

The Nebraska Independent

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LIBERTY BUILDING. 1328 O STREET

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The purchase of bar silver for Philippine coinage in New York advanced the price of silver to 50 cents an ounce and The Independent's prediction stands fulfilled.

The Anthracite coal trust is a far more aggravated case of the violation of the anti-trust law and restraint of trade than that of the Northern Securities company. Will it be prosecuted?

The two republican parties in Omaha are telling more truth about each other than has been made public for many years. Each wing declare that the other is and has always been a tool of the corporations and gamblers and both tell the truth.

There has already been presented to the treasury \$30,000,000 bonds, 3's of 1908 and 4's of 1907, for refunding under Secretary Shaw's scheme. That means \$30,000,000 more of national bank notes to run for 30 years. No doubt the whole \$109,000,000 will soon be turned over.

Organized labor leaders often assert that it was labor organizations that started the movement for the public ownership of public utilities. It has hitherto been conceded that the first impetus given to that demand came when the peoples party was organized and it has been a prominent plank in all their platforms ever since.

A lot of naval officers have been arrested in Porto Rico for smuggling. The grand jury has indicted them, and notwithstanding that the secretary of the navy sent instructions to the United States attorney to drop the prosecution they are still held. With not enough officers to man the ships and some of them in jail the navy department is having a time of it.

During the last year the people in a large number of cities have revolted against republican corruption and prosecuted the boodlers as they have never been prosecuted before. The penitentiaries and jails that care for the criminals of the cities of Minneapolis, St. Louis, Seattle and several others of like stripe, must be pretty well filled up with prominent republican politicians. Some day a wave of revolt like this may strike Philadelphia and if it does, the jails will have to be enlarged to accommodate the republicans who have been operating there.

The municipal elections in Illinois last week resulted in the republicans getting defeated in many places where they had ruled supreme from ten to eighteen years without a break. It was sometimes accomplished by citizens' tickets and sometimes by straight democratic tickets. The corruption of the republican party in Illinois had become unbearable. The Tanner and Yates regimes are the foulest that the state has ever known and the corruption has penetrated the cities and counties until a general demand arose to "turn the rascals out."

The people of Omaha generally became disgusted with the way the city government has been carried on by the republicans and revolted. Then those who were opposed to it divided themselves into at least four different parties and are all going to vote for separate candidates. That is the queer way that the citizens of this republic often act when they try to reform the government of cities, states and nation. That is the reason that the rogues prosper and the rascals are seldom turned out.

ENEMIES OF LABOR

The constantly increasing circulation of The Independent brings into the list of its readers a large number who have not read the economic discussions that have appeared in its columns during the last few years and the consequence is that these discussions must often be repeated to answer the inquiries of those who have had no opportunity to acquaint themselves with the science of political economy, or gather the facts that are necessary to know, when brought in to contact with those who defend the aggressions of plutocracy. There seems to one error that thousands of the laboring population cling to with all the persistency that they would to what they believed to be a divine revelation and part of holy writ.

This error may be divided into two separate parts. First, that the wasteful expenditure of the rich puts more money in circulation, and, second, that it adds to the welfare of the poor. If the millionaires had their millions in gold and that gold locked up in private vaults, when they gave a ball costing \$100,000, or built a worthless yacht costing half a million, then they would add to the money in circulation those amounts. But that is not the case at all. The average millionaire carries around with him and out of circulation very little money, perhaps not as much as the average man of business. If he has much ready cash it is deposited in the banks and the banks keep it constantly in circulation. The wasteful expenditure of a million dollars would not add one dollar to the circulation. Additional money must be created to do that and as yet the government has not delegated to the millionaires the right to coin money.

The second part of the proposition is an error as old as the hills and has been refuted by every economist of authority who has written on the subject. In discussing that question Mill says:

"The person who expends his fortune in unproductive consumption is looked upon as diffusing benefits all around, and is an object of so much favor, that some portion of the same popularity attaches to him who spends what does not belong to him. . . . This popular error comes from attending to a small portion only of the consequences that flow from the spending or the saving; all the effects of either, which are out of sight, being out of mind. There is in one case the wearing out of tools, a destruction of material, and a quantity of food and clothing supplied to laborers, which they destroy by use; in the other case there is consumption only, a destruction of wines, equipages and furniture. Thus far the consequences to national wealth has been much the same; an equivalent quantity of it has been destroyed in both cases. But in the spending, this first stage is also the last stage; that particular amount of the produce of labor has disappeared and there is nothing left, while on the other hand, during the whole time that the destruction was going on, the saving person (Mill here means the person engaged in the production of wealth) has had laborers to work repairing it; who are ultimately found to have replaced, with an increase, the equivalent of what has been consumed.

"Almost all expenditure being carried on by means of money, the money becomes to be looked upon as the main feature in the transaction; and since that does not perish, but only changes hands, people overlook the destruction that takes place in unproductive expenditure. The money being merely transferred, they think the wealth has also been handed over by the spendthrift to the other people. But this is simply confounding money with wealth. The wealth that has been destroyed was not the money, but the wines, equipages and furniture which the money purchased, and these having been destroyed without return, society is poorer by that amount. Not only the employment for productive laborers is diminished, but the subsistence and instruments which are the means of such employment do actually exist in smaller quantity."

