

THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

I. M. RICE EDITOR

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TERMS

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FUSION TICKET.

For Congress, 6th Congressional District, P. H. BARRY.

W. H. THOMPSON FOR GOVERNOR.

We want our readers to know the favorable comment of other papers for Mr. Thompson.

We give only a few of many such comments as these.

The Niobrara Pioneer, one of the oldest republican papers in Nebraska...

"Billy" is far the peer of Mickey, intellect and schooling.

While the republican press continues to sing the praises of their candidate Mickey as being "a practical farmer."

The republicans and fusionists of Hall county are vying with each other to say nice things about W. H. Thompson.

The Madison Mail says the fusionists never put up a stronger ticket than they have this year and the republicans never nominated a weaker one.

Much has been said about a business man's administration of public affairs.

Because Mickey has always been a rampant Anti-Saloon fanatic is his own affair, but his abandonment of the Anti-Saloon League the week after he was nominated...

No man in Grand Island or Hall county has been found that will say a word against Hon. W. H. Thompson, and that speaks well for the "Little Giant."

The strong contrast between the home reputations of the two candidates for governor is causing great uneasiness at republican headquarters.

ers. Mr. Mickey will run far behind his own ticket in Polk county, while Mr. Thompson will run hundreds ahead at Grand Island.

This certainly is a campaign that W. H. Thompson, the fusion candidate for governor, can feel proud of.

No Man has ever been nominated on any ticket who has the confidence of all classes of people which W. H. Thompson, the fusion nominee holds.

There is that about Billy Thompson that gives the people who meet him the feeling that he is a man to be trusted.

Hon. W. H. Thompson's campaign for governor is gathering strength from all sides. He is recognized by sound business interests of all classes to be an eminently safe man for the office.

W. H. Thompson, the democratic and populist nominee for governor, is the kind of a man who is highly esteemed by those who know him best.

The following letter written by Mr. DeFrance to Hon. Fred A. Nye at Kearney, represents weeks of hard toil to assemble, prove, and intelligently present the facts regarding the present state administration and the administration under the fusion officials.

reau, run in the patent side of republican papers; and deliberately and maliciously lied regarding these matters, and it is due to the honest thinking people of Nebraska that they have an opportunity to know the truth.

B. R. B. WEBER. Chairman Populist State Com.

Lincoln, Nebr., Sept., 23, 1902.

Hon. Fred A. Nye: Dear Sir:—I have yours of the 16th inst., inquiring if our committee expect to prepare a comparison of fact, figures etc., between the present republican state administration and former fusion administrations.

For example the penitentiary was entirely omitted from both tables, and the Kearney school and Millford soldier's home from one of them.

COMPARISON OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES. Table with columns for 1899 and 1901, listing various institutions and their expenses.

Accordingly, the republicans could spend \$55,000 a year more than was allowed the fusionists for current expenses, and still keep within their appropriations.

The only attempt that has been made by the republicans to show any comparative figures was a tablet printed in the Lincoln Evening News, April 17, 1902.

Table showing Fusion figures included \$26,776.04 expended on four new buildings, but the republican figures did not include \$13,713.90 expended in the purchase of land.

That ought to put a reasonably cautious man on his guard. The same thing had been done regarding the soldiers' home at Grand Island and the school at Omaha.

Since the receipt of your letter I have examined the records in the auditor's office and prepared a comparative table covering the period from April 1st 1899 to August 31, 1900, under Governor Poynter's administration, and the period from April 1, 1901 to August 31, 1902, under Governors Dietrich and Savage.

In order to get at the matter intelligently, I have divided the appropriations into three classes (a) those for current expenses, such as board and clothing, fuel and lights, etc.

As it is necessary to have a clear understanding of the situation, I give below the population (that is to say, the inmates) of the various institutions, as shown by the records in the governor's office:

INMATES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS. Table with columns for Rep., Fus, Iner's, Dec'r, and rows for various institutions like Asylum Hastings, Asylum Lincoln, etc.

The large growth in population at the two soldiers' home is doubtless exaggerated. The republican figures are doubtless the total enrollment and include those out on furlough, while the fusion figures are made up from the average of the roll calls for six months.

The comparison of expenditures in the periods named above is as follows.

TWELVE STATE INSTITUTIONS. (Beatrice omitted.) Table with columns for Republican and Fusion, listing expenses for Maintenance, Repairs, and Beterments.

Our inquiry is now concerning the item of maintenance. It will be seen that the republican expenditure is \$55,400 greater than that of the fusionists for this item, but that of itself proves nothing until we compare the number of inmates maintained.

Now, the 2,520 inmates were cared for this length of time by the fusion administration at the cost of \$206.69 each; but the whole 2,733 inmates under republican administration cost \$211.63 apiece.

CURRENT EXPENSES TWELVE INSTITUTIONS. Table with columns for Republican and Fusion, listing expenses for various institutions like Hastings, Lincoln, Kearney, etc.

The best index to what an administration is doing is found by looking at the cost of maintaining the insane asylums and the penitentiary.

The fusionists cared for 1,321 inmates at these asylums at a total cost of \$221,649.23, or \$167.79 each for the period named.

The penitentiary record is even worse. It is such a sore spot that the republicans hate to even think about it. After the disastrous fire down there the warden got so muddled that Governor Savage was obliged to call upon a popular list to go down and get matters straightened up.

he gets from convicts' earnings, Davis has been running on tick since that time. Hopkins had about \$22,000 of "deficiencies;" Davis will surely have in the neighborhood of \$50,000.

It cost Warden Hopkins \$197.39 apiece to care for 273 convicts; but the additional 59 under Davis' "redemption" cost an additional \$17,279.86, or \$293.88 a head.

Will the foregoing be sufficient information along this line? I have not thought it necessary to make the tables too extended, because they are harder to understand.

A. G. SHAW SAYS

I came not here to talk. You know the Old Story. We are Slaves to a herd of petty Tyrants, who come to you with a Sample of enlarging.

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