

# New Ulm Review

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Col. Fellows, district attorney of New York says he will bolt the Democratic party if it declares for silver. And yet he admits that seven out of every ten in New York State are for silver.

Judging from the way some people say they are going to vote this year, it would seem that they never heard of the Declaration of Independence or if they did it went in one ear and out the other.

Gen. Clapp says he does not intend to support Gov. Clough. Compare this with the action of Gibbs in accepting a position under a man he didn't consider fit to be executive previous to the convention.

Harriet Beecher Stone's death calls to mind the fact that she did perhaps as much as any other one person to arouse the people against slavery. The need of such people at the present time grows more and more apparent from day to day.

The Democratic National Convention at Chicago this week will turn down every prominent old leader that the party ever had. Principle will cut more figure than men, and the party under the coming platform will practically be a new one.

Hon. John Lind has practically consented to stand as an independent candidate for Governor in case D. M. Clough is nominated by the Republican State convention. Look out for the fur in case Mr. Lind makes the run. It will be made, of course, on a free silver platform.—Redwood Gazette.

In the Democratic Convention at Chicago the large majority of the delegates will be instructed to vote for free silver. And yet Boss Whitney expects to swing the thing for gold. We wonder how. It's impossible to do it with argument, for they haven't got any, and we certainly hope that he doesn't intend to do it with money.

If any congressional district in the state of Minnesota should be sound to the core on the financial issue, it is the Second, the home of Congressman McCleary, who enjoys a national reputation for his advocacy of the present gold standard, backed by a clear majority of 10,000, and with Gen. Baker, the life-long and pestiferous advocate of free silver safely corralled in camp. And yet it was absolutely amusing to witness the timidity manifested by the leaders, in convention yesterday, in dealing with the currency question. The platform made special mention of protection and reciprocity, but nothing was said about the present standard, while a tempting bait was thrown to the silverites in a resolution instructing our senators and representatives to labor for an international commission to restore the free coinage of silver. It was such a glaring attempt to evade the issue that several of the delegates, who had not been admitted to the 'sanctuary,' protested vigorously. Then a resolution declaring hostility to free coinage of silver on the basis of 16 to 1, and endorsing the present gold standard, was absolutely voted down. Think of it! A convention that placed in nomination Mr. McCleary, the able and invincible champion of a gold standard, whose speech on finances was given as a chromo to every delegate at the St. Louis convention, and is being used as the principal electioneering document by the gold standard men everywhere, backed by 10,000 majority, afraid to declare for the present gold standard and against the free coinage of silver! Less than two months ago the Republicans of this district, in convention assembled, declared openly and honestly for the present gold standard. Since then the few seceding delegates at St. Louis and Frank Day's ghost, with fears of John Lind's independent candidacy, have made them timid, and they sought to conceal their views by a few uncertain generalities. To such a condition the proud and hitherto invincible Republicans of the second district have fallen; and even Gen. Baker's pathetic declaration that the proudest act of the St. Louis convention was its sound money plank, could not nerve them to a manly and honest declaration.

An honorable, life-long Republican who has the nerve to advocate sound money, said today that he would just as soon vote for John Lind on a free silver platform as for McCleary on a pumpkin seed platform adopted by his convention. And so says every man who favors honesty in politics.—Mankato Review.

Miss Bertha Schmid of Springfield is the guest of Miss Augusta Baarsch.

## John Lind Declines.

He Says He Cannot Accept the Solicitation of Friends and be a Candidate for Governor.

He Has Been Strongly Urged by Influential Factions from Both Sides.

But Will Not Run for Governor or Any Other Office.

He Will Support a Clean Candidate for President.

The Minneapolis Times staff correspondent, Birkmann, was here on the Fourth and interviewed Mr. Lind. The result of the interview appeared in the Times of Sunday as follows:

John Lind will not run for governor this year. He will not accept a nomination, no matter from what quarter it is tendered him. When he stepped out of politics he did so for good, and as yet he is unable to imagine the nature of the circumstances which could change his intentions.

Whatever hopes have been based on John Lind's availability as a piece of gubernatorial timber must therefore be discarded. John Lind is an honest man and a deliberate man. When he says anything he means it, and he stands by his word. While listening to him I watched his lean, homely, yet singularly sympathetic face, his steady, fearless eyes, the quiet firmness of his voice, the unmistakable wholeness of character which expressed itself in every motion, every word; and I became convinced that the man before me was above playing the typical little modest game which politicians anxious for office are so fond of enacting. There could be no doubt about his intentions and the inseparable connection between those and his words.

