

MAKE ANSWER

Republican County Committee Take Up the Boasting Assertions of

CHAIRMAN GOSSMAN

And Show the Dishonesty of the Populist Claim to Economy.

During the campaign of 1896 the populist county committee spread broadcast over the county a circular containing numerous confusing columns of figures, taken from the records of the county and juggled in a manner calculated to deceive the voters into the belief that during the eight years of populist control of the county its government was carried on in every department with greater ability, and economy than the preceding eight years of republican management.

The circular made its appearance too late in the campaign to enable the republican committee to collect refuting facts, put them in proper form and get them before the voters of the county.

The "Facts and Figures," circular, therefore, had a clear field in 1898, and undoubtedly accomplished the purpose for which it was intended to fool the voters just sufficiently to carry that election for the populist ticket in Polk county.

The same circular, with some modifications, and slight changes in phraseology is again finding its way in the hands of the too unsuspecting voter. Although a transparent fraud, the present populist county committee impoverished in argumentative resources is again using it, in the desperate hope that it may once more serve the purpose of fooling "some" if not "all of the people."

The circular in every particular is intended to deceive honest voters and secure for political ringsters a longer lease of the offices of the county. They undertake to impress upon the voters of the county, the brazen falsehood that the party, with which they affiliate for the spoils of office, is entitled to the credit of securing the enactment of a special salary law for Polk county as a result of which, according to their own peculiar compilation of figures, a considerable sum of money has been saved to the county in decreased salaries of county officers. They quote the collections of two of the county offices, but are silent as to all of the other offices. They make no comparison of the amounts paid the county commissioners, for the past eight years as against the eight preceding years. They are silent regarding the raise of the jailer's salary for the past two years from \$50.00 to \$60.00 per month or of the excessively large bills paid by the county to the sheriff for boarding prisoners.

Why do they omit mention of these important matters?

If the voter will take pains to investigate he will find abundant proof that the claim made on account of reduced salaries is purely a myth. If it be true that the law in question is a measure of economy, then in justice let the credit go where it honestly belongs.

The special salary law was passed by the legislature in 1891, while the peoples party had no existence and was unthought of, prior to July, 1892. The farmers' alliance convention in Polk county in 1890, did not, as is well known, represent any political party. At that convention a committee of three was appointed to take necessary steps to secure the passage of a special salary law and L. S. Hancock, P. O. Onstad and one other, whom we cannot now recall were appointed as such committee.

The statement that the alliance organization "merged" into the populist party is unwarranted by facts. The alliance flourished in places where a populist cannot now be found, and in Polk county there are as many former alliance members in the republican party as in the populist party. Will bare-faced falsehood and deception again win in Polk county? Let us trust that the same element that punished supposed political corruption in 1890 will again assert its sovereign right.

We are not informed as to the present political affiliations of Mr. Hancock. We do know, however, that Mr. Onstad is a true and loyal republican. The member of the legislature who introduced the bill under the direction of the committee did not represent any political party. He was elected by the members of the alliance organization of Polk county, composed in reality of republicans and democrats. It is not the honest rank and file of the peoples party in Polk county, who resort to such contemptible falsehood. We credit them with being sincere in desiring reform, but we are sure they do not wish to attain it by corrupting methods, such as obtain and are being practiced by the low-strata ring which at this time control their party organization, making a last desperate effort to once more get possession of the offices of the county.

Gossman's recent "Economy," circular gives the average tax levy for the years from 1883 to 1890 inclusive, at eight and 46-100 mills and for the same number of years since then at six and 21-100 mills. Now if this statement is correct, which we have not taken the trouble to ascertain, it proves absolutely nothing in favor of those who are now perverting facts in order to continue the control of the county offices. Every intelligent man knows and every honest man will admit that in the earlier years of our county's history large expenditures were necessary to provide for our people the public conveniences and comforts which properly belong to a progressive county, and an advancing civilization. A court house and jail of necessity had to be erected and at a time when material was excessively high, and those institutions had to be provided with necessary safes, records and furniture. Expensive steel and wooden bridges had to be constructed over the many streams and coxies of a county larger in extent than some of the states of the union. County roads had to be opened up, and improved to accommodate the rapidly multiplying population, open ways to market and give an

increasing value to their lands. To accomplish all this in a great county like Polk involved a large outlay of money and in view of the vast work done even a tricky politician ought to rise higher than to undertake to prejudice the voters against those to whom in all honesty they are indebted for transforming a wild unbroken tract into one of the leading counties in our great state. No other county in our state, in the early years following organization was more ably financed than Polk county, and the bonded indebtedness and tax levies were as small as that of any other county. The records of the county, we take pride in saying, have never revealed any defalcations or malfeasance on the part of any county officer during the period prior to 1891.

