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TERMS

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- National Democratic Ticket.**  
 For President—  
 ALTON B. PARKER,  
 of New York.  
 For Vice President—  
 HENRY G. DAVIS,  
 of West Virginia.  
 For Rep. 6th Cong. Dist.—  
 W. B. McNeel, of North Platte.  
 For Rep. 52nd Dist.—  
 Elmer F. Viquain.  
 For Senator 14th District—  
 C. F. Coffey, of Chadron.  
 For Commissioner 3rd Dist.—  
 Wm. Butler.  
**State Ticket.**  
 For Governor—  
 Geo. W. Berge, (pop.) Lincoln.  
 For Lieut. Gov.—  
 Dr. A. Townsend, (dem) Franklin.  
 For Auditor—  
 J. S. Canaday, (pop) Kearney.  
 For Secretary of State—  
 R. E. Watzke, (dem) Richardson.  
 For Treasurer—  
 John Osborn, (pop) Pawnee.  
 For Attorney General—  
 Edward Whalen, (dem) O'Neill.  
 For Land Commissioner—  
 A. A. Worsley, (pop) Boyd.  
 For Supt. Public Instruction—  
 A. Softley, (pop) Perkins.

**Fusion Committee  
 Makes Reply to Mickey.**

Hon. J. H. Mickey, Lincoln, Neb. Dear Sir:—We are in receipt of your letter of the 18 inst., in reply to our letter in which we suggested a joint debate between yourself and Hon. Geo. W. Berge. We regret very much that you declined the challenge for a joint debate and, in place of a manly acceptance, have sent to us and have published a letter, which, for deception, has no parallel in the political history of Nebraska. We again invite you to meet Mr. Berge in joint debate on state issues at Omaha or at Lincoln or at both places. In this way the speeches would naturally be published in the daily press and would reach the people of Nebraska. Deception and evasion may easily find place in a publication and they do find place in your letter. But on a public platform, where you would be face to face with Mr. Berge, the truth could be made plain.

The reason why you have declined this challenge is because you well know that you have concealed a large part of the truth. You know that even your most rabid partisans would desert you in disgust if the real conditions existing in this state were known to them.

In your letter you try to make out that the state indebtedness has only increased \$151,000.00 since the fusion administration went out of power. That statement is incorrect and you certainly knew it was incorrect when you wrote it. If you will meet Mr. Berge in joint debate we will prove to the people, not only the inaccuracy of the statement, but that you must have known it was inaccurate when you made it. You arrive at these figures by a sleight-of-hand performance that would do credit to a juggler. You charge the fusion administration with alleged unpaid claims to the amount of \$182,000. Of course, some unpaid claims are always left over from one administration to another. In the transaction of the state's business it cannot be otherwise. But you concealed the fact that the fusion administration paid \$90,631.46 of claims left over by the former re-

The Difference Between Republican and Fusion Administrations.

Fusion Economy.		Republican Extravagance.	
Appropriations, 1897-98.....	\$2,335,843.40	Appropriations, 1901-02.....	\$2,875,289.51
1898-1900.....	2,501,373.00	1903-04.....	3,740,280.70
Total.....	\$4,837,216.40	Total.....	\$6,615,570.21
State taxes charged CHERRY COUNTY to pay these appropriations.			
Fusion Administration.		Republican Administration.	
1897.....	\$ 8,677.88	1901.....	\$12,874.29
1898.....	10,493.75	1902.....	9,733.63
1899.....	13,174.07	1903.....	15,275.51
1900.....	11,559.08	1904.....	12,972.13
Total taxes charged Cherry county.....	\$41,103.78	Total taxes charged Cherry county.....	\$50,855.47

The above table shows republican extravagance and mismanagement cost the people of the state of Nebraska \$1,688,353.21 more than under fusion economy, and Cherry county's share was \$9,750.68 in additional taxes.

W. E. Andrews in his speech at the court house boasted some of his ability to look up figures for himself at Washington, D. C., on government affairs. We understand that he works in the auditor's office.

