

THE RECIPROCITY CONVENTION

The national reciprocity convention held at Chicago, August 16 and 17, adopted declaration of principles as follows:

Whereas, The agriculture, manufactures and other industries of this country have expanded to such an extent that they can no longer depend upon the home market for the consumption of their entire product; and

Whereas, The export trade has become a vital support to many of our industries; and

Whereas, The present commercial attitude of the United States, largely owing to our failure to carry into effect the reciprocal trade provisions of section 4 of the Dingley law, is antagonizing foreign nations, whose good will we desire and on whom we have hitherto depended as purchasers of our surplus products; therefore be it

Resolved: 1. That this convention recognizing the principle of protection as the established policy of our country, advocates immediate reciprocal concessions by means of a dual or maximum and minimum tariff as the only practical method of relieving at this time the strained situation with which we are confronted. 2. That eventually the question of the schedules and items to be considered in reciprocal concessions be suggested by a permanent tariff commission, to be created by congress and appointed by the president, which shall consist of economic, industrial and commercial experts. 3. That it is the sense of this convention that our present tariff affords abundant opportunity for such concessions without injury to industry, trade or the wages of labor. 4. That we urge action upon congress at the earliest time possible.

NEBRASKA STATE FAIR

The Nebraska state fair opens at Lincoln September 4 and holds until September 8. Great preparations have been made for an enlarged display to be improved in all its details and it is believed that the attendance will be larger than during any previous year. The management has secured the Igorotes village that was on exhibition at St. Louis and a seventy-five foot stockade has been prepared for these strange people. An excellent speed program has been arranged. One interesting feature is a horse without driver making fast time. A new stock pavillion costing \$10,000 has been erected, and \$20,000 have been expended on other improvements. The grand stand's seating capacity has been increased from 3,500 to 5,000. A new poultry building and administration building have been erected. New walks have been laid and in various ways valuable additions have been made to the ground and structures. There are many demands for space in all the departments, and the management confidently expects that this will be the most successful state fair in the history of Nebraska.

THE INCOME TAX

The Washington Post says that of the various plans by which our government has raised revenue, the income tax proved the least desirable, because "it was provocative of perjury and most prolific of scandalous litigation." Our Washington contemporary is mistaken in saying that the tax is least desirable, because the great majority of people desire it. The objection that the tax is provocative of perjury in no way impairs its desirability.

Tax dodging is prevalent under all direct systems. Men declare their holdings to be far less valuable than they really are, but that is no reason why a direct system of taxation should be abolished. An income tax system could be devised that would remedy abuses far more serious than

any it would impose. It would at least measurably equalize the burdens of taxation. Under the present system of raising revenue for the federal government, the wealth of the country does not bear its share of the burden. Year by year the federal government is called upon to increase its expenditures to protect the property of the wealthy few, and the toiling many are compelled to foot the expense.

There is now a deficit of revenue and it is proposed to tax coffee, an expense that would fall upon every poor man in the country. A laborer's family in all probability would thus be called upon to pay much more of the money raised by such a tax than would Mr. Rockefeller with his hundreds of millions.

What makes the system more unfair is that the federal government grants special privileges to these wealthy few, thus enabling them to pile up uncounted millions and yet declines to compel them even to pay their part of the expenses of government.

A citizen with millions of dollars worth of property which a government is called upon to protect ought to pay more to support the federal government than a man who possesses only a good appetite.

Direct taxation has another advantage. It encourages economy in government. If our federal revenues were collected directly, congress would not be so profligate in handing out millions to expositions and in tolerating the many forms of waste that now afflict the public service. The influences that now make for extravagance would demand economy.

Granting that men would dodge their taxes and commit perjury, there is a remedy for that sort of thing, and after the remedy had been applied the perjurer would not be apt to repeat the offense.

Sooner or later, the burdens of federal government will have to be equalized. There is no desire upon the part of the substantial people of the country to rob the rich. They simply want the rich to do their part and do not believe that because the rich do not want to do their part they should be relieved of their duty in the premises.

The democratic party is firmly committed to the income tax principle and the day will come when that principle will prevail.—Houston (Texas) Post.