Another daring deception is attempted in showing the amounts in the county treasury on the 31st of May of each year since 1883.

What are the facts? According to their own figures the republicans had on hand and turned over to the officers elected by the alliance in 1891, the snug sum of \$121,920.12. (See "Economy," circular), more than sufficient to pay the entire bonded indebtedness of the county. There was then but little property in the county upon which to levy taxes as compared to now. Now honest tax payers note carefully the next statement we here make: The report of the auditing board, submitted to the county board on the 23d day of October, 1900. (See commissioner's proceedings,) show the total cash on hand in all funds including a good portion of collections from county ditch assessments, at \$97,159.56. In 1891, the republicans furnished \$121,920.12, with which to pay a bonded indebtedness of \$104,500, incurred for the good of the people in building up a new county. Has the debt been paid? The bosses claim to have paid \$16,000.00. Can they pay the balance today? No, not one half of it. Is this financiering to boast of? In addition to the \$121,920.12 turned over in cash, they have collected from levies made by the republicans prior to 1891, \$45,672.80, according to the records of the county, making a total of \$167,592.92.

There is scarcely anything due the county from delinquent taxes, the forfeited sale of May last having just about cleared the records. The credits have vanished, and only debts remain, and the honest tax payer can look with certainty to increasing tax levies and burdensome taxes from now on. There is no escaping it.

The ring of self styled populists, are desperately struggling to hold the party majority of 1891, for what there is in it for themselves, by a grossly misleading financial showing of the affairs of the county.

They tell the voters that they have built a court house but they do not tell them that they have used republican money to do it. They ruthlessly hunted from their party, at the county convention of last June, the very men who deserve the credit for having saved the county the little remnant of county revenue now available.

In closing we earnestly appeal to the good sense, honor and intelligence of the voters and tax payers of Polk county, without regard to political affiliations, to cautiously guard against the "deception and imposition practiced by political tricksters who are actuated only by ambition for personal gain.

Investigate the records, verify, and then vote intelligently. And after the court house is built, then how much of the \$97,159.56, will be left to place to their credit.

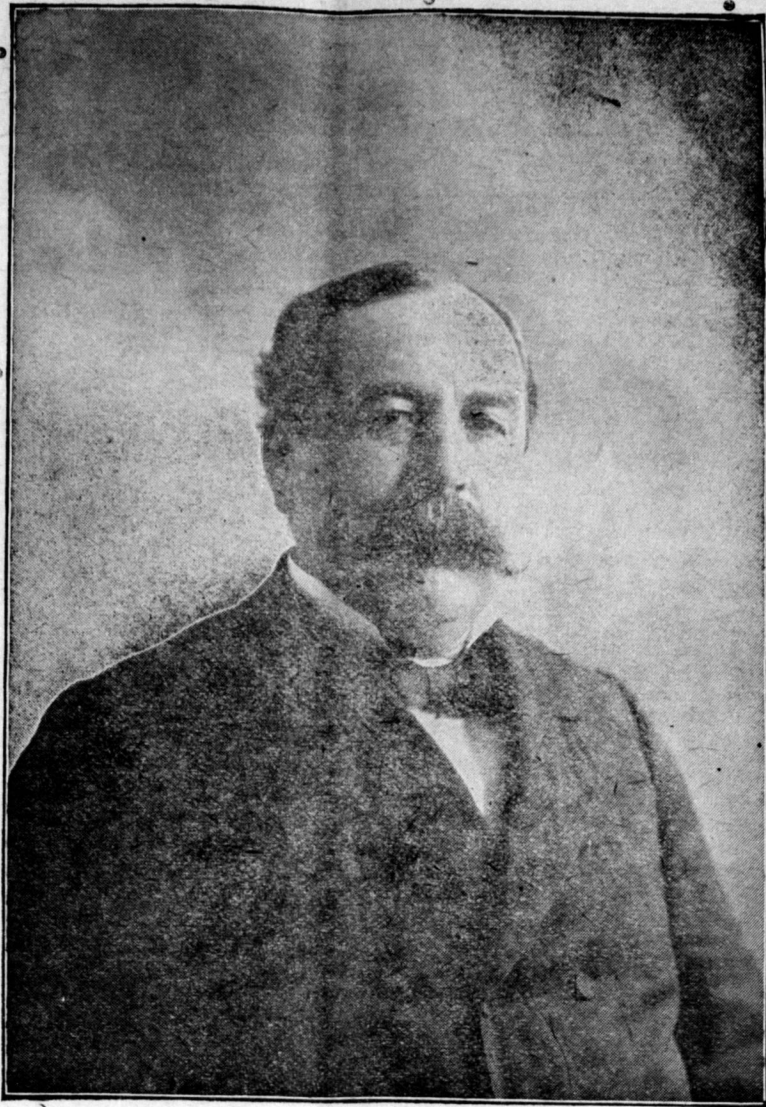
A. KAISER, Chairman.
CHAS. A. HITCHCOCK, Secretary.