Why in the name of common sense didn't he look up these figures on state institutions and state expense during the past eight years and tell the taxpayers where their money is going.

**State Institutions.**

Four years republican administration	Fusion	Increase
\$4,321,125.26	2,930,680.05	\$1,390,445.21

This partly tells the tale why Cherry county was charged state taxes as follows:

1901 to 1904	1897 to 1900	Increase
\$50,855.47	41,103.78	\$9,751.69

Each taxpayer in the county is paying his share and this is where the money goes:

**Appropriations for State Institutions.**

For What Appropriated.	Four Years Fusion.	Four Years Republican.
Home for the Friendless.....	\$ 63,300.00	\$ 63,000.00
State Normal School.....	125,275.00	222,737.36
Hospital for Insane, Lincoln.....	283,830.00	352,575.90
Hastings.....	413,925.00	641,255.00
Norfolk.....	208,220.00	256,225.00
State Industrial School for Boys.....	109,270.15	186,700.00
Girls.....	71,430.00	62,055.00
Institute for Deaf and Dumb.....	97,720.00	156,900.00
Feeble Minded.....	204,242.00	206,350.00
Blind.....	102,488.30	48,675.00
Nebraska Industrial Home.....	29,120.00	41,250.00
Soldiers and Sailors Home, Grand Island.....	171,340.00	220,920.00
Milford.....	51,854.24	65,550.00
State Penitentiary.....	96,050.00	332,822.30
State University.....	778,500.00	1,385,000.00
Junior Normal Schools.....	\$2,000,000.00	12,000.00
Total.....	\$5,032,080.05	\$4,321,125.26
Increase, Republican extravagance.....		\$1,381,445.21

Look at the other figures we publish. They are correct. Why didn't Andrews tell you that this was why he loved the "grand old party" because in large expenditures there's a bigger chance for pillage and robbery. Andrews means to get what's coming to him.

publican administration. You did not include these claims left over by the republican administration in your statement of the debt of the state when the fusionists went into power.

You gave the warrant indebtedness only. But, when you came to figure the debt when the fusionists went out of power, you added the total amount of the unpaid claims to the warrant indebtedness. You must have done this deliberately and with the intention to deceive. You surely knew what you were doing; you knew that this statement would be disproved if you dared meet Mr. Berge in joint debate. Knowing this, you declined, and, instead, issued a misleading statement hoping thereby to deceive the voters. Not for your benefit, Governor, but for the benefit of those who may be deceived by your letter, we give the information that the appropriations made by the fusion legislature to cover the claims left unpaid by the republican administration will be found in the session of Laws of 1897, just as we give them here.

But, Governor, these are not the only misleading statements in your letter. You seek to make the people believe by half truth and half falsehood that extraordinary expenditures were made under your administration to the amount of \$605,000. Your article adroitly leads the reader to believe that this money has been expended, and that that is one reason why the debt has been increased. That you likewise knew to be wrong when you wrote it. You included in this \$605,000 the sum of \$50,000 for the Normal school at Kearney, when you knew, or should have known, that only \$367.51 of it had been spent. You knew that the corner stone of the building was laid only Tuesday of this week and you knew that when the building was completed the state's debt would be increased \$49,632.49 more. But in your usual deceptive way, and with a false pretense of fairness and truth, you wanted the people to believe that the building of the Kearney school helped to account for the state's enormously increased debt. You included in your statement \$100,000 for the Insane Asylum at Norfolk when you knew well that warrants had been drawn for only \$60,535.35 of that amount, and the remaining \$39,464.65 is still to be paid and added to the state's debt. We

mention these larger matters and pass by the minor statements of similar character; but, when the balance of the appropriations are put into warrants, the state debt will be increased nearly \$185,000 more. But, Governor, while you did not say it directly, your letter plainly intended to make the public believe that no extraordinary expenditures occurred under the fusion administration. Governor, the Session Laws of 1897 and of 1899 both show the truth in regard to this matter. We need not state what these extraordinary expenditures were for your enlightenment, because you knew all about them when you issued your misleading letter. But we do state it for the information of the people of Nebraska. Here are the extraordinary expenditures made by the fusion legislature in 1897:

