

The Farmers Leader

BY ARTHUR LINN.

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Member South Dakota Press Association.



PEOPLE'S PARTY STATE TICKET.

- For Congressmen—
JOHN E. KELLY of Moody.
FREEMAN KNOWLES of Lawrence.
- For Governor—
ANDREW E. LEE of Clay.
- For Lieutenant Governor—
F. C. ROBINSON of Brown.
- For Secretary of State—
GEORGE SPARLING of Edmunds.
- For Treasurer—
MARIS TAYLOR of Beadle.
- For Auditor—
HUGH SMITH of Miner.
- For Attorney General—
C. S. PALMER of Minnehaha.
- For Com. of School and Public Lands—
JOHN SCOLLARD of Meade.
- For Supt. of Public Instruction—
L. F. KINTZ of Hutchinson.
- For Railroad Commissioner—
W. H. TOMPKINS of Pennington.

Kirk Phillips is now treasurer. Kirk Phillips wants to be governor. Kirk Phillips as treasurer wants Kirk Phillips as governor to count his cash at the end of his four year term. There is an ugly suspicion in this case that is hard to harmonize with clean politics.

Why should Kirk Phillips, totally unfit for the office of governor either by education or surroundings, be crowded over a man like Gifford, and nominated over the protest of nearly half of the Republican delegates at Mitchell?

Congressman Freeman Knowles of Deadwood, says it is an open secret in Deadwood that some of Phillips' bondsmen, as treasurer, were the most anxious to see Phillips nominated.

Every man in the state hopes Mr. Phillips has no reason to fear a settlement at the end of four years.

Governor Sheldon and Auditor Hipple went over the state up to the day of election declaring that W. W. Taylor was the best financier in the world, and when some Populist papers predicted trouble with state funds they were denounced as calamity howlers. Well, most of the people remember the excellent financial qualifications of Mr. W. W. Taylor.

The present treasurer, Kirk Phillips, knew that Governor Lee would demand and see the state cash before he, Gov. Lee, would approve his bond. Every Republican whizzer-snapper at Pierre made fun of Gov. Lee and denounced him for obeying a Republican statute. Gov. Lee was firm. The cash came and was counted. Phillips, as everybody knew, had lost nearly \$30,000 in a Sioux Falls bank which busted. Still there was no shortage of cash at the show-down.

The next showdown. All the cash belonging to the state must be turned over to Phillips' successor, as vouched for by the governor.

Now, if Mr. Phillips as treasurer, can be elected governor, he can count the cash or securities turned over by himself, and—well, you bet he can.

Down, damning suspicion, down! But it won't down.

The LEADER hopes Kirk will have every dollar belonging to the state when his four years are up. Then comes the undownable part of the suspicion which the Deadwood Independent speaks so seriously about. Why should able, clean men like Gifford and Ringsrud be unceremoniously turned down, kicked out, as it were, and a notorious office hunter picked up?

The Black Hills people, two to one on a fair deal, wanted Van Cise nominated for Congress. Machine politics knocked Van Cise stiff. The machine was behind Phillips. The people wanted Van Cise. Phillips has been in office continuously for ten years. Then why the terrific efforts of the machine to make Phillips the nominee for governor? There were other Republicans ten times better qualified who had no settlement to make with themselves.

Take this Phillips case as it stands and it has an ugly, mysterious face to it.

Kirk Phillips as governor of South Dakota, will never have an opportunity to settle with Kirk Phillips as treasurer of South Dakota.

But the durried suspicion will not lay down.

Nash didn't mention Judge Gifford's name as being a candidate at Mitchell. Are you ashamed of your treatment, Nash?

NASH IS BADLY MUDDLED.

We reproduce three extracts from the News of last week which indicate that Nash is suffering from a good deal of humiliation over the turning down he and his delegation got at the hands of Kittredge. Nash is quite cunning. He don't like to expose his hand until he knows whether there is going to be any cash coming out of the "great corporation attorney." Nash prefers cash to honor, party, principle or justice. Read the extracts carefully, and after reading them you will be in doubt whether Gifford was a candidate at Mitchell or not. You will not find about the gallant effort of Pickler in behalf of Gifford. Nash is playing for cash. Here is the first extract:

The News is not among those who would hold Mr. Kittredge responsible for the success or failure of any candidate. To be sure he was on the ground, which showed decidedly bad taste on his part, but the members of that convention considered him of so little importance that scarcely any account of his wishes was taken. Lincoln county and Lincoln county candidates are apparently in great disfavor with Minnehaha county, whose votes were not needed by Phillips and yet with two exceptions they climbed onto the band wagon with as much alacrity as though their lives depended upon it.

