

\$1,778,988.88, or a trifle more than the levy at 6 1/2 mills. Assuming that this could all be collected—which, of course, it could not—it would leave the \$195,000 of office fees and miscellaneous receipts, to take care of the \$72,000 of interest on registered general fund warrants, and make some reduction in the floating debt. Doubtless the collection of delinquent taxes would just about offset the delinquencies in the 1902 levy, but if it more than did so, it would have the effect of still further reducing the floating debt.

The way our grand assessment roll shows up at present, an average levy of 6 1/2 mills is little enough for general fund purposes. But if the limit is placed at 6, how can sufficient be levied? And if it is placed at 6 1/2, where can equalization come in? The flat rate of one mill for university only adds to the difficulty. And the sliding scale between 1/2 mill and 1 1/2 mills for state school tax is too small to accomplish much in that direction.

Make the general fund limit 10 mills, Messrs. Legislators, and the board can really do something. The total levy will not be a dollar greater than if the limit is 6 1/2 or 7—but some counties that richly deserve it will pay 10 mills, while others that have been discriminated against for years can be let off with 2 or 3 or 4.

Then if you change the law so that the state board shall make an official determination of the "fair cash value" of railroad and other property of that class—but not assess it; and let the county boards assess it in accordance with the standard used in assessing other property; and have the state board fix the rate of levy for state purposes in harmony with the way railroad property is assessed in each county, most of the glaring inequalities of the present law will disappear.

This, with a better system of collecting taxes, ought to give satisfaction generally.

**FAVORS FUSION**

**Mr. DeWald Deprecates Any Action Looking to Independent Party Action This Fall**

Editor Independent: In last week's Independent I saw an account of the meeting of our state executive committee at which independent political action seems to have been favored. I sincerely hope that our party leaders and The Independent will not be so ill-advised as to advocate such action. Just think of the consequences. Every reasonable man knows that, with the fusion vote cut in two, the republicans would carry the state by a plurality of fifty thousand votes. Instead of strengthening Mr. Bryan in his noble fight with the reorganizers and assistant republicans, by giving him the moral support which a fusion victory in this state this fall would be, we would help his political enemies. Can you imagine the noise the plutocratic dailies would make? They could spare space and plenty of it to tell their readers that Mr. Bryan got snowed under in his own state, that he is discredited and no factor in politics any more. I can now see the head-lines in the New York World, exulting over the supposed fact that even the poor, benighted, long-haired, wild and wooly peps went back on Bryan.

Can we afford to bring about such a result? What would we gain by it? The first advantage I can see would be to reunite with us D. Clem Deaver and others of that ilk, who betrayed us for an office, or some other consideration. These fellows would come back to us with a seraphic smile on their countenance, to be leaders among us again, saying: "We told you so; we were right all the time; fusion is confusion," etc. I for one want no such leadership.

The next disadvantage would be the defeat of Judge Sullivan, one of the best judges we ever had—if he is a democrat. Can we afford to give up voluntarily our last stronghold in the state?

In following such a course we would also have to antagonize our political allies, the Bryan democrats, men who, as a rule, stand for the same principles as we do. I claim that is both impolitic and unnatural. If fusion between us ever was right, it is right now. Nothing has occurred to change that fact. It is idle to talk about uniting with the socialists and other advanced radicals to form a new party. A socialist as a rule cannot agree with himself, for any length of time, let alone with any one else.

In my humble opinion, the best plan would be to get together this fall, nominate Judge Sullivan and elect him, and let the eastern fellows know that we stand by Mr. Bryan. If he and the democrats who are with him shall again be victorious in the democratic convention, adopt a platform acceptable to the reformers, and nomi-

nate a man whom we can trust, for president, then a third party would have (as the assistant editor would say) no "raison d'etre." If, on the other hand, the reorganizers and twin republicans gain the day, there will be a strong party of populists, Bryan democrats, and anti-trust republicans and they will be heard from.

In conclusion, I suggest that if it is deemed advisable to have separate tickets, each party could nominate different candidates for regents, and in that way keep up party organization and ascertain party strength.

LOUIS DEWALD.

Wisner, Neb.

**Farms for Everybody**

160 acres in north part of Howard county, Nebraska. 90 acres cultivated, balance in grass and pasture. 55 acres fenced with 3 wires, new cedar posts. Good new frame house 26x26, frame barn for 8 horses, chicken house, corn crib, good cave, fine well and windmill. About 5 acres of alfalfa, nice young trees. Soil is first class and plowed land is nearly all level. Good road to market. The best farm in Howard county for the money; good reasons for selling. Price, \$3,000. Write us for particulars. If you see the place, you will buy it. Send for our general list of lands. Van Decar & Bradley, St. Paul, Neb., or Wolbach, Neb.