Living for Norfolk Asylum.....	\$ 25,000.00
Hastings.....	30,000.00
Land.....	6,000.00
Dormitory State Normal School, Peru.....	20,000.00
Wing for State University.....	30,000.00
Trans-Mississippi Exposition.....	100,000.00
Total.....	\$211,000.00

Here are the unusual appropriations for 1899:

At Hastings Asylum.....	\$ 30,000.00
Engine House at same place.....	15,000.00
Wing and Heating Apparatus at Lincoln Asylum.....	40,000.00
Well and Pump House, Lincoln.....	5,000.00
Engine Indus. Sch. School, Milford.....	750.00
Blind Institute, Nebraska City.....	6,000.00
Engine House Deaf and Dumb Institute.....	7,000.00
School Building Deaf and Dumb Institute.....	25,000.00
Building and furnishings at Feeble Minded Institute at Beatrice.....	45,500.00
Sickness and expenses, 1st and 3rd Nebraska.....	2,000.00
Expense returning the 1st Nebraska.....	20,000.00
Vault for National Guard.....	1,000.00
Stand Pipe, Normal School.....	5,000.00
Improvements on Hospital, Soldiers and Sailors Home Grand Island.....	12,500.00
Site, Soldiers and Sailors Home Milford.....	13,500.00
Buildings and improvements State University.....	33,500.00
Total appropriations 1899.....	\$325,450.00
Add to these, unusual appropriations 1897.....	\$211,000.00
Amount of unusual appropriations.....	\$536,450.00

Governor, if you will deduct the unexpended portion of the appropriations made in 1903, and which will yet be added to the state's debt, these figures show that the fusionists spent more money for permanent improvements and other extraordinary expenses than your administration has spent. Why then the enormous increase in the state's debt? The reason is, Governor, that the whole state government and state institutions are filled with a lot of political barnacles who render no valuable service to the state and who are carried on the pay roll at the public expense, while their business is

that of political pluggers. By carrying on the pay rolls a large number of men who have nothing to do, it enables you to build up a political machine and it surrounds you with a lot of political henchmen at the public expense.

But, what about the other indebtedness, Governor? The fusion administration paid off \$467,238.04 of state debt against other funds than the general fund. Did you overlook this, Governor? If not, why did you omit it? Perhaps your statement of it might recall some unpleasant occurrences in our public life. No doubt you knew, Governor that by manipulations of Mosher and Hill the state lost \$180,000 in the Capitol National Bank, and this was made up largely of trust funds. You knew, Governor, that that money had once been paid in by the people of Nebraska to pay the state's debt, and that the debt was not paid. You knew, Governor, that the state appropriated this money again, and levied taxes to pay it the second time, and that after the taxpayers had paid this money in the second time, Ex-treasurer Bartley aided by the manipulations of Senator Millard, stole this money the second time. You knew that the \$180,000 with interest amounted to more than \$200,000. You knew that the people had paid the money in twice and that the representatives of your party had stoked it twice and that when the fusionists went in they had to face the debt with an empty treasury. Governor, had you never heard of these facts? Why did you not mention them in your statement of the financial condition of our state? This is another reason, Governor, why you want no joint debate. It would be extremely embarrassing to you to have the people again reminded of these things.

