

THE LAND AND GOD.

The Land Shall Not Be Sold Forever. Says Jehovah.

LAND RIGHTS ARE INALIENABLE.

The New Teacher of God's Law Laws Hold of the Throne of Legalized Oppression and Discloses Its False Foundation.

Prof. Geo. D. Herron's Latest Lecture

I wish to begin my lecture by quoting a proposition laid down in Rothe's Theologische Ethik (vol. 2, p. 123)

The land is the essential condition of the normal and moral development of the state, and therefore it is absolutely holy and inalienable. It is here that the real moral spirit of love of the fatherland rests; originally it is the love of one's native land and always remains this natural element, but in its completeness it is wholly interpenetrated with this consciousness of a moral relation. Therefore the true love of the fatherland exists only when a people has already attained to the life of a nation. The merely economic society has nothing of this.

The land problem is at the base of most of the economic problems of today, and is itself the greatest of these problems. If we ever have a revolution in this country we may expect it not from the anarchists of the cities, but from the agrarian population. The farmers have it in their power to bring about a revolution, and the causes for complaint are not wanting. The Populist movement is one of the deepest significance and has in it the most serious consequences for the future of the nation. Among the reasons which tend to bring the land question into prominence are the following:

1. The ever increasing speculations in railroads, grain, livestock and other farm products, all of which are made possible by the present system of land ownership. Such speculations are a degradation of the fruits of the land and a robbery of the people. We may evade the truth by political sophistries advanced by a subsidized press, but it is none the less a fact, that the farmers of this country are being compelled to support a huge band of aristocratic thieves, the vilest thieves that ever cumbered the earth. The farmers know it, too, and are coming more and more to realize it. They can no longer be deceived, and our danger lies not in exposing the truth but in attempting to suppress and conceal it.

This vast class of men produce nothing, earn nothing, but make a gain out of the fruits of the soil by extortionate taxes levied on the nation. They are immeasurably more a menace to the nation than were the French nobility who oppressed the people in the time of Louis XVI.

2. Gambling in the land itself, which is the worst of all forms of gambling. Land speculation is speculation on the life of God; land extortion is the most substantial form of high treason to society. In a certain city there is a man who has accumulated great wealth by the providence of the Lord, as he is fond of intimating to his fellow church members. He is the paragon saint of several towns and colleges, and is universally regarded as a man of great benevolence. In his own mind he is perfectly justified in the methods by which he has gained his great wealth, which are these. He is continually on the look out for indications as to the direction in which some city is growing; he notes particularly the establishment of some new factory around which the workmen are likely to build up homes. In such a neighborhood he buys up a greater or less section of land and simply holds it without the slightest improvement. The workmen build up about him, his land steadily increases in value, and finally he sells it at an enormous profit. Society has worked and earned this increase on the value of the land, and this man steals the profits. I am not saying that he is personally guilty of deliberate theft; our land system allows this sort of speculation; but even under the present system he cannot be entirely excused. As a Christian man he had no business not to know that by such speculations he was robbing God; and that even as an honest man, to say nothing of his Christianity, it was his duty to remunerate society for its work which had turned to his advantage.

The land is a part of the bounty of God to the people; such a thing as the private ownership of land has not even the sanction of history, until the era of modern individualism. Few of us realize how recent a thing our conception of private rights is. Philosophers have always seen that the freedom of a nation depends on the inalienability of the land from the people. You have heard a quotation from Rothe. Elisha Mulford says:

As the land is in the possession of the people it cannot be held as the patrimony of a prince or the monopoly of a class. The land belongs to the people constituted as a nation, and the right in it is in its moral order. The exclusive possession and entail of the whole domain by a few may prevent this object and subvert the moral order, as it destroys, for instance, the life of the family. In England there are those which are called great families, but as their homes are swept away the family life of the people is destroyed. One-half of the land is owned by one hundred and fifty proprietors and the whole

number of proprietors is reduced to thirty thousand, while the majority of the people subsist on wages.

