

cans in every part of the state are up in revolt against it. The result of it will be not only a railroad machine kept in good running order the whole year at the expense of every county in the state, but when the assessing is done the farmers "will get it in the neck" and let the railroads off easy.

The only officer in each county in which the railroad will be particularly interested in will be the county assessor. They will be willing to trade everything else off to get him. If they do that, the railroads think that not only the tax question will be settled, but they will have a political machine that will beat anything ever before invented. With such a machine there will be no more trouble for the railroads in this state about rates, farmer elevators or things of that sort.

The thing for populists to do is to get into the school houses again and explain all this to their neighbors. They will find as many republicans ready to join them as they did in the old alliance days.

WHO GOT IT ALL

Let any farmer in Nebraska who has 160 acres of land go out to some point where he can take a look over the whole farm and note the acres of wheat, corn, oats, hay, potatoes, fruit and other things that he has raised this year. Let him estimate the thousands of bushels of grain that he, by his labor, has created this year. He will see enough to feed him and his family for ten years. Let him count up the cattle, horses, hogs and poultry. Then let him reflect that by the first of next April it will have practically all disappeared except the seed he has reserved for planting, the stock for breeding and his work horses. What has become of it all? If he has enough left to feed and clothe his family until he creates another mass of wealth without making store bills or other debts he is among the very fortunate ones.

What became of that enormous amount of wealth that at autumn covered his fields and crowded his barn yards? His fatted hogs and cattle are gone. His piles of grain have disappeared. Did he and his family eat all those fat steers? Has he salted down all of those hogs? Did he exchange his grain for beautiful clothes and furnishings for his house? Not at all. He has lived very plainly. He has none of the luxuries of the cities. If he has been able to support one or two of his children at a college he is still among the fortunate few. What became of all that wealth? The farmer owns it no longer. Who got it?

Nearly one-half of it went to the railroads for hauling his grain, cattle and hogs to market. It was converted into money and spent by the great railway magnates in yacht races or sent across the sea to support dukes and lords to whom the magnates had married their daughters. Some of it went to pay taxes that in justice these magnates ought to have paid. How does it come that these railroad magnates were able to take that wheat, those cattle and hogs, which the farmer raised by his own labor and spend it on million-dollar yachts, lords and dukes? It was because the farmer voted that the railroads might do this very thing.

At the last election the railroads openly selected the candidate for governor long before the convention met. The members for the legislature, with a very few exceptions, were selected in the same way. And the farmers went to the polls and voted for them. Will they do it again?

Even some of the farmers who have always voted with the railroad party, seem to have concluded that they made a mistake. They have been attempting to escape handing over to the elevator trust the part of their crops that the elevator trust has for years been taking. But the farmers have found that the elevator trust and the railroads are one and the same thing. There were plenty of elevators in the

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The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address, F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

state, but the farmers in their desperate efforts to escape handing over a large part of their crops to that combination have gone to the expense of building elevators of their own. It has been a futile effort in most cases for the railroads deny them the facilities that they give to the trust.

Some of the farmers think they can find a way of escape. They, having built their elevators, will appeal to the courts, and demand that all shippers of grain shall be treated alike. Here is the vital thing in this campaign. Let the railroads put the man whom they have selected upon the supreme bench—the man who has fought their battles for the last sixteen years as a railroad attorney, and what man can believe that there is any hope for redress by an appeal to the courts? With that done the state government, the legislature and the courts will all be in control of the men whom the railroads have selected as candidates and elected by their contributions. After that, the great crops on the farms will vanish more quickly and leave even a smaller portion of the wealth that the farmer creates by his labor to be enjoyed by him and his family, while still more costly pleasure yachts will be built and bigger dowers paid to the degenerate lords and dukes of the old world.

The railroads have planned a new raid upon the homes of Nebraska. All the plutocratic papers announce that the farmers of Nebraska have become wealthy. They picture them as rolling in wealth with untold millions deposited in the banks. These roseate pictures have induced the railroad managers to believe that they have a new field to exploit—that the traffic will bear more than they have taken. That is proven by the recent rise in rates which in a few days took 4 cents a bushel from the price the farmer got for his grain. The 4 cents a bushel all goes to railroad magnates. The price did not fall that much in Chicago, but in Nebraska. It was a direct tribute laid upon the farmers of this state. It was simply an order issued by the great magnates in New York that the farmers of Nebraska should pay them an additional tribute on all the grain that they shipped out of the state. The action was taken because the magnates thought that ten or fifteen thousand populists would stay at home and not vote this year the same as they did last year.

