officials at Washington, would there have been any change in that ruling? Well, hardly. A regiment or two of troops would have been sent to quell the disturbance. This semi-imperialism in operation here at home is bad enough, but what must the genuine kind be 10,000 miles away from home where the inhabitants are only "appurtenances," as Justice Brown says, and not citizens at all.

ESTABLISHED 1878
THOS. McCULLOCH,

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