**HARDY'S COLUMN**

The eight-hour day and heavy increase of pay will serve as a bait to bring thousands of families into cities to curl up in ten-foot rooms, on fifth floors, then in hard times feed in soup houses.

The second decision of our state supreme court on the reading of the Bible in our public schools was much more reasonable and constitutional. We have no objections to saying Amen to the final decision. The Bible is not a sectarian book, but is acknowledged by all English-speaking people to be the standard of morals.

We can see no reason for objecting to the government leasing for pasture the sand hills in this state. It is certainly better for our public schools to lease our public school land rather than sell them. A quarter section, used as pasture, cannot be made to support a farmer's family. It will require six or eight sections.

They are kicking out members of the state legislature in Colorado, same as they did in this state a few years ago. The party that did the kicking has finally elected a senator.

It appears that Secretary Hay has completed negotiations with Colombia for the right of way for the Panama canal from ocean to ocean. The mantle of secrecy is still held over the matter and will be until the senate of the United States and the congress of Colombia both ratify the treaty. It is supposed that this government will pay the French company \$40,000,000 and Colombia \$10,000,000 and then after nine years pay Colombia \$250,000 each year. The full length of the canal is 46 1/2 miles, but fourteen miles are already nearly completed.

All the republics of North, Central and South America should join in an amendment to the Monroe doctrine to the effect that no government on the continent should be allowed to absorb by force any territory they do not now hold.

Coal is to be admitted free until after the next presidential election.

Everything looks favorable in our present legislature for the increase of state offices and employes. The more a party spends on elections the more drawing on the public crib is necessary. H. W. HARDY.

**Sherman County**

Choice bargain in half section in Sherman county, Neb. 320 acres of fine land about 5 miles from Litefield and 8 miles from Loup City. Good roads to both towns. Good frame improvements, well, windmill, pasture fenced. About 140 acres of nice land under cultivation, balance in grass and pasture. Soil is first class, location is fine, price is very low. A fine opportunity to buy a first class combination farm on easy terms of sale. Price, \$4,800. We have some snaps in straight grass lands. Write to us. Van Decar & Bradley, St. Paul, Neb., or Wolbach, Neb.

The Democratic Editorial association is called to meet at Grand Island

next Tuesday (February 3). Among the editors down on the program for a paper, we note the names of Brown of the Sutton Register, Wahluquist of the Adams County Democrat, Tanner of the South Omaha Democrat, Williamson of the Pawnee Chief, Corcoran of the York Democrat, Casper of the David City Press, O'Keefe of the Alliance Herald, Goldie of the Wayne Democrat, and Davis of the Falls City News. A good time is promised. Write R. O. Adams, Grand Island, for program.

**Cattle Ranch at a Bargain**

Here is 320 acres deeded land 8 miles south of Plattner, Colo., on the B. & M. railroad. Splendid improvements. One-half mile from good school. 65 cows all under seven years old, well bred; 32 yearling steers and heifers; 34 last spring black galloway calves. Cattle all dehorned and of a very high grade; 7 splendid horses. For a short time we are authorized to sell this property for \$6,500, and will take \$1,000 in trade if desired. To a man with small means an equally good proposition has never been offered. Weber & Farris, Lincoln, Neb.

**SPECIAL MARKET LETTER**

FROM NYE & BUCHANAN CO., LIVE STOCK COMMISSION MERCHANTS, SO. OMAHA, NEB.

The weak cattle market of Friday has continued this week. Receipts are heavy, especially in Chicago. We believe the steer market will improve some when this run of butcher stuff stops. Market now is simply rotten.

We quote best beef steers \$4.50 to \$4.75, good \$4.00 to \$4.40, warmed-up \$3.65 to \$4.00; choice cows \$3.25 to \$3.75, fair \$2.75 to \$3.00, canners and cutters \$1.50 to \$2.50. Stockers and feeders in limited supply; good \$3.75 to \$4.00, fair \$3.00 to \$3.60.

Hog receipts are more liberal and the advance is checked. Range \$6.35 to \$6.65.

Sheep market continues satisfactory, although not quite so high. Very few feeders arriving. Killers, Lambs \$5.25-\$5.75 Yearlings 5.00-5.35 Wethers 4.75-5.00 Ewes 3.25-4.25

**Western Canada's Hard Wheat Growing Lands**

Sixty thousand American farmers found homes on the rich soil of the Canadian Northwest in 1902, the finest hard wheat growing land in the world. If you are interested in the Canadian Northwest, subscribe for the Weekly Free Press, Winnipeg, Canada, the leading farmers' paper of Western Canada. It contains a mass of information every week relating to the Canadian Northwest, its lands, its varied resources, climatic conditions, regulations respecting government lands, etc. Subscription price, \$1.00 a year. Sample copies sent on application.

