

WEALTH MAKERS



IN THE SWEAT OF THY FACE THOU EAT BREAD IF ANY WILL NOT WORK NEITHER LET HIM EAT

SO MOVES THE WORLD.

"We sleep and wake and sleep, but all things move; The sun flies forward to his brother Sun; The dark Earth follows, wheeled in her ellipse; And human things, retaining on themselves, Move onward, leading up the golden year."

The Argentine Republic is taking away our foreign market for wheat.

Mrs. Augusta L. Tabor of Denver is dead and leaves property worth \$1,500,000.

There is a big brewery lobby in Washington working against raising the tax on beer.

The Plate Glass Trust is being organized on a capital basis of \$10,000,000 stock.

A big strike of Pennsylvania coal miners is reported imminent. It is to resist a reduction in wages.

The great Pillsbury-Washburn flouring mills of Minneapolis have decided to reduce the wages of all their employees.

Col. Benjamin Ayerzigg of Passaic, N. J., died Feb. 5, aged 91. He leaves real estate in New York City and other property worth several millions.

A labor arbitration bill has finally been agreed upon in the house committee. Chairman McGann of the committee and Carroll D. Wright approve the bill.

The shoemakers of New England, hitherto divided into several organizations, cutters, lasters and others, are agitating the subject of one organization to include all. So moves the world.

Alexander Steele of Chicago, rich, died last week. His pug dog missed his usual feed at night of one pound of candy, and howled dismally. The dog's regular candy rations have cost about \$1,500.

The Diamond Match trust held their annual meeting February 6 and divided among the stockholders \$1,000,000 surplus in the shape of new stock. The capital stock will thus be raised to \$11,000,000.

The Santa Fe train No. 1, going out of Hutchinson, Kansas, at 10:15 Tuesday night of last week, was held up by bandits, and the robbers forced the passengers to disgorge all cash and valuables they had with them.

The Manufacturers' Club of Philadelphia has approved the plan for the reformation of a national association of manufacturers decided on at a convention recently held in Cincinnati. Organize, cooperate, or be slaves.

Henry W. Blair's successor in Congress, Hon. Cyrus A. Sullivan of New Hampshire, is in favor of silver. He is the only man in Congress from New England who has taken a stand against the prevailing gold basis creed of the east.

Congressman Carminetti of California has introduced a bill to restrict railway privileges and compel the forfeiture of all unpatented lands of land grants to railways whose bonds have not been redeemed, the Pacific roads and others.

The bread business is controlled by the United States Bakers' Trust. It is therefore respectfully suggested that the Lord's Prayer, in its petition for daily bread, be amended to address the Bakers' Trust, instead of the once-worshiped Almighty Father.

Fifty bodies have been taken from a mine in France in which was an explosion of fire-damp. This makes nearly 200 who have been killed in this same mine. They died to make dividends for the men who owned the mines, and their families will receive no pensions.

Judge Dundy has advertised that he will sell, at Sioux City, May 1st, the Sioux City, O'Neill & Western Railway company. The federal court order for the sale was made December 7, 1894, and is done on suit of the Manhattan Trust company of New York city.

The Chicago Times is authority for Attorney General Olney's remark to a western senator: "I'll break up every labor union in the country with the anti-trust law before we're through, for I will make every strike the basis for locking up every man who consents or is concerned in it before it is begun."

At a private meeting of representatives of the Scotch oil companies in London, February 5, the agreement recently arrived at with the Standard Oil company, by which the price of solid paraffin was increased 1 farthing a pound was ratified. It was further agreed to adjust prices so as to curtail production.

Great destitution is reported among Kansas and Oklahoma farmers. A letter to a local minister from a reputable citizen at Blackburn, Oklahoma says: "Go where you will throughout this entire section, you will find men, women and children shivering and starving—no clothes, no food, no light, no hope."

The volume of domestic business compared with the trade we have with other countries is as 120 to 1. We sell, in round numbers, \$900,000,000 abroad in a year, and \$120,000,000,000 at home. Yet the politicians have kept the American people fighting each other over the tariff as the all-important question the most of the time since we became a nation.

A big pine lumber trust has just been organized by the lumbermen of Georgia and Alabama. Arkansas and Louisiana lumbermen are already organized and next week Mississippi will also join. A company will allot to each mill the

amount of work it is to do and see that there is no cutting of rates by any of the members.

Three hundred alien diamond cutters brought over from Holland after the duty on cut stones was raised, are reported about to strike for higher wages.

Gen. Booth of the Salvation Army has decided to locate his over-sea colony in Manitoba instead of Australia. He is thus trying to save the "submerged tenth."

It is announced that John D. Rockefeller is intending to give money to Roman Catholic charities. Not a bad stroke of business if he can do it and escape Protestant criticism.

The 150,000 machines used in this country making shoes, have displaced 2,250,000 hand workmen, or run steadily they can do the work of that number of hand workmen.

The fire losses during the panic year showed an increase of \$20,000,000 above the normal rate, and an expert says this "is not unusual nor unexpected." Yes, it is easy to see why.

Ex-Senator Warren of Wyoming owns a ranch in that state containing 7,500 square miles. It is exactly six times the size of the state of Rhode Island, and is almost the area of Massachusetts.

The Australian colonies are considering the passing of a law providing a graded land tax which will compel absentee landlords to pay 20 per cent higher rates than resident owners.