In the above extract Nash says Kittredge showed bad taste by being on the ground, but the members of the convention considered Kittredge of no importance and paid no attention to him. This sounds very silly and stupid when every man in the convention knew that Kittredge dictated every nomination that was made. Nash intimates that the Lincoln county delegation and its choice for governor were not in good standing with King Kit the "great corporation attorney." That notwithstanding this open snub, the Lincoln county delegation "climbed into the band wagon with as much alacrity as though their lives depended on it." In the first extract it is evident Nash is in doubt what to say, but in the second extract he plainly states that Kittredge has done all in his power to prevent the enforcement of the railroad law. Nash, this is bloody treason. Look out. Such attacks as this will bring you no cash from Kit.

If Kittredge is the patriot he pretends to be, and is so solicitous for the party's welfare, as he professes to be, he would promptly tender his resignation as National committeeman.

As the attorney of a great railway corporation, he has succeeded for nearly two years in preventing the enforcement of the law regulating freight and passenger tariffs in this state, which law received the vote of every Republican member of the legislature and is endorsed by the entire Republican party except Kit. No man can serve two masters and Kit should choose between the people he pretends to serve and the corporation he is serving, and drop one or the other. However the conditions are not so bad as they might be since we now have as chairman of our state committee a man with a spinal column whom Kit cannot wind around his little finger and who will see that the state organization is run in the interest of the party rather than in the interest of a corporation attorney.

Nash admits every charge made against Kit by the free silver forces, and goes farther. He wants Kit to resign as National committeeman. He says Kit is a great corporation attorney and should not be at the head of the Republican party. Nash has known that Kit was a great railroad attorney for two years, and chief dispenser of Republican pay to the faithful and especially those who stand by the railroads. Nash has never whimpered before. He is whimpering now the way he did before Crawford came to see him in '96. Nash says further that every Republican favors enforcing the Populist railroad law with the exception of Kit. Well, Nash, Kit is the Republican party in this state. You know it, but are too cowardly to face the issue or denounce Kittredge, because in denouncing Kittredge you denounce Gamble, railroad attorney; you denounce Burke, railroad attorney and lobbyist; you denounce Phillips, who has voted with the railroad gang every time on the equalization board, and through his vote and other Republican votes the tax-payers of this state are forced to pay over two hundred thousand dollars a year that the railroads ought to pay. In denouncing Kittredge you also denounce Roddie, secretary of state, who voted at the dictation of Kittredge as your Republican state auditor proved in his open letter to the voters of Sanborn county. Nash, when you have brass enough to ask Kit to resign, why not ask Gamble, Burke, Phillips and Roddie to resign? They are all railroad agents just as much as Kit. Nash says Kit can't serve two masters. You are mistaken, Nash. Kit has half a dozen corporation masters and seems to serve them all very well. Then he has two or three political masters, but he don't get along with them near so well as he does with the railroad masters. Nash thinks the party is safe because Herried is at the head of the state committee. Nash is trying to de-

ceive honest Republicans. When Herried was lieutenant governor he appointed the present United States Marshal, Kennedy, chairman of the senate committee on railroads. Kennedy got the Wheeler railroad law in his corporation bound committee and it was smothered. Kittredge named Kennedy for U. S. Marshall. Herried put Kennedy in the position to smother the Wheeler law. Herried is now at the head of the Republican state committee and Kittredge put him there. Can Nash or any Republican deny that Kittredge is the head of the Republican party in this state, and Nash admits Kit is a great railroad attorney, and will anyone who cares to read Republican testimony at Pierre and Mitchell, deny that every man on the Republican state ticket is the choice of Kittredge placed on that ticket in the interest of the railroads, hence every man who votes to put the Republican party in power, votes to give the railroads possession of the state again, and favors men who raise 40-cent wheat paying thousands of dollars in taxes that the railroads ought to pay.

