

**The Nebraska Independent**

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**CAMPAIGN EXPENSES**

The Independent has somewhat of a reputation for talking plain English and it proposes to keep it up. There are certain unavoidable expenses in conducting a campaign, and it is only just that the officeholders who are the only ones who financially profit by success, should at least pay a reasonable proportion of those expenses. So far, they have paid from nothing to one per cent, and never over four per cent, of the salaries they draw, while scores of those who never held an office have paid a great deal more than the office-holding class. It costs farmers from ten to forty dollars a year to attend conventions, when those whom they elect to lucrative offices often think that they have made a liberal contribution to campaign expenses if they put up five dollars.

The Independent has become very tired of that sort of work. At the end of one campaign the committee found itself \$2,700 in debt and The Independent had to devote columns for months, that ought to have been filled with entertaining reading matter, to raising that money. It was raised, and every honest obligation of the party paid. The populists up in Cuming county, where no populist ever held an office, either by election or appointment, paid \$65.50 when their share of the debt was only \$40. A man who won't pay a reasonable portion of the actual cost of electing him to office, whether it is a state or county office, should never be elected. He is too mean to be entrusted with an office.

There is another class of officeholders who are still meaner. They are those who hold their offices by appointment. These persons have had no campaign expenses to pay. Like those who are elected, and the office is clean gain to them. Some of these persons have held office continuously for twelve years and refuse to contribute to campaign purposes. When they act in that way, the appointing power should be held responsible for their action.

The Independent is determined that no expenses shall be incurred, if it can prevent it, until the money is in sight to pay. One thing is certain: The Independent will not be used to collect money to pay campaign debts.

It is the duty of every member of the party to contribute something for its support, and The Independent hopes that the farmers and city dwellers, who believe in its principles and want to see them enacted into law, will all do something, however small the contribution may be, to lighten the burden which rests heavily upon the shoulders of a very few who have borne it for many years.

**THAT ELKINS FAKE**

The readers of The Independent will remember what it said about Elkins and his law for reforming the railroads at the time the bill was before congress. Now comes the interstate commerce commission and declares that "the law contains no provision for the prevention of unjust discrimination in tariff rates between different localities or sections, or in the classification of freight, or between car load and less than car load rates, nor for protection against the continuance of rates unreasonable in themselves."

This again raises the question of the atomizable daily press. The whole country was led to believe that the

Elkins law was a real reform law and that some of the iniquities practiced by the railroads would hereafter be prohibited, or if persisted in, the offenders would be punished. The men who run these dailies knew perfectly well that the Elkins law was a fraud and a fake, but not one of them drew attention to the navy involved in its passage. If any paper in the whole United States ever called attention to the dishonesty of the whole transaction, aside from The Independent, the fact has never been called to the attention of this writer. The only mention of the law that he has ever seen has been to laud it as a great reform measure.

The truth grows more apparent every day that no reforms can be accomplished until the character of the press is changed. The people are kept in the most profound ignorance and are deceived and lied to day after day. If half a dozen dailies having correspondents at Washington had discussed this bill and denounced it, the feeling in the country at that time against discriminations by the railroads would have swelled to such a point that a reform bill could have been passed. But we did not have a great daily in the United States that dared do that. Their subsidies would have been endangered. There is no work as effective as that of spreading the circulation of reform papers which fearlessly discuss public questions and print the facts from week to week.

**ANOTHER SAMPLE**

The unscrupulous manner in which the republicans continue to deceive the people is getting past all endurance. Here is a sample of their lying taken from the St. Paul Pioneer-Press:

"The gold in the Bank of England amounts to about \$167,000,000; in the Bank of Germany, \$170,000,000; in the Bank of Austria-Hungary, \$221,000,000. Add all these sums together, and we yet have to draw \$95,000,000 from France's hoard of \$494,000,000 to make a total equalling the \$653,000,000 which, according to a statement just put forth by Treasurer Roberts, is the amount of gold at present held by the United States treasury. This store of treasure exceeds any on record."

That \$653,000,000 is not in the United States treasury. Over \$164,000,000 has been deposited in the banks and a very large part of the remainder also belongs to the banks. It has been deposited with the government and gold certificates have been issued against it. The gold that is in the banks of Berlin, Paris and the Bank of England belongs to those concerns. Only part of the gold that is in treasury of the United States belongs to it and most of what it does own has been deposited in the banks and it dare not try to take it out of the banks. Such unscrupulous lying is an every-day occurrence in the daily press. This sort of financiering will end in the same way that the trust financiering has.

The above paragraph is most carefully devised. The inference which every common man will draw from it is that that gold belongs to the United States the same as the gold in the European banks belongs to them although it don't say so, but it does say that it "is held" by the United States, which is false, for a large part of it is held by the national banks.

The evanescent character of "paper wealth" is shown by reference to the stock of the Lake Superior Consolidated company. Seventeen months ago a man who held \$100,000 was worth \$80,000. Today he is worth \$2,500. If he had at that time \$100,000 worth of the common he would have been worth \$26,000. Today, as that stock is selling for one-fourth of one per cent of its face value, it would not take a very large pocketbook to hold his wealth even if it were all in the despised silver dollars, which have never yet varied one-thousandth of one per cent in value.

**GERMAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATS**

What the object of the daily press in this country has in misrepresenting the German social democrats is hard to define. Many members of that party, who long served in its ranks, are in this country. Some of them are the finest scholars and scientists that Germany has produced. One of them is at the head of a department in a great university in this country, being especially annoyed at these misrepresentations sends to The Independent the following for publication:

"Let me quote from the American Review of Reviews of 1903: 'At the last party meeting, i. e., national convention, they restated all the essentials of their creed. They aim, besides other things, at a republican form of purely representative government, (though in this respect the Bavarians

# Good Clothing For Boys...

CLOTHES that you find in clothing stores of the good class are clothes that are built to wear. They're good clothes, made out of good, substantial materials, well put together. You'll seldom find a good clothing store that handles clothes in which the wear is sacrificed for the sake of show. A good looking suit for a child can be made of handsome cloth that's poor, trimmed with shoddy silks and satins, cotton ribbons and potato buttons. They won't wear. Clothes that are made for us are made to wear while they last, and last while they wear. You'll find no shoddy about a "NEBRASKA" boys' suit. In calling your attention to our boys' suits we suggest looking on page 18 of our Fall and Winter Catalog. We want to impress upon you one point—WEAR. These suits are marked to sell for \$2, and sell for a great deal more by your home clothier.

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and south Germans in the party are allowed some latitude, they preferring a strictly constitutional monarchy); the substitution of a national militia in the place of the regular army; arbitration under any and all circumstances; more liberal terms of land tenure and homestead provisions; the absolute equalization of rights between the sexes; forcible public education and strict separation between church and state, religion being held by them to be "a personal affair." They have championed besides many measures of immediate utility, especially those benefiting the laboring classes.

1. Old age insurance.
2. Safeguards against accidents in mines and factories, etc.
3. Supervision of factories.
4. Restrictions upon child and woman labor.
5. Mechanics lien law.
6. Abolition of truck system of payment.
7. Measures for the prevention of political, social, and economic intimidation. (A demand is now being made to have all election days declared holidays.)
8. The enforcement of the laws making the debauching by employers of women and children a penal offense.

See "The German Election and the Socialist," by Wolf von Schierbrand, American Monthly Review of Reviews, August, 1903.

Is this not sufficient?"  
What object the dailies can have in attempting to make the people of this country believe that the German social democratic party is the same thing that goes by the name of socialism in this country is unknown. The fact is that the social democrats of Germany are simply advocating the reforms favored by conservative liberals the world over, very many of which have already been enacted into law in this country.

**AN AWFUL SOCIAL CATASTROPHE**

"Society" at Bar Harbor has been turned almost gray-headed by a recent discovery made there. A "count" appeared there. He had, like most of the nobles of Europe the linguistic gift, speaking fluently several different languages, he had social accomplishments of the highest order, great musical ability, large physique and astonishing good looks. He knew art and literature and was an attraction sought after at every dinner and lawn party among the millionaires. Then one evil day a woman recognized him and declared that the "count" had formerly been a valet in the Gerry family in New York. The announcement created so great a sensation that all the country thereabout came near sinking beneath the level of the sea. Two or three families that had pressed their attentions on the "count" were so horror-stricken that they left early the next morning and took to the woods up beyond the St. Lawrence

and have not been heard from since. It turns out that the man's real name was Count E. Pressiner, and that since the days when he was a valet in the Gerry family he has accumulated quite a sum of money and went to Bar Harbor to spend his vacation. The terrors that beset "society" in America are many and dismaying. The only way that the poor victims can express it is to say: "Horrors on horror's head accumulate." What became of Mr. Pressiner in the tumult that followed the awful discovery, no one seems to know.

**CANNOT ENDURE**

The editor of The Independent said at the Denver conference that present conditions could not endure for another twenty-five years. Even the Wall Street Journal seems to entertain the same opinion. In speaking of Rockefeller's income of ten million dollars a quarter, it remarks:

"It is all very well to talk of property rights—they should be respected, and heaven knows they are respected, since they are put ahead of life, charity and justice in all our law books.

"The ten millions of dollars mean ten millions of days' work.

"If ten million of men must work a day every three months for Mr. Rockefeller, is he not getting more than his share?"

"We can't be forever discovering new oil wells, building new great cities, developing and organizing new great industries in order to pay Mr. Rockefeller what he wants.

"What will happen when the people no longer have the money ready to pay Mr. Rockefeller interest on his mortgage on the United States?"

"They will have to take an earnest thoughtful view of him or of his heirs at that day."

That some sort of a policy must be adopted different from that in vogue must be apparent to any thinking man. That the present awful extortions exacted from labor and agriculture for the benefit of bankers and manufacturers cannot long be endured is capable of a mathematical demonstration.

Silas Holcomb, Fort Branch, Ind., in company with his nephew, Judge Holcomb, of this city, called on The Independent a few days ago. Mr. Holcomb is one of the Old Guard of Indiana and has been prominent in the mid-road movement in that state. He impressed the editors with the fact that the leaders of Indiana democracy, with some notable exceptions, are of a very different brand from the leaders in Nebraska, and that co-operation with the Indiana democracy would be about as absurd as with Indiana republicans—there being no difference between the two except in name.

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