'The yeomanry,' says Mr. Disraeli, 'has vanished from the face of the land while the tendency of business has been to introduce a condition to consist only of wealth and toil'. Since the land is necessary to the historic development of the people in the continuity of the nation, the nation has supreme authority over it. It is in its integral character the domain of the people. Within its limits, therefore, the people can allow no possession exempt from its control, and no individual beyond its law. The Nation Chapter 5, pp. 67 and 70.

Another phase of the land question concerns the natural monopolies; coal fields, mines, oil wells, &c., which should be the property of the whole nation. It is not by any ground in justice that three men control all the Northern Wisconsin iron range. There is no plea for such a state of affairs except that might makes right. The government has been false to the people in letting it pass from their hands into that of their oppressors. The method of reasoning which would bestow these gifts of God upon the cunning few would give the world to the devil.

4 Railroad subsidies. The nation has sold its birthright for a mess of pottage in the shape of premature development of its natural advantages. With a reckless prodigality it has built up the corporations which now so largely control it and so often defy it. The Northern Pacific Railroad would have been enormously profitable had there never a train been run on it, simply on account of the government grants of land. This wasteful policy will be found in the long run rather to have hindered than to advance civilization.

5. Though the government has given away so much of its land there still remains a vast domain in certain regions of the so-called "desert land" which under irrigation is proving the richest of our land. It is said that there are 450,000,000 acres of this land, and it could be made to support thousands of families. But if it falls into the hands of corporations, as it has been doing lately, there will simply be a repetition of the old robberies. Here is a chance for our government to keep some of its land for the good of the people. Is it going to miss it?

6. The problem of municipal franchises which will come up for discussion later involves some phases of the land question. Perkins county. "Enclosed please find our answer for study for Feb. and March. We had a good crowd out and the questions were very interesting and created quite a lively debate. Does question No. II mean a non-resident of the land? If so we would limit a citizen and non-resident to one-half section of land." C. F. K.

Furnas county has a new Alliance, No. 2320. State Lecturer J. H. Powers had a good meeting at Blaine Center Adams county, and a large and enthusiastic audience at Nelson, Nuckolls county.

Nemaha county. "Please send plans and instructions for organizing Alliance co-operative store. Please send me the name of some corporations that are now in successful operation." C. A. [Answer. I forward you the articles of Incorporation and by-laws of the Oak Business Association, now in successful operation at Oak, Nuckolls county, Neb. There is another one that has been in successful operation at Litchfield, Sherman county, for about four years.—Ed.] Binding twine. We have received an offer of binding twine that we believe will prove a great benefit to our members. Sub-Alliance or county Alliance secretaries who are interested please correspond with the state secretary about it.

Polk county. "Have the executive committee prepared a new Manual, or will the old one be used the coming year?" A. F. J. The old Manual is still used and we hope to receive answer to each question from every sub-Alliance in the State. By keeping a file of the answers we can easily tell the position of the Alliance on each question.

Dawson county. Walnut Grove Alliance No. 1181 is reorganized.

Attention Fifth District Populists. HASTINGS, Neb., April 30, 1894. Editor WEALTH MAKERS: There will be a meeting of the People's Party Central Committee, of the Fifth Congressional district of Nebraska at Holdrege on Wednesday, June 6th, at 8 o'clock, p. m. for the purpose of naming a place and date for holding a congressional convention, and fixing a basis of representation for the same.

It is earnestly desired that each county be represented by its committee-man. But if impossible for you to be present, please delegate your powers to some reliable Populist of your county; that your county may be represented at the meeting.

FRANCIS PHILLIPS, Ch'mn. Com. H. B. MCGAW, Sec'y.

CUT OUT THIS WORLD'S FAIR COUPON

Those of our readers who improved the opportunity of attending the

will always remember it as one of the grandest privileges of their lives.

The Peristyle. The Court of Honor. The Golden Statue of the Republic. Administration's Beautiful Temple. The Colossal Manufacturers Building. Transportation's Golden Doorway. "Midway's" Wealth of Orientalism.