COST OF THE BIG STRIKE

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Strike began | April 6 |
| Strike made general | April 27 |
| Duration of days | 105 |
| Number garment workers originally involved | 17 |
| Teamsters originally called out at Montgomery Ward & Co.'s | 71 |
| Total number of teamsters eventually involved | 4,620 |
| Persons killed in strike violence | 21 |
| Persons injured (reported by police) | 415 |
| Police on strike duty | 2,300 |
| Deputy sheriffs on strike duty | 3,400 |
| Cost of city for extra police protection | \$306,500 |
| Cost to county for extra deputy sheriffs | 100,000 |
| Cost to unions for strike benefits | 350,000 |
| Loss to teamsters in wages | 700,000 |
| Cost to employers (wages and lodging of strike-breakers and protection of wagons) | 2,000,000 |
| Shrinkage in wholesale, retail and freight business (estimated) | 6,000,000 |

—Chicago Tribune.

THIS 20 Year GUARANTEED WATCH for \$3.50

A handsome offer by America's greatest mail order watch house, the old established and reliable R. E. Chalmers & Co. The editor of this paper will tell you that he has thoroughly reliable.

GENTS OR LADIES SIZE

The best, handiest and most perfect genuine American 14 karat gold plated watch ever offered for sale at any price. Double hunting case, rich solid gold pattern of engraving, assorted designs. Filled with the very best seven jeweled American movement on the market, stem wind and stem set, accurate to the second and absolutely guaranteed to keep perfect time for 20 YEARS. Positively the greatest bargain on the face of the earth.

SEEING IS BELIEVING. Cut this out to us with your name, post office and express office address and we will send the watch to your express office for examination. You examine it at your express office and if an represented pay express agent our bargain sale price \$3.50 and express charges and it is yours. Be sure to mention in your letter when ordering whether you want a Ladies' Watch or a Gentleman's Watch, we have it in both sizes, and order to-day as this will not appear again. Address

R. E. CHALMERS & CO., 866 Dearborn St., CHICAGO

SOUTH DAKOTA The Land of Plenty

Rich soil, a mild climate, and abundance of water have made South Dakota one of the best agricultural states in the Union.

The soil of Lyman County is unusually rich. It is a black loam with a yellow clay subsoil. The extension through Lyman County recently built by the

Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway

has opened up a part of that state hitherto sparsely settled. Land is now selling at the rate of from \$8 to \$15 an acre, and it is altogether probable that valuations will increase 100 to 200 per cent within a year. South Dakota offers great opportunities for the small investor.

A book on South Dakota for two cents postage.

For Free Books and Folders about South Dakota kindly FILL OUT THIS COUPON and Mail To-day to

F. A. NASH, G. W. A., 1524 Farnam Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

NAME.....
 STREET ADDRESS.....
 CITY..... STATE.....
 PROBABLE DESTINATION.....

NEWSPAPER BARGAINS

Every family should have a daily paper. By special arrangement we are able to offer our readers the **Kansas City World**, daily except Sunday and **The Commoner**, both one year for only **\$1.75**

The Thrice-a-Week New York World, almost as good as a daily; regular subscription price \$1.00. Readers of **The Commoner** get both papers one year for the very low price of **\$1.35**

The Twice-a-Week Omaha World Herald. A democratic newspaper. Subscription price \$1.00 per year. A special offer good only for a limited time—**The Commoner** and **The World Herald** both one year for only **\$1.25**

The Nebraska Independent published at Lincoln, by reason of its able fight against railroad domination will be of especial interest to all reformers. **The Commoner** and **The Independent** both one year for **\$1.35**

The Farm and Home Sentinel. Indiana's great farm and home weekly paper and **The Commoner** both one year for **\$1.00**

The Central Farmer. This publication will be valuable to every progressive farmer in the west. **The Commoner** and **The Central Farmer** both one year for **\$1.00**

The Prairie Farmer. A leader among Agricultural Papers. Published weekly at Chicago. **The Commoner** and **The Prairie Farmer** both one year for only **\$1.00**

USE THIS BLANK

THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb. GENTLEMEN:-

Enclosed find \$..... for which send

The Commoner and
Both one year as per your special offer.

Name.....

Address.....

New Subscriber?..... Renewal?.....
PLEASE WRITE NAME AND ADDRESS VERY PLAINLY.