**What the Settlers Say**

Readers of The Independent have doubtless observed the irrigated lands advertised for sale by Hon. M. Patrie, secretary of state for the state of Idaho. The following letters from some of those who have settled upon lands purchased from Mr. Patrie will be interesting to all who are thinking of changing their location and are looking for lands in an irrigated country. The letters are self-explanatory:

Mr. James Hudrie, Market Lake, Idaho, says: "I bought and paid for the sel-4 of the sel-4 of sec. 19. This year cut my alfalfa three times. First and second cutting at the rate of two and one-half tons per acre each; third time one ton per acre. I consider it O. K."

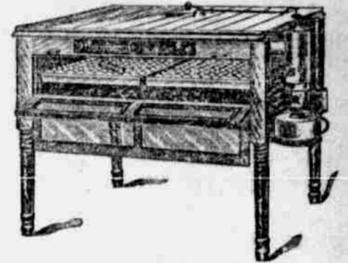
Mr. Frank Parrek, Market Lake, Idaho, says: "I bought 160 acres in 1896 and have cut two crops of alfalfa each year. Used the third crop for pasture during the fall. The two cuttings yielded me five tons per acre each year."

Any one interested in Idaho lands before buying should write for particulars to Hon. M. Patrie, Market Lake, Idaho.

**About Successful Incubators**

Any one engaging in the poultry business and proposing to make money out of it must realize to begin with, that he must take into the work the instincts of a business man. Indifference and inattention will not win. Old ideas must give place to new. Old methods and appliances are superseded by the modern, which are molded to meet the money getting

spirit which dominates the times. Time was when the hen was indispensable both as a producer and hatcher of eggs. Now, for the latter duty human invention has devised a means of dispensing with her services,



substituting the modern incubator which gives results far above her highest attainments.

These thoughts are suggested by a glance at the incubator advertisements regularly appearing in our columns. The Successful Incubator, manufactured by the Des Moines Incubator Co. of Des Moines, Ia., has played a most important part in establishing what might be called the "modern idea" in the poultry business. Both the Incubator and Brooder are typical of all that is best for hatching and raising chicks. Catalog referred to in advertisement gives specific and adequate reasons. See ad. for correct address.

**Cash for Wood**

Farmers write me what you have and I will pay you the highest market price if I can use it.

Charles B. Gregory, Lincoln, Neb.

**PILES**

We cure Piles, Chronic Constipation, Fistula, Protrusion, with our twenty year old

**HERMIT RECTAL HOME TREATMENT**

No Knife—No Burning—No Injection of Poisons.

**NO DELAY FROM BUSINESS CURE GUARANTEED.....**

Our book, "Temple of Life," FREE. Mention paper.

We invite correspondence with full particulars of your case.

**HERMIT REMEDY COMPANY,**

738 Adams Express Building, Chicago, Ill. Women Address "Department W."

A Rubber Stamp of your name, 30 high-grade steel pens, a pint of Perfect black writing ink, all for 19c, postpaid. C. W. SLAGEL, Davenport, Nebr.

**BURR INCUBATOR**

and brooder on trial. Be your own judge. Improved automatic regulator keeps the temperature exactly right. No night work. No complications. Everybody succeeds. Your money back if you say so. Catalogue free.

Burr Incubator Co., Box 42, Omaha, Nebr. Fred'k Shepherd—Attorney.

**NOTICE OF SALE.**

Notice is hereby given that by virtue of an action in partition and by virtue of an order of sale therein made by Lincoln Frost, one of the judges of the District court of Lancaster county, Nebraska, on the 27th day of December, 1902, in an action pending in said court wherein Nora Clark is plaintiff and John W. Hiff et al., are defendants, the undersigned referees will at 2 o'clock on Saturday, the 31st day of January, 1903, at the east door of the court house in Lancaster county, Nebraska, offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, lot four of block sixty-three of Havelock, Lancaster county, Nebraska, including the buildings thereon, to be sold as one parcel.

F. L. SUMPTER, C. L. LAWS, NIKILS JOHNSON.

No one in the United States outside of Connecticut ever heard of a senator by the name of Burnham until he was put up to kill the omnibus statehood bill by talking hour after hour to empty benches. He is welcome to all the fame he can get out of that kind of a performance.