The Chicago Record, though independent in politics, puts up some good strong reasons for opposing Bryanism in the following well expressed arguments: "The man who sows discord among the people for his political profit, who arouses class hatred in a land where there should be no classes in order that he may get an office, is unmistakably working his own undoing. Mr. Bryan's cause cannot prosper from the moment that he begins to cry out that Americans are seeking to infringe on the liberties of Americans. The free man who is enlightened as well as free knows where he can find arms. He welcomes the struggle with tyrants, if tyrants there be. He knows when his inalienable rights are infringed upon without having to consult experts on the subject. "When Mr. Bryan talks of the menace of an army of 100,000 men to a nation of 75,000,000 people, is he a statesman, a mischief maker or a fool? Mr. Bryan has a solid month of campaigning before him, leading up to election day. He should bear carefully in mind during that critical period that the people of the United States will not begin the new century by electing him president to save them from becoming helots. They are strong and free. They do not want Mr. Bryan's pity. They are not looking for a good Samaritan to heal their wounds but for a statesman to direct their large purpose and wield with courage, justice and wisdom their irresistible power."

The Grand Forks Plaindealer after eulogizing Bryan's speech making ability, enquires "what sort of a figure would President McKinley cut traveling through the country and making half a dozen speeches a day?" We give it up. We can not imagine President McKinley traveling about the country and plaintively appealing to the people to give him just one term of the presidency on his promise to never ask for it again, or as having his managers get up a scheme to coax pennies out of the little children to increase his campaign fund. Such a course would be incongruous with President McKinley's character, and we cannot imagine it.

The Grand Forks Plaindealer after eulogizing Bryan's speech making ability, enquires "what sort of a figure would President McKinley cut traveling through the country and making half a dozen speeches a day?" We give it up. We can not imagine President McKinley traveling about the country and plaintively appealing to the people to give him just one term of the presidency on his promise to never ask for it again, or as having his managers get up a scheme to coax pennies out of the little children to increase his campaign fund. Such a course would be incongruous with President McKinley's character, and we cannot imagine it.

The above letter explains itself. Mr. Corser is surveyor general of logs and lumber of the Minneapolis district. He is a "silver republican." When Governor Lind appointed him, it raised such a protest from decent democrats that there was strong talk of opposing his confirmation in the senate. The letter is written to one of the employees of the dairy and food department. "Maj. J. M. Bowler, Treasurer," is the dairy and food commissioner. It shows that from the moment the departments under Lind were reformed, every employe has been assessed a percentage of his salary for the machine.



SAMUEL R. VAN SANT,
Republican Candidate for Governor.

A MINNESOTA TAMMANY

The Entire Administration of State Affairs Under Governor Lind Subordinated to the Building Up of a Political Machine.

TAKES THE CUE FROM CROKER'S METHODS.

Every Employe of the Administration field Up and Made to Contribute a Portion of His Salary to Further the Interests of the Worst Political Ring Ever Known in the West.

The Democratic State Committee has been pouring out money like water in the present campaign. Where does it come from? The letter printed below tells the story. Directly it would seem to come from the office-holders under the Lind-Rising machine; primarily it comes from the tax-payers and shows why every department of the present administration has been run at a much greater expense than under republican control. It proves that the people's money is used to build up a political machine on the plan of the infamous Tammany Hall of New York.

L. A. ROSING, Chairman. T. R. KANE, Secretary.
J. J. THORNTON, Vice Chairman. P. B. WINSTON, Treasurer.

Minnesota Democratic State Central Committee.

HEADQUARTERS: MERCHANTS HOTEL.

St. Paul, Minn., March 23, 1900.

Mr. Geo. LeSage,
Dairy and Food Department,
Duluth, Minn.

Dear Mr. LeSage:—

I presume that you have been informed of the appointment of a committee named by the office holders, which committee suggests an equitable contribution from the several state appointees holding office under Governor Lind, for the campaign fund of 1900. This amount is graduated according to the salary received, those receiving a larger salary making a larger percentage on the whole.