There is where the danger lies. Only 10,000 populists out of the 70,000 in this state take The Independent. The result is that about 60,000 of them are very imperfectly acquainted with the facts. They do not realize that the railroads have a cunningly planned scheme to get the control of the supreme court, and finally wreck every farmers' elevator in this state. They know that they cannot do it if Judge Sullivan remains on the supreme bench. Count up how much the railroads can afford to expend in an election that will continue a tribute of 4 cents a bushel on all the grain shipped out of the state. How much will the elevator trust expend to preserve its monopoly? In view of the enormous amount of money at stake for the farmers of this state it is a wonder that there is not a popular meeting in every school house in the state every night in the week.

THAT EXTRA TRIBUTE

The raise in freight rates causing a fall of 4 cents a bushel in the price of grain shipped out of the state in 1901 would have put an additional tribute in the pockets of the Wall street millionaires who own all the railroads in Nebraska, an additional tribute from the farmers of the state for 1901 of \$3,485,623.56. For 1900 the additional tribute would have been \$4,562,575.52. The following is the shipment of grain in bushels from the state during those two years:

	1900.	
Wheat	20,180,794	
Corn	77,418,950	
Oats	14,681,699	
Rye	1,109,242	
Barley	673,703	
Total	114,064,388	
	1901.	
Wheat	26,765,074	
Corn	48,199,230	
Oats	10,511,769	
Rye	1,141,238	
Barley	523,278	
Total	87,140,589	

Two populist papers in Nebraska have recently decided to renounce partisanship and become "Independent." One of these, the Alma Weekly Record, edited by E. H. Battv, takes this action because he has decided that "we can't go fusion any longer." The other paper, Holdrege Progress, edited by C. Clinton Page, gives substantially the same reasons.

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The First Judicial

Down in the First judicial district, W. H. Kelligar, of Auburn, democrat, and E. O. Kretsinger, of Beatrice, populist, are the fusion candidates for district judge. Their opponents are C. F. Reavis of Falls City and A. H. Babcock of Beatrice. Within the republican fold a fight of exceeding bitterness is progressing. Reavis is bitterly assailed by Frank Martin, editor of the Falls City News. Back in 1891 Martin, who then claimed to be a democrat, was the fusion nominee for district judge; but in 1896 he saw a "wonderful light," and as a reward of merit was made Bud Lindsey's alternate to the republican national convention. Since then he has represented his district, as a republican, in the state senate. At present he is making it exceedingly warm for his fellow townsman, Reavis, and the prospects are that both Kelligar and Kretsinger will be elected in spite of the apparent 3,000 majority against them.

Inquiry as to the situation in that district reveals the fact that "political issues are not being discussed or even thought of, so far as relates to the judicial fight." "The single inquiry," says The Independent's informant, "relates to the fitness of the several candidates to perform the duties of the office."

But "fitness" is a term which, relating to the judiciary, cannot be completely defined without reference to "political issues." In state matters, in the last analysis, there is but one "issue"—the farmers against the railroads. Everything resolves itself finally into that. Every man engaged in other lines finds himself with one side or the other. Gaged by this, what is the "fitness" of each of the contending aspirants for district judge? Beyond a doubt every man of them has sufficient knowledge of the law to preside over a district court. But where would he stand in a contest between the two great contending forces?

Messrs. Reavis and Babcock represent a party which is never satisfied with justice for the railroad interests it stands for. The railroad must always get more than even-handed justice would award it. And republican judges are ever ready to give more than the pound of flesh to the railroads.

Messrs. Kretsinger and Kelligar represent the agricultural side of the contest. The farmers, and those who stand with them, have never asked more than their just dues. They will be satisfied with simple justice. They ask nothing more.

Within the next four years the judges of the First district (and in every other district) will be called upon to solve some knotty points in the recent revenue law, in the Ramsey elevator law, and in various other ways decide between the farmers and the railroads. Do the farmers of the First district want exact justice, or do they prefer to have the railroads given the big end of it every time? If the former, they will elect Kretsinger and Kelligar; if the latter, Reavis and Babcock can be depended upon to please them.

The Press at Pawnee City is fighting Kretsinger, and the Republican is fighting Babcock. Marvin of the Beatrice Democrat thinks the Pawnee people "are hard to please" and the alleged democrat who edits the Press (but seems ashamed to have his name appear) retorts with a little biographical sketch of Marvin's political life and asserts that "Marvin is a lucid and logical acrobat with the proper rubber equipment attached." All of which makes us thankful that the brethren dwell together in unity.