The Aberdeen News is worried because some of the old soldier delegates to the Mitchell convention did not support comrade Guernsey for Lieut. Governor. Bless your soul, Mc, don't you know that until thirty minutes before the convention met on Wednesday evening Greely was in the race for governor and Guernsey was not thought of as a candidate for any place on the ticket? And don't you know that to intimidate Kean and punish him for allowing his county to vote for Rice for temporary chairman Kit put Guernsey in the field against Kean? And don't you know the old soldiers did not drop into Kit's trap to any alarming extent? You probably do know, however, that Kit's scheme did not work and Kit's man was defeated by the help of the old soldier votes, or some of them. The old soldiers understand quite generally that Kit has about as much love for them as the average Spaniard has for the Stars and Stripes, and they also know that Kit is not the Republican party or any considerable portion of it, for if he were, the old soldiers would leave the party in short order.

In the above extract there is a little evidence that the hair on Nash's back began to bristle up a bit when he thought of how the old soldiers were treated by Kit. He thoughtlessly admits that Kit was a boss when he made a big play to fool the boys on the nomination of Kean. Kit used Guernsey as a bait, but Nash says the Lincoln county boys were promised in advance to Kean, who is another corporation agent hence the boys, according to Nash, were unable to get on the band wagon. Nash says with a boldness that is surprising for a man of his kidney, that the old soldiers know "that Kit has about as much love for them as the average Spaniard has for the Stars and Stripes, and they also know that Kit is not the Republican party or any considerable portion of it, for if he were, the old soldiers would leave the party in short order."

The old soldiers had better leave the party then, for it has been so clearly and so emphatically proved that Kit as the head of the party constitutes the whole party, assisted, of course, by his railroad lieutenants. Nash is in a tight place. He first admits the boss power of Kit, then denies it, and threatens what the old soldiers would do if Kit was the party "it." Nash, your best efforts at description can not save your boss-ridden party.

President McKinley should take prompt action and bring all officers, contractors or other persons guilty of murdering the soldiers by neglect or starvation, through incompetency or other causes, to speedy trial and punishment. Secretary of War Alger filled the army with more than a thousand political favorites, putting them in places of responsibility, which they were totally unqualified to fill. They were political favorites and had to be taken care of. A terrible responsibility rests on the administration. The leading Republican papers of the nation demand a rigid investigation, and the American people are no less determined to bring the guilty ones to swift punishment. McKinley may want to shield Alger and in shielding him perhaps cover up a multitude of criminal blunders and glaring incompetency. If the President fails to act, Congress will.

Hon. P. A. Overseth of Hudson, is a very nice gentleman and has been a successful business man, but he was the selection of the railroads for the senate. If Mr. Overseth is elected to the senate, he will be compelled by party ties and Kittredge's dictation to vote for every measure that is in favor of the corporations and against the people. No individual Republican is bigger than the machine. It won't do to say Mr. Overseth is independent and will vote as he pleases. If he was that sort of a man he would not have been nominated. The corporations are making a life and death struggle to elect a majority of the senate, and thereby hope to defeat the efforts of the people in demanding justice from the corporations. P. A. Overseth is not the man for the sena-

If the present gold standard has produced a scarcity of money, which means low prices for wheat, why should a Republican convention desire to further reduce the value of the products of the farmer? Kit and his gang had to obey the orders of Mark Hanna, in order to show Wall street that the Republican party has earned the millions of money put up to carry the election in 1896. No Republican convention in a western state would have dared to come out boldly for the single gold standard unless compelled to do so, because thousands of honest Republicans voted for McKinley in this state as in many other states in 1896, who would not have done so, had they not believed their party was friendly to silver. The money power compelled the Republican leaders to keep faith for the money furnished in 1896.

The reform forces of Lincoln county meet in convention in this city on Saturday and we have every confidence that they will present to the people of this county a full set of candidates of clean and competent men. The ticket put up by the Republicans is the weakest ever presented to the voters of this county, and were dictated by the machine. Two are legally disqualified and the candidate for clerk physically disqualified being deaf. All that is necessary is the nomination of a good ticket and the county is ours. Harmony will prevail at the conventions.

Nash says Lincoln county is not kicking at the nomination of Phillips over Gifford. That may be true. Lincoln county never kicks at anything, but the delegates from Lincoln county came home from Mitchell in a condition of open rebellion, and hundreds of honest Republicans in Lincoln county are not going to vote for Kit's machine ticket. Nash would like to be as big a boss as Kit. Bosses stay bought. Nash could not stay bought.

The Republican machine leaders say they expect the Pops to throw mud at them, and that it will be a mud-throwing campaign. The silver forces will throw no mud, but they will throw grape and canister into the ranks of the boodle railroad machine gang in the shape of truth which will wind up the cowardly deception of the gang in this state, and expose many rotten spots that now look healthy. Guilty cowards fear mud.