WHO CAN EVER FORGET THEM? Or who can ever forget the proud distinction achieved by McCormick Binders and Mowers? Who can ever forget that the McCormick received the highest awards given for any make of Binders and Mowers, and that in the regular field trials they earned the only honorable mention for grain and grass cutting machinery?

Write to the McCormick Harvesting Machine Co., Chicago; or, better yet, call on your nearest McCormick Agent.

Write for prices and terms to R. BINFORD, Agent, LINCOLN, NEB.

THE WEALTH MAKERS ALLIANCE DEPARTMENT. BY MRS. J. T. KELLIE, SKY.

Perkins county. "Enclosed please find our answer for study for Feb. and March. We had a good crowd out and the questions were very interesting and created quite a lively debate. Does question No. II mean a non-resident of the land? If so we would limit a citizen and non-resident to one-half section of land." C. F. K.

Furnas county has a new Alliance, No. 2320. State Lecturer J. H. Powers had a good meeting at Blaine Center Adams county, and a large and enthusiastic audience at Nelson, Nuckolls county.

Nemaha county. "Please send plans and instructions for organizing Alliance co-operative store. Please send me the name of some corporations that are now in successful operation." C. A. [Answer. I forward you the articles of Incorporation and by-laws of the Oak Business Association, now in successful operation at Oak, Nuckolls county, Neb. There is another one that has been in successful operation at Litchfield, Sherman county, for about four years.—Ed.]

Binding twine. We have received an offer of binding twine that we believe will prove a great benefit to our members. Sub-Alliance or county Alliance secretaries who are interested please correspond with the state secretary about it.

Polk county. "Have the executive committee prepared a new Manual, or will the old one be used the coming year?" A. F. J. The old Manual is still used and we hope to receive answer to each question from every sub-Alliance in the State. By keeping a file of the answers we can easily tell the position of the Alliance on each question.

Dawson county. Walnut Grove Alliance No. 1181 is reorganized.

Attention Fifth District Populists. HASTINGS, Neb., April 30, 1894. Editor WEALTH MAKERS: There will be a meeting of the People's Party Central Committee, of the Fifth Congressional district of Nebraska at Holdrege on Wednesday, June 6th, at 8 o'clock, p. m. for the purpose of naming a place and date for holding a congressional convention, and fixing a basis of representation for the same.

It is earnestly desired that each county be represented by its committee-man. But if impossible for you to be present, please delegate your powers to some reliable Populist of your county; that your county may be represented at the meeting.

FRANCIS PHILLIPS, Ch'mn. Com. H. B. MCGAW, Sec'y.

The State Executive Committee of the Farmers' Alliance at its recent meeting wished attention called again to the resolution passed at Hastings in January last, the resolutions commending all the farmers' mutual insurance companies of the state, but specially endorsing none. In the condensed report we were compelled to give this action was accidentally overlooked and omitted.—EDITOR WEALTH MAKERS.

We desire to call the attention of our readers to our special offer to all subscribers. Any person has a chance to select a book from our list of reform literature, free.

Pasture Notice. I have one-half section twelve miles north of Lincoln and three miles west of Davoy, will take cattle at \$3.00 and horses at \$4.00 for the season. L. T. PALMER.

SAVE THIS COUPON. It contains some things you ought to know. You ought to know that the World's Fair Management asked all manufacturers of Binders and Mowers to take their machines into the grain and grass fields, and by their work prove their claims. You ought to know that the manufacturers of McCormick Binders and Mowers promptly notified the World's Fair Committee that they would comply with this reasonable request. You ought to know that various other manufacturers of Binders and Mowers sent representatives to examine the grain and grass fields specified, and that these representatives reported to their respective companies that the condition of the crops to be cut was such that ordinary machines could not handle them. You ought to know that none of those manufacturers allowed their machines to go into those tests where they knew the McCormick Binders and Mowers would be at work. You ought to know that the World's Fair Judges said of McCormick Binders and Mowers that they were simple and easily operated, and that their performance was in all respects thoroughly satisfactory. You ought to know that they said of McCormick Mowers that their draft is at least 20 lbs. lighter than the draft of ordinary mowers. You ought to know these things because you don't want to make a mistake when it comes to buying so important a farm implement as a Binder or a Mower. You want the best.