To understand the full significance of Mr. Lind's refusal, it is necessary to know something about the pressure to which he has been subjected ever since the result of the republican primaries in Hennepin county became known. From Mrs. Lind I heard that her husband's correspondence during these days has been enormous. From every quarter of the state he has received urgent requests to come out as an independent candidate or to let himself be nominated by one of the other two parties. And the names attached to those letters have in most cases been of a character which has given almost irresistible force to the utterance of the writer. A few words by Mr. Lind himself served to verify these statements, as did also information received from other sources. But throughout this onslaught of public opinion of the most flattering kind Mr. Lind has remained firm.

"I feel very happy," he replied to my repeated question whether he would not under any circumstances let himself be persuaded; "I feel happy and flattered by the kind words given me in letters as well as in the press. But my mind was made up long ago. I should have liked to let my friends know my actual position long before this, but I have not felt that the situation has been such as to warrant my speaking. Now I believe that the proper time has come, and what I now say to you I authorize you to publish as my final and decisive reply to the requests made on me. I shall not accept a nomination if tendered me. I shall not run for any office. I am out of politics, and I intend to remain so—that is, as far as running for office is concerned. But I cannot deny that I am deeply interested in the present movement. I mean that for free coinage of silver, and that I shall be ready to do my share of the work in the coming campaign. If the silver forces are able to unite upon a good man, he shall have my full and hearty support. And I cannot help believing that if this can be accomplished with regard to the presidency, it will also be accomplished within the state."

How has it come about that such a staunch republican as you, Mr. Lind, has become so far separated from the republican party? I asked.

"Well, I have not changed my position. I have always been a bimetalist. When representing this district in the fifty-first congress I held exactly the same position as now. But it is the party that has changed. And how can I support it, how can I go out and make speeches for it, when it deserts and violates one of its vital principles? I have not hastily left my place in the ranks of the party which I have loved so dearly and for which I have spent many a sleepless night. But it is my firm belief that, if the new policy of the the republican party is carried out, we shall have four more years of bankruptcy, economical disasters, social paralysis. And mark my words, these are no new ideas of mine. I have held them for years. I honestly think that victory for the gold standard means that we shall come to learn what 30-cent

wheat means; that instead of some forty or forty-five millions the state will realize only between ten and fifteen million dollars on its crop. I believe that eighteen months of republican monometallism would be enough to bring us to such a point. And how can I under such circumstances remain a member of that party?"

He spoke slowly but without hesitation. There was a ring of sadness in his voice, but it was combined with a resolution that left no place for vacillations. Right or wrong in other men's eyes, those opinions were based upon the honest conviction of an honest man. To him they are a creed, not a craze of the hour, a notion that might pass away with the fleeting moment. Holding those opinions, John Lind will fight for them, and fighting, he is liable to carry conviction and conviction to many hearts.

John Lind is a Swede by birth, yet he has never posed as such in order to get into office. He lives in a community which is largely German; he was sent to congress by a district in which the Scandinavian elements are over-balanced by other nationalities. In spite of these facts—or, perhaps, on account of them—it will be hard to find a Minnesota citizen with Swedish blood in his veins who is more respected and better loved by the Swedes than is John Lind. The mention of his name carries to their minds the idea of a man who has been sought by the office, not sought it himself; who has never consented to a truce with his principles for the sake of political expediency; who has never forgotten that political preferment involves responsibilities and duties as well as honors.

Unlike so many other men, whose names are mentioned in connection with the present political position, John Lind has not deserted the party of his first choice for the purpose of striking a by-path to some office. To judge from some of his utterances, he seems to think that just now the silver men have more work than success before them. However, he was not willing to express himself on this question.

"Really, I cannot say anything about it, because I have not been able to form any opinion," was the answer he gave me when I asked what he thought was going to happen at Chicago and thereafter. He hoped for the best, but indulged in no illusions. Whatever happened, he could wait, and what was impossible this year would, in his opinion, become a certainty four years from now. When ever the chance was given him, he should take bold and work with all his might for the chosen standard bearer of bimetalism.

Before my interview ended I asked a few more questions.

"Can you think of any man on whom the silverites of Minnesota could unite with a hope of electing him governor?"

"I don't know, if I can," he said. "Such a man is hard to find just now. I think S. M. Owen is a good man, but I hear that he is going to run for congress this year."

"If the democratic party comes out openly and honestly in favor of free silver shall you then support it?"

"Yes, if a clean, reliable man is nominated."

"Do you think it will be possible to unite the silver forces under the democratic name?"

"It ought not to be impossible, because the dropping out of the eastern wing will make it an entirely new party. However, it is not improbable that a new name will have to be chosen."

Mr. Lind was at once seen by a Review reporter and substantiated practically all that was contained in the article above.