Those receiving \$100 per month contribute monthly \$3, those receiving \$200 per month contribute monthly \$10. We note that the various employes in nearly all cases have remitted the sums equitably contributed to the campaign fund of 1900, for the year 1899. There appears at the close of last year in your account with the committee, a balance of \$27, which we would be very glad to receive from you.

Will you kindly remit your check to the order of Maj. J. M. Bowler, Treasurer, for \$27 for last year, and it will be very pleasing to the committee if you will remit to April 1, 1900, making \$9 additional for 1900.

Trusting that you will take immediate notice of this late communication, I am,

Cordially yours,
ELWOOD S. CORSER.

The above letter explains itself. Mr. Corser is surveyor general of logs and lumber of the Minneapolis district. He is a "silver republican." When Governor Lind appointed him, it raised such a protest from decent democrats that there was strong talk of opposing his confirmation in the senate. The letter is written to one of the employees of the dairy and food department. "Maj. J. M. Bowler, Treasurer," is the dairy and food commissioner. It shows that from the moment the departments under Lind were reformed, every employe has been assessed a percentage of his salary for the machine.

Governor Lind, Rosing, Corser, Pope, Bowler, T. D. O'Brien, O'Shaughnessy, et al, have adopted from Boss Croker the corrupt tactics of the notorious Tammany Hall of New York.

How Do the People Like It?

FRANK M. EDDY

Republican Candidate for Congressman.

It is hardly necessary to introduce Frank Eddy to the voters of the Seventh district. His works speak for him. He is one of the hardest and most successful workers in congress. The Free Homes Bill, which became a law, mainly through his untiring efforts, has been a direct saving of \$200 to each settler on the reservation. The amount saved to the 3400 settlers, having taken place in the neighborhood of 1880, is in the neighborhood of \$680,000. While this Free Homes Law is Mr. Eddy's strongest bid for re-election, it must not be forgotten, that he has, at all times, looked industriously after the welfare of the peo-



ple of his district. At the last session of congress Mr. Eddy introduced a bill for a \$75,000 government building to be erected at Crookston. Mr. Eddy is confident that he will succeed during the coming session of congress in having this appropriation made.

What can a demo-pop congressman do towards the erection of a public building at Crookston or any other measure of special benefit to the district with Mr. McKuley in the presidential chair, and a republican congress. Nothing, absolutely nothing. He will not even have the power to appoint a fourth class postmaster.

Now Mr. Eddy is not only in touch with the administration, but he is a member of some of the most important committees of the house, and is thoroughly acquainted with the ropes, etc., to get legislation done.

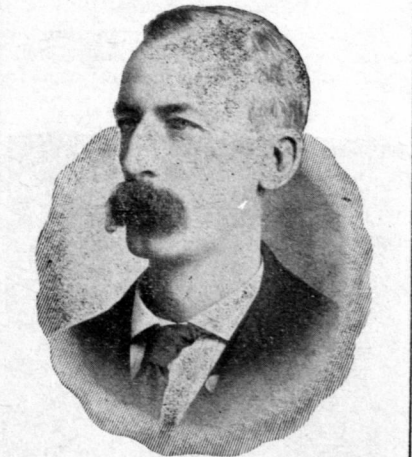
Frank Eddy is entitled to the support of every voter in the district for his work for Free Homes alone, as there is hardly a family in the northern part of the state, of which some member has not been benefited two hundred dollars worth by his bill becoming a law.

Frank M. Eddy is the friend of the common people and he should and will get their votes on the 6th of November, because he is entitled to them.

ALEXANDER M. GRAY

Candidate for County Surveyor on the Republican Ticket.

Alexander M. Gray was born in Canada in 1866, where he resided until 1893. He received his education in the common schools and in the Belleville college in Ontario, from which latter



institution he graduated, and after doing so engaged in farming and in teaching school. He came to Minnesota in 1893 and has since that time been engaged in government and railroad engineering work.

G. S. CHESTERMAN.

Candidate for Coroner on the Republican Ticket.

G. S. Chesterman, the nominee for coroner on the republican ticket, was born in Upper Canada in 1860. In 1883 he removed with his parents to Elgin Ill. Mr. Chesterman's father there established a general store, and carried with his other stock, furniture and funeral supplies, doing such undertaking business as came in his way according to the methods then practiced. After seven years business experience at that place Mr. Chesterman went to Bathgate, N. D. and for three years conducted the undertakers business there. In 1892 he came to Crookston where he has since resided, making a study and practicing his profession as an undertaker all the time of his residence here. Mr. Chesterman is one of the best known and highly respected citizens of Crookston. He has served two terms on the city council and is at present president of that body, having been elected to that position by the unanimous vote of its members last spring.