Mark Hanna demanded that every western state should come out square for the plutocratic gold standard. Mark don't care if every Republican ticket in every western state goes to thunder. He must have McKinley's administration sustained. It may be Republican glory for Hanna, but it means death and defeat for every Republican ticket in every western state. What does Mark Hanna care? He is bound to please Wall street.

The Republican party has at last publicly proclaimed that it has no use for the old soldier, and Nash admits it, and it seems that the Scandinavians are not wanted on the Republican ticket. There are a great many Scandinavians who will resent this insult.

Will the Sioux Valley News explain the charges against Phillips and Roddie, which were so fully made at Mitchell by Republicans, and why Phillips as treasurer, is so anxious to settle with Phillips as governor?

No Scandinavian need apply for office when the Republican state conventions meet.



U. S. Senator
R. F. Pettigrew

Will Address the People in

Bedford Hall,
Canton,
Saturday,
Sept. 10,
at 2 o'clock.
Turn Out!

The Hudson Tribune is telling the Canton Republican machine some very unwelcome truths. Bro. Cooley of the Tribune, was present and saw the machine grind and he knows all about the machine manipulators for he watched them vote one way and promise the other. The Tribune thinks that the defeat of Mr. Felton and Mr. Wendt was owing to the cowardly manipulators of the Canton gang, and the Tribune hasn't missed the mark one particle. The LEADER believes with the Tribune that Ed. Wendt's manhood will rebel at the deception and trickery of his party leaders. Ed. Wendt is a gentleman and an honorable business man. The machine has used him as a decoy behind whom they could play their nasty game. Ed. Wendt had reason to believe the promises of these men; they professed friendship. For years this game of lie and deception has been going on. How much longer can an honorable gentleman like Ed. Wendt stand this trickery and base betrayal?

There are probably one hundred honest silver Republicans in every county in this state with the exception of the reservation counties, who voted for McKinley in 1896, that will not vote the Republican ticket this fall. This percent may seem a little high, but after careful investigation and from personal interviews with men from all parts of Lincoln county, it is absolutely safe to say that over one hundred men in this county, who voted for McKinley in 1896 will not vote the Republican ticket in 1898, because of the cowardly surrender of the Republican party to a Rothschild syndicate. Many good Republicans might be named who declared they would never vote the ticket again if the party went back on silver, and were "willing to trust McKinley this time," but never again if he sold out his party.

The LEADER believes that over two thousand good, true blue, anti-machine Republicans, friends of Gifford, Dollard, Pickler, Van Cise and Ringsrud will vote the free silver ticket and thus help to wipe out, laughter, elay and send into exile this man Kittredge, the paid railroad attorney and insulting machine boss, who had the power given him, by subservient tools, to be a political dictator at Mitchell, a power that is both cowardly and fatal to party success. Kit's power to dictate and disorganize the Republican party is just as good a thing as the free silver forces could ask for, but the LEADER, a lover of fair play and equal rights, can't help but hit the machine devils a lick, even when they thus unwillingly help the free silver forces to a grand victory in November.

The Republican railroad tool manipulators at Mitchell put up a platform. Kit says the Republican party is in favor of enforcing the present railroad law. Now, isn't Kit a modest liar. He is fighting the present railroad law tooth and toe-nail. Just think of Kittredge and his gang enforcing any law that would compel the railroads to do justice to the people, that would make the railroads pay a fair share of taxes, or that would give the people lower passenger and freight rates. Kittredge, the paid attorney of the Milwaukee and general lobbyist, must think South Dakota Republicans are fools. This is Kit's last struggle to hold his "boss" position. Thousands of good Republicans will help the silver forces to kill off Kit.

It's amusing in the light of past history, to read Nash's sycophantic taffy which he is pouring over Fitch, Felton, Cassil and Pierce of Hudson. He is already promising something that he and his busted machine can never deliver. It is the Fitches, Feltons and Pierces who will dethrone such political curs as Nash, and take the party out of the hands of the Canton ring. Nash used to pound the Canton ring until the ring bought him with plunder stolen from the county. Nash is in the ring for plunder and if the ring didn't buy him about every month he would be howling like a hungry wolf. The Canton ring dictates the policies of the county, but it is now very evident the Canton ring cannot elect the machine product.