If the above extracts are closely studied it will be seen that the only conclusion that can be drawn is that the millionaires who expend thousands of dollars upon horse and monkey dinners, the building of million-dollar yachts and other things of like nature, are engaged in the destruction of the wealth of the nation and not in increasing it; in decreasing the opportunities of employment and not in enlarging them. They are therefore the enemies of labor and not its friends.

Judge Thayer, who wrote the merger decision, is a democrat.

Earnest Underpricing

OF NEW

Spring Suits for Men

The above headline is not a bald statement of an unimportant fact—it is an earnest, honest statement of an interesting truth. New spring clothing is being sold here every day at less price than old, passe style and fabrics command usually. It would take considerable space to tell the many reasons why this is so. A visit to our clothing department, an inspection of the great, bright, new, stylish garments to be found here, are the most convincing evidences of the above that we know of. Here's some little evidence below—

Men's Spring Suits at \$9.00

Made of fancy worsteds fancy and black chevots and worsted chevots. The colorings are the very newest, and in a great variety. The workmanship and trimmings perfect, fit and satisfaction guaranteed; made to retail for \$12.00 Saturday.

\$9**Men's Suits at \$12.00**

Made of domestic and imported fancy worsteds, English homespuns fancy and black chevots, silk mixed chevots. The colorings are in great variety and the cream of this season's productions. Some are hand made throughout, all have the best of trimmings; and the fit we guarantee is equal to those of fine custom tailors; made to retail for \$16.50; Saturday for.

\$12

Nebraska Clothing Co

OMAHA

DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW

The great editors are still exercising their mighty intellects on the Indian commissioner's recommendations concerning Indian names. The New York World says:

"Mr. Roosevelt was welcomed to Cinnabar by Black Bull, High Bear, Crow Ghost, Medicine Word, Red Tomahawk and others equally dear. Yet these are the names which Indian Superintendent Jones would replace with Smiths, Browns and Robinsons. Men have been lynched for less."

When the educated Japanese and Chinese first were introduced into high society in this country and taken to a fashionable ball, they looked on with amazement. Their first remark was: "Why don't you hire your dancing done instead of doing it yourselves?" When one says to an Indian: "Why do you have names like High Bear and Black Bull? Why don't you name them simply Bear and Bull like the white people do?" he replies: "Did you ever see a bull that was not black, brown or some color, or a bear that was not high up, low down or on the level ground? To say bear or bull alone by itself is nonsense. It is to say something that can't be." That things look different from different points of view is one of those things that the great editors cannot comprehend.

The Washington Post calls Grover Cleveland "the gold standard martyr," and declares that the jibes now and then found in the republican papers concerning him are in very bad taste. To that The Independent agrees. The republicans used Grover Cleveland to get themselves back into power, for if Cleveland had not proved traitor to democracy they would have been out of power until this day. However, as soon as the republicans were in the saddle they forgot all about the gold standard and went to printing paper money by the ream and coining silver by the ton. They have increased the currency as it never was increased before by the coining of silver and issuing of national bank notes. So Grover Cleveland's martyrdom for the gold standard was all in vain, save for the fact that he went into the White house a poor man and came out rated by Dun and Bradstreet at \$3,000,000. And the Post still continues to talk about "sound money."

Judge Haney of Chicago, one of the Lorimer ring, spread the injunction over a new field. He issued one preventing a recount of the ballots in the case in which Durborow contests the election of Lorimer to congress, when obedience to that injunction would have put the election commissioners in contempt of the federal courts. The supreme court of the state sat down hard on Judge Haney. One remarkable thing in the argument before the supreme court was the acknowledgement by the law-

yers on both sides that the majority party in the house of representatives at Washington in deciding contested election cases, disregarded all law and evidence, and seated and unseated members as the republican leaders dictated.

Under pressure from Governor Garvin and the democratic minority in the Rhode Island legislature, a bill was passed abolishing the fee system under which the sheriff of Providence was rapidly becoming a millionaire and put that officer on a salary. Then the sheriff resigned his chairmanship of the republican state committee, the chairmanship of the city committee and that of the ward in which he lived. He said if he was only to get a salary of a few thousand a year, he would confine himself to the duties of his office and some one else could look after the politics of the state. All of which goes to show who has been paying the bills to keep Aldrich in the United States senate.

The Mutual and Equitable life insurance companies of New York have gone into the bank merging business. Those two companies control the National Bank of Commerce and the Western National. They are to be "merged" and together they will have \$20,000,000 capital, a surplus of \$10,000,000, and deposits amounting to \$107,000,000. The new bank will rank as the second largest bank in the United States. Rockefeller's City National has a capital of \$25,000,000. The management of both these great institutions are said to be very friendly and together they think that they will have a power that will not only rival that of the government at Washington, but will be able to override it. On with the dance.

The federal court has already modified the decision in the Hill merger case and dividends will be paid on the stock of the Securities company pending a decision by the United States supreme court.

General Corbin declares that the opposition to him in the Metropolitan club at Washington was instigated by a man who had for several years been drawing a salary of \$200 per month as secretary of a commission which never held a meeting, and who was some time ago ousted from his sinecure by the secretary of war upon General Corbin's recommendation. It seems to The Independent that that answer proves too much. Why did General Corbin and the war department allow a man to draw a salary of \$200 a month "for several years" who rendered no service at all? Again it might be asked how many more of that sort are there in Washington?

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