How many county assessors will the railroads elect this fall? The roads imposed on us 90 new salaried officers during the last legislature. There is one in every county and they draw salaries ranging from \$250 to \$2,400. They are called county assessors, but they have nothing to do. Precinct assessors are "appointed" in every precinct to do the work, while the county assessors will have the softest snap ever provided by a legislature.

The republican party allows no man to become a supreme judge who has not served a long apprenticeship as a railroad attorney. Their present candidate, Judge Barnes, served in that capacity for the Elkhorn fifteen years.

After the railroads get the county assessors, the republican state committee will never have to go to the cost and trouble of making a poll of the state. The county assessor will simply give each precinct assessor an extra book in which he will be required to record the politics, nationality, religious preferences, the one most likely to influence him if he is not a republican and everything else that could possibly be of use in controlling every inhabitant's vote. If the pre-

Now John Samuels Paid a \$3,000 Mortgage.

John Samuels lives in Brown county, Kansas. He is a farmer thirty-five years of age. He came to Kansas from the East in '81, bringing a young wife, two children, and some money. The money he invested in 160 acres of land. He paid a good price—six thousand dollars, two thousand down and a mortgage back for four thousand. But it was a well-improved farm and worth it.

There have been fat and lean years in Kansas, and in 1902 John Samuels still owed three thousand dollars on his place. He had reduced the debt one thousand dollars, an average of one hundred dollars per year, and kept the interest paid up. His expenses increased with the growth of his family. His wife's health was not so good of late, and he paid an occasional doctor's bill. Some improvements and extensions must be made on the farm buildings. He would be fortunate, if he could make these additional necessary expenditures, keep his interest paid up and continue applying one hundred dollars per year on the mortgage.

He realized at this rate he will be a very old man before the farm will be free from debt. If he dies the home will be sold; perhaps at a time when it may bring little, if any, more than the mortgage. The savings of a lifetime will be lost and the wife and children will suffer.

One day a stranger appeared and asked permission to explain life insurance. Mr. Samuels listened intently, conceded it was just what he needed, that he would like a policy, if he could pay for it, but he owed three thousand dollars on his farm, and it was all he could do to pay the interest and a hundred dollars a year on the principal. As the premium on a policy at his age would be \$102.60, he did not see how he could carry it.

"Suppose," said the agent, "the person who holds this mortgage on the farm should say to you: 'If you continue to pay the interest as before, but instead of paying one hundred dollars a year on the principal, pay me \$102.60 per year, I will, if you die, cancel the mortgage, giving your wife the farm. If you live twenty years, I will release the mortgage, giving the farm to you.' You surely would accept such a proposition." Now, Mr. Samuels, continue paying the interest, but instead of paying one hundred dollars per year on the principal, take a three thousand dollar policy in the Old Line Bankers Life Insurance Company of Nebraska, which at your age, thirty-five, will cost \$102.60 each year for twenty years. If you die, your life insurance will pay the loan and leave your home free of debt. If you live twenty years, your cash settlement, consisting of the guaranteed reserve and estimated surplus will pay the mortgage and leave you \$210.45. You have paid out \$2,052.00, and have left \$210.45, thus paying a debt of three thousand dollars with \$1,841.55, or sixty-two cents on the dollar, having meanwhile a guarantee that, should you die, the debt is canceled."

For more than a century, farms and homes have been paid for in this manner, by policies in Old Line Insurance Companies. Permit our agent to explain the details more fully. If you want more land, ask for Circular No. 1—"How Jones Bought and Paid for a \$6,000 Farm." If you are a renter, or just starting in business, or working for a salary, ask for Circular No. 2, showing how, without security on your part, you may buy a bond on twenty years' time, guaranteeing to your family a home, if you die, and to yourself a home if you live.

For further information address the OLD LINE BANKERS LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY of Lincoln, Nebraska.

inct assessor objects, he will be told that if he does not like the work that there are plenty of others who would be glad to get the job at \$3 a day. When a highly paid railroad lawyer is ordered by his client to get up a bill to set going a new political machine, he generally turns out something that for skill, craft, deceitfulness and subtlety would be hard to beat. At least that is what they did when they planned for a political machine, the cost of running which would be paid by taxation and entitled it a revenue law.

The bargains offered by Fred Schmidt & Bro. in this issue should be interesting to every careful buying man or woman. Money saving is as important as money making. Look over the ad. and send your order today. Mention The Independent and you will receive fair and liberal treatment.