SEEDS J. G. PEPPARD, 1400-1402 UNION AV., KANSAS CITY, MO.

BROWNING, KING & CO.,

“Kelly and His Company”

Are attracting considerable attention these times. The two companies are alike in that they both have sympathy for the "unemployed" and are doing what they can to help them.

Browning, King & Co. are especially self-sacrificing, and are offering—

Boys' two-piece suits at \$2.00
Boys' " " " " 3.50
Boys' combination suit with extra pair of pants and cap to match at 5.00
Kilt Suits for little boys 2 1-2 to 5 years at \$4.00.

People must wear clothes—the law compels them to—whether they are employed or "unemployed" and this offer extends to both classes.

Goods sent C. O. D. subject to examination. Send us an order, giving size, style and color desired and we will send you goods that will please you.

ALSO FURNISHING GOODS IN ALL GRADES. Your money's worth or your money back.

BROWNING, KING & CO., 1013 & 1019 O St., Lincoln, Neb.

FOR LOW PRICES CALL ON

Burks, Cadman & Co., 243 & 245 North 10th, Cor. 10th & Q St., Lincoln, Neb.

IF YOU WANT A Buggy, Farm or Spring Wagon

Come and get our prices. If you want a Plow, either riding or walking, we have the best at the lowest price.

JOHNSON Disk Cultivators away down. Have you seen the Famous Ohio Riding Cultivator? Over 65,000 in use. Pattee Tongueless Cultivators are all O. K. and so is the price.

BROWN CORN PLANTERS

Brown's Combined Steel Frame Adjustable Planters are the stuff. We have also in connection a full stock of Hardware and Garden Tools which we will sell at reduced prices. Do not forget we have a full stock of Harness. Prices as low as \$5.75.

J. E. BARBER & CO., (With Burks, Cadman & Co.) 239 & 241 North 10th, Cor. 10th & Q Sts.

Table with 3 columns: Product, Price, and Weight/Quantity. Includes items like Sack of good flour, Sack of Patent flour, 3 gallon pail of syrup, etc.

Look to us when you want genuine Georgia Bank Codfish, Pollock, Herring, White fish or Mackerel.

BURKS, CADMAN & CO., 10th & Q Sts. J. E. BARBER & CO., Nos 239-241 243 & 245 N 10th St., 10th & Q Sts.

TINGLEY & BURKETT, Attorneys-at-Law, 1026 O St., Lincoln, Neb.

COLLECTIONS MADE AND MONEY REMITTED SAME DAY AS COLLECTED.

WOOL DOES WOOL GROWING PAY? That depends upon how you sell your Wool. If you ship it direct to market and to the right house, it does pay. It is no experiment, our shippers testify to it unanimously. We will not only obtain the highest market price for your Wool, if you ship us, but we will send you quick returns. We are revolutionizing the Wool trade by our Prompt Sales and Quick Returns. We have done what the Wool trade said was impossible. Instead of taking six to twelve months to make returns for Wool, as most houses do, we make returns in that many days, and our shippers back us up in this statement. Write for Prices on Wool and see the testimonials of our shippers. We are not an exclusive Wool house, but handle Hay, Grain and Produce of all kinds.

SUMMERS, MORRISON & CO., Commission Merchants, 174 So. Water Street, Chicago.

WOOL COMMISSION FOR 28 YEARS WE HAVE SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCTED A WOOL BUSINESS and have maintained confidence and successful relations with wool growers and the trade. Our responsibility is vouchsafed by Chicago banks and mercantile houses. Established 1866. SILBERMAN BROS., 213-214 Michigan Street, Chicago, Illinois.