In your letter you make out that the new revenue law was needed in order to pay off the state debt. Every person will agree that the state debt ought to be paid, gradually. But we charge that even the enormous taxes levied this year will not reduce the state debt. We charge, Governor, that if every dollar of taxes that you have levied were actually paid, still the state would be deeper in debt at the end of the year than now. Fortunately, there is a way that we can get at this definitely, and not be in doubt. The total assessment on all property in the state this year is \$294,777,244.65. On this, a levy has been made of four and a half mills for the general fund, and a half mill for the school fund, and one mill for the university fund. This makes a total of six mills, and a levy of six mills on a valuation of \$294,777,244.00 will bring \$1,763,536.46. The appropriations were made to cover a period of two years and the total appropriations made by the last legislature for two years amount to \$3,740,280.70. For one year the money appropriated amounts to one-half of this which is \$1,870,140.35. The appropriations then, Governor, and the taxes for one year are plain to anybody: Here they are:

Amount of money appropriated.....	\$1,870,140.35
Total amount of taxes levied.....	1,763,536.46
Deficiency.....	\$106,603.89

So you see, Governor, if every dollar of the exorbitant taxes which you have levied this year and under which the people are groaning, was actually collected, still the state would be deeper in debt at the end of the year to the amount of \$101,576.89. Instead of getting the state out of debt, it is going deeper and deeper in debt and this must be so unless the expenses of running the state government is reduced or the taxes increased. As the state will be still deeper in debt at the end of this year, notwithstanding the terrific taxes you have levied, it is plain to every man that, if you are continued in office, taxes must be increased. The people of Nebraska well know that when the fusionists went into power the taxes were much less than today and yet we reduced the debt largely. How happens it, Governor, that, out-

withstanding an increase of their taxes, which is driving the people to desperation, your administration has made a tremendous increase in the state debt and the state is going deeper in debt all the time?

We levied lower taxes than you have, and still we paid off hundreds of thousands of dollars of debt. You have levied much higher taxes than we did, and still you are increasing and piling up the state debt. These plain, truthful facts, Governor, explain why it is that you refuse to meet Mr. Berge in joint debate. In a joint debate the people would learn the truth and hypocrisy and cant would be put to rout.

But the point that we want to impress as to the railroad revenue law, is that it is not reducing the state debt; that the high taxes which are burdening the people are all being eaten up by your administration and that, notwithstanding all this, the state is plunging deeper in debt. The appropriation bills show the increase in the expense of running your office; of running the auditor's office; of running the banking department; of running the attorney general's office; of running the land commissioner's office; and so on, but the heaviest increase of all is in running the state institutions.

Without your defeat we cannot get into these institutions to tell the people the whole truth. But the enormous increase in the expense of running the institutions plainly shows that graft is being worked in all of them. Of necessity, grafters must be running these institutions or the expense would not be what it is. When we were in before, and got at the books, we found that the state's money had been squandered and stolen; we found that heifers, weighing from five to six hundred pounds each, had been bought and put on the state books and marked as steers and oxen weighing a thousand and fifteen hundred pounds each; we found that it took

more coal to keep some of the institutions warm in July, under the rule of grafters, than it took to keep them warm in January, under our administration. The administrations before the fusionists came in were full of grafters and yet, Governor, the expense of running them under those grafters was much less than it has been since you have been governor. The only way, that this can be accounted for is on the theory that in your administration there are more grafters and worse grafters than in the worst days of any previous administration. The whole truth will never be known unless you meet Mr. Berge in joint debate. But you know, Governor, that a joint debate which would fairly and honestly put the people of Nebraska in possession of all the facts concerning your administration of affairs, will drive you from power and uncover the dealings of the grafters and expose them to the public. Is that why you decline to debate? T. S. ALLEN,  
 Chm. Dem. State Committee.

B. R. B. WEBER,  
 Chm. Peoples Ind. State Com.  
 Lincoln, Neb. Oct. 21, 1904.

We want everybody in the county to read these figures on state finances. They are taken from the records at our state capitol. After you have studied them carefully you will decide that the republican administrations have robbed the taxpayers, and their candidates for state office are not entitled to your vote. Vote for Geo. W. Berge and the whole fusion ticket; turn the rascals out.

Don't forget Jas. Smith's stock sale Nov. 4. Notice his big sale ad on next page.

Get your tickets of Harry Hilsinger for the 20 rounds glove contest between Ireland and Collins.

Mr. Livingston, of Missouri Valley, an old time friend of Frank Fischer, visited him last Thursday.

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