Following is the address of the silver Republicans to their party in this state:

To the Republicans of Minnesota:—The greatest issue which has arisen in this country since the abolition of African slavery now confronts the American people. The common people have viewed with increasing alarm the efforts of a foreign money aristocracy to fasten upon this nation the single gold standard of value. In the past they turned with the inspiration of faith to the Republican party for protection against that power which seeks to strike-down one-half the redemption money of the world that the other half may purchase double the amount of the products of toil. They had a right to expect such protection. The Republican party was born of the common people. Its mission has been to dignify labor; to secure to him who toils in the field, in shop or mine the just fruits of honest labor. From the day of the party's birth until the present time no article of Republican faith has been more pronounced than the belief in bimetalism. It has been written in its platforms and taught by all its great leaders. In national convention in 1888 it condemned "the policy of the Democratic administration in its efforts to demonetize silver." In 1892 in its platform adopted at Minneapolis it declared in favor of both gold and silver

as standard money. In 1894 the Republican party of Minnesota reaffirmed its belief "in bimetalism and that the restoration of silver as ultimate money to the currency of the world is absolutely necessary for business prosperity, proper rate of wages and the welfare of the people." Nearly every Republican state convention in 1894 condemned, either in express terms or by implication, the single gold standard. James G. Blaine well expressed the belief of the Republican party when he declared: "I believe the struggle now going on in this country and in other countries for a single gold standard, would if successful produce widespread disaster in and throughout the commercial world."

"The destruction of silver as money and establishing gold as the sole unit of value must have a ruinous effect on all forms of property except those investments which yield a fixed return in money. These would be enormously enhanced in value, and would gain a disproportionate and unfair advantage over every other species of property. If, as the most reliable statistics affirm, there are nearly \$7,000,000,000 of coin or bullion in the world, not very unequally divided between gold and silver, it is impossible to strike silver out of existence as money without results which will prove distressing to millions and utterly disastrous to tens of thousands."

"I believe gold and silver coin to be the money of the constitution; indeed, the money of the American people, anterior to the constitution which the great organic law recognized as quite independent of its existence."

The action of the National Republican convention at St. Louis has repudiated this fundamental doctrine of our party. The single gold standard has been endorsed, in connection with the proposition basis or ratio is not to be permitted without the consent of foreign despotic and aristocratic powers first obtained. The Republican party no longer stands for both gold and silver as primary money but for gold only. We cannot accept the new faith, and we will hold steadfastly to the old. The policy of gold monometallism means prolonged and intensified depression; an endless and hopeless era of falling prices for our farmers and other producers; continued uncertainty of employment for our workmen, with lessening wages following the fall in prices of the products of labor; discouragement of all enterprise and in the end universal bankruptcy and the gravitation of all money brokers. It means the obliteration of the great middle class, the yeomanry of the nation, and the division of the people into the very rich and the very poor. Those Republicans who believe in the use of both gold and silver as the money of ultimate payment, and their free coinage in our mints, must either submit in silence, or speak out boldly in condemnation of this policy so disastrous to the people. On matters of vital principle no man can reasonably be asked to submit to party dictation. Every man who places country above party, and whose sympathies are with the producers as against the money brokers and bondholders, owes a duty to his conscience and to his country which can only be discharged by putting forth every effort in his power that the blight of the single gold standard may not be fastened upon this people.

The address is signed by such leading Republicans as John Lind, Chas. A. Towne, Gen. Sanborn, Sen. Dan Morgan, Lt. Gov. Day, John Day Smith, Attorney Frank Nye, Hon. H. E. Hoard, Sen. Howard, R. D. Munger, D. G. Cash, J. H. Friggs, H. G. Stocker, S. H. Moer, James R. Bennett and Clinton Markill.

People should pay no attention to the announcements of the gold press that John Lind will not accept the nomination of the people of this state for governor. He is not a candidate. That is true. That is all the better. That is one reason why the people want him. Office seekers are not wanted this year. The Lord knows there are enough of them in the field. It is the man whom the people seek, who should be nominated. John Lind is that man. He says he is through with office and politics. But John Lind is not through with patriotism and good government. He is as keenly alive to the economic battle now confronting this nation as any man in America. His signature to the recent protest against McKinleyism and European gold monometallism proves that. John Lind is a soldier in this battle. He will go where duty calls. He is no office seeker. He is not a perpetual candidate, as some too-much-in-evidence demagogues are, but if the people of Minnesota call him to the front as their standard bearer, he will stand with them, and where they command. In principle and patriotism John Lind can be depended upon in this conflict.—Penny Press.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Leaders of Chicago visited during the forepart of the week with Mr. and Mrs. Henningsen.

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