A couple of Scandinavian delegates to the Mitchell convention, who were returning home to Day county, said at the depot at Woolsey, as Phillips and Burke got off to go to Pierre, "Didn't want any Norwegians on the ticket. Well, there are a good many Norwegians in the northeast part of the state who will remember Mr. Kittredge and his railroad crowd. We will let him know that a Norwegian has just as much right to be nominated as Phillips, Burke or Gamble or any of them, and the Norwegians of South Dakota are just as loyal as Mr. Kittredge. The Norwegians will be heard from after the ballots are counted."

Kittredge would like to know how Judge Gifford feels since his return from Mitchell. It is just such men as Judge Gifford who will cause Mr. Kittredge no small amount of worry before election and who will be responsible for the defeat of the railroad-Republican ticket in November.

Many good Republicans in Lincoln county said during the campaign of 1896, that if the Republican party proved false to silver and put up a platform only to catch silver voters, they would never vote the ticket again, and the LEADER believes these men sincere and honest then, and believes now that these same McKinley silver men will never vote the Republican ticket again, because of the base and cowardly betrayal of the party into the hands of the money sharks of the country. The Republican leaders knew that to come out for the single gold standard in 1896, the Republican party would have been defeated by the people. This year the Republican leaders are going to test the temper of the people, hoping that "their glorious war record" will carry them through, but the people will resent the sale of the party to the Rothschild syndicate. Hanna will have time to find that international bimetalism will be handy in 1900.

When South Dakota was admitted to statehood the share of the territorial debt apportioned to this state was \$600,000. Every year from statehood, under Republican rule, the state debt increased until January 1st 1897, when Gov. Lee took charge, the state debt had reached the enormous sum of \$1,230,000 not far from \$100,000 a year of debt increase under the railroad Republican crowd. What a rotten record of stealing and extravagance. On July 1st, 1898, sixteen months after Gov. Lee made Kirk Phillips produce the cash at Pierre, the debt of the state had been reduced \$376,000. This under a Populist governor, whom the railroad Republican tools are now denouncing. Gov. Lee will be re-elected and at the end of his second term the state will be out of debt and the state tax levy will be down to one mill.

Judge Kennedy's open letter to H. L. Loucks, published in the Sioux Falls Press last week, was both timely and just. Judge Kennedy artistically skins Loucks and exposes the Judas character of the man. Loucks came to Dakota Territory as an adventurer. He is smooth, cunning and altogether smart, and succeeded in hiding his real character for a number of years. The most cunning rascal is bound to be exposed, and Loucks is no exception to the rule. Judge Kennedy has rendered a noble service to the Populist party in picking up Loucks and holding him before the people as a self-confessed liar, a trickster, and a traitor to every good principle he ever advocated. The LEADER rejoices that Loucks has joined the railroad boodle gang.

The people of South Dakota will never by a majority vote turn the state over to the tender mercies of men who never kept a promise to the tax-payers; men who favor robbing the tax-payers in order that the railroads may escape paying more than one-half the taxes they ought to pay. The farmers and business men of South Dakota are not fools. They are not going to vote for men who stand for the railroad interests as against the interests of the tax-payers.

In this week's edition of the LEADER will be found a supplement pertaining to state issues on which the voters of this state will be called upon to pass judgment this fall. We wish all our readers would carefully peruse this paper and hand it to some party who has not seen it. The railroad question, in which so much interest has been manifested is very thoroughly explained.

Judge Gifford and Ringsrud have always been friends of the Milwaukee railroad, and are so regarded today. Then why was Kirk Phillips, a man possessing less qualifications for the office of governor by fifty per cent. than either Gifford or Ringsrud, nominated for governor? Kirk can't say "boo" before an audience. Just wait until you see him try to make a speech.

The Republican administration of South Dakota increased the state debt over six hundred thousand dollars in seven years. In eighteen months of Governor Lee's administration this Republican debt has been cut down over three hundred thousand dollars. This is the difference between a Populist governor and Republican officials.

Prosperity, prosperity, where art thou gone? Gold standard wheat down to 40 cents. The Republican platform demands the gold standard, which means a lower price for everything raised on the farm. Our merchants must suffer accordingly.

A good Republican said the other day that he would like to see a history of Hogaboom written since he came to this country. There is no man in the county who is the equal of Col. D. H. Hawn when it comes to ancient history.

40-cent wheat is a wonderful evidence of Republican prosperity, and the gold standard demanded by Hanna and put in the platform by Kittredge, would still bring the price down below the present starvation value.

Republican papers are not pointing with pride to Kittredge's railroad ticket,