As an alderman he has accomplished many things tending to the betterment of municipal affairs. Mr. Chesterman's knowledge of his business gives him special qualifications for the intelligent performance of the duties of the office for which he is a candidate, and this fact will undoubtedly have its proper weight with the voters at the coming election.

SENATOR JONES' TRUST

DEMOCRATIC MANAGER HOLDS THE COTTON GROWERS BY THE TROAT.

What the Round Cotton Bale Trust Is and Why Mr. Bryan Does Not Denounce It When on the Stump.

Senator J. K. Jones, chairman of the Democratic national committee, is a defendant in a proceeding brought under the anti-trust law of Texas. He has company in his trouble (John E. Searles, known in Wall street as one of the biggest "trust magnates," is a co-defendant.) The Texans have placed these two gentlemen under fire because they are the nearest stockholders in connection known as the American Cotton company. John E. Searles is president of the organization.

The chairman of the Democratic national committee says his company is but "a large business concern." But the Texans—and Texas is a Democratic state—think differently. It is charged that the Jones-Searles combination constitutes a conspiracy against lawful trade and free competition.

The American Cotton company is a monopoly if there ever was one. Not only is it entrenched behind \$7,000,000 capital stock, but it is fortified by patents which exclude the possibility of competition.

Nicoll's Stock Exchange Handbook a recognized authority, says: "The American Cotton company is a corporation which controls the patents for machinery and processes in making round-bale bales."

"Controls"—that word itself is suggestive of the "octopus." It is the word over which Mr. Bryan fumed in his St. Louis denunciation of trusts.

Every cotton ginning plant in the South must have one of the machine manufactured by the American Cotton company. They save time and money. The cotton ginner must make his arrangements with the Jones-Searles combination. It has exclusive possession of the field. The ginner must come to the terms of the combination. He can deal no place else. He cannot even buy independence from the \$7,000,000 combination. The American Cotton company refuses to sell its product. It leases its machines. The manufacturer attaches one to his plan and yearly pays tribute to the American Cotton company. So great are the profits of this combination that in the short time the concern has been in existence Senator Jones is said to have risen from the estate of a comparatively poor man until he is now regarded as a millionaire. And the Southern ginner continues to swell the bank account of the Democratic campaign manager.

William Jennings Bryan, in his denunciation of trusts at St. Louis, gave a list of the great corporations of the country. He left out the American Cotton company and the American Ice company. The others he denounced. But these two Democratic organizations he ignored. He exclaimed: "Those who attempt to divide private monopolies into good monopolies and bad monopolies will never make any progress toward the overthrow of trusts. Therefore Mr. Bryan will not succeed as a trust smasher."

Even in making his division in monopolies Mr. Bryan showed strong discrimination. He specified such concerns as the Federal Steel company; yet this concern is only one of several iron and steel companies in the country. No one is forced to do business with the Federal Steel. There are the American Steel and Wire company, the Republic Iron and Steel company, the National Steel company, the Carnegie company. And there are others. But Mr. Bryan made his division in favor of the American Ice company, which had absolute control over the prices of New York city, and which, last spring turned upon the poor of the tenement house districts and added to its wealth by the suffering of the poverty-stricken. And Mr. Bryan makes his division in favor of a concern which so fortified that every cotton ginning plant is forced to pay tribute to it.

It depends, when Mr. Bryan denounces trusts, upon whose ox is being goaded.

McKinley Favors Arbitration.

While still in the house of representatives, Mr. McKinley, on April 2d, 1898 said:

"I believe, Mr. Chairman, in arbitration as a principle. I believe it should prevail in the settlement of international difficulties. It represents a big civilization than the arbitrament war. I believe it is in accord with the best thought and sentiment of mankind; I believe it is the true way settling differences between labor and capital; I believe it will bring the both to a better understanding, unite them closer in interest and promote better relations, avoiding force, avoiding unjust exactions and oppressions, avoiding disturbances of trade and transportation; and if this course contribute in the smallest measure, legislative expression or otherwise, these ends, it will deserve and need the gratitude of all men who love peace, good order, justice and fair play."

Those who are attacking Mr. McKinley as indifferent to labor must have blinded themselves to his record.

Harrison on Trusts.

President Harrison, in his message to congress, Dec. 3d, 1889, when he took office, said: "Earnest attention should be given by congress to a consideration of the question how far the restoration of those conditions of capital competition called 'trusts' is matter of federal jurisdiction. When organized, as they often are, to monopolize the production or sale of an article of commerce of general necessity, they are dangerous conspiracies against the public good and should be made the subject of prohibitory and even penal legislation."

Mr. Bryan is not the original trust man. Every bit of restraint legislation now on the statute book has been placed there by the Republican party.