A Milan, Ohio, bank was robbed by safe-crackers Feb. 7, and \$30,000 in currency, besides a large lot of Nickel Plate bonds, 4 per cent registered United States bonds and electric bonds, were gotten away with.

The latest invention of note is one which transmits the pen as well as the voice, by the electric current. A person who is writing in London has his writing instantaneously reproduced in Paris, all the chirographical characteristics being preserved perfectly.

There are 34,000 retail stores in Chicago. The great department stores are, however, absorbing the retail business of the city. Just now an agitation is made against the department stores, but it can avail nothing. The big stores economize labor, and will therefore in time gather the principal part of the retail business.

John D. Rockefeller one year ago bought nearly all the stock and bonds of the Duluth, Messabe & Northern railroad and on his bonds and stock has been realizing 8 and 10 per cent on his investment, besides a clear surplus of \$200,000 remaining undivided.

A gas well has just been struck near Blufftown, Ohio, that is estimated to be good for 3,000,000 feet. The pressure was so strong that it blew the casing out of the hole and the roar of the well can be heard many miles. The government should take the expense of sinking holes to the natural gas reservoirs and provide gas to the people at cost.

Rev. J. C. Reid, a Baptist minister in Portland, Ore., robbed a bank in East Portland, at the point of a revolver, but was covered by the gun of a rescuer and arrested before getting away. He claimed that he had nothing to conceal, that destitution and desperation drove him to the crime. He had a wife and two children.

A family consisting of father and three children were found almost famished and nearly frozen in the basement of a tenement in New York, last Friday. The only furniture in the dingy cheerless house was a mattress, a table and a stove without a fire. They had no bedding even and hardly enough clothes to cover their nakedness. A few blocks away a man froze to death.

A mass meeting of Brooklyn citizens called to protest against the action of the police authorities Monday in denying the strikers the right of assembling at the City Hall, was itself broken up by the police at the Athenaeum. The speakers who were to address the meeting were Henry George, Rev. Mr. Cardwaine of Pullman, Ill., Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott and Congressman Tom L. Johnson.

The Chicago News says: "Sentiment favoring municipal control of natural monopolies is expanding in all parts of the country and among all classes of people. The national board of trade, which is now in session in Washington, has for recommendation among other things government ownership of railroads, telegraph, and like things of great magnitude, showing that the sentiment in question is not confined solely to the non-capitalistic classes.

"The fourth death from outright starvation occurred in Washington, D. C., a few days ago," writes Mrs. Diggs. "Jas. Scott, a sober, honest man who had spent the winter seeking work, fell fainting and died at the door of the police station he was going to beg to be taken in for shelter from the cold. The dead man's hollow cheeks, sunken eyes and emaciated frame told the story of the slow torture which took him to where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest." The Washington papers report an "Alarming number of skilled workmen out of work in the city and that for lack of funds the Charity Union must shut its doors to the poor. Think of it, people starving (because out of work) right under the shadow of the great building where the nation's laws are made and justice is supposed to hold her seat!

THE ECONOMIC SITUATION

Of the Farmer in the Existing Industrial Organization

[Address of Prof. William A. Jones of Hastings before the annual meeting of the Nebraska Farmers Alliance at Kearney, January, 1895.]

The farmers stand for a class in an organized industrial system, the purpose of which is the production and, it may be assumed theoretically only, the equitable distribution of wealth—or economic goods.

The parts of this system are mining, manufacturing, agriculture and commerce. This division of the industrial system is based on the nature of the productive processes. Collateral to these processes are many other forms of industrial activity; as those of artisans, shop-keepers, professional men and laborers.

The vast majority of the people of all civilized nations is engaged in and identified with some form of these industries. All ought to be. For, on the highest authority, "He who will not work; neither shall he eat." The various forms of industry are organically related, and the economic goods—wealth—produced by the industrial organization are social products. Take the farmer's plow—no one man can say, "I made this." It is not an individual, but a social product.

Begin at the iron mine, follow the excavating of the ore, the smelting and running into pigs, the transporting to another plant where the pigs are melted, cast into bars, annealed and rolled into bars and sheets, converted into steel, again transported to a plow factory and formed into mould boards and other parts. Then follow the wood from the forest to its present form and placed in plow, and it will be seen that all these processes require the services of a completely organized industrial society.

The production of the plow directly or indirectly involved the labor, mental and physical, of every useful class of persons in the organized industrial society. The plow is a social product.

So everything today which enters into consumption—food, clothing and shelter—all the comforts and luxuries of life—are social products.

All production is socialized production. The labor of millions of men utilizing the achievements and gains of other millions of men of past generations are supplying our wants and furnishing us with the daily comforts and luxuries of life.

The founding of great states here, in what was once "the great American desert," is an achievement of industrial conditions which have culminated in the last half of the present century. The question which confronts us today is whether, with all this inherited and acquired industrial power, we shall be able to "hold the fort" much longer.

The economically weak have already fled from the state, by the hundreds, and other hundreds feel their wings starting. However, the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union proposes to stay to the end of the struggle.

While production is socialized, distribution is still individualized, as will appear. Herein lies an antagonism. Enough wealth—economic goods—are produced yearly to supply amply the necessities, comforts and many of the luxuries of life to every industrious and deserving citizen of the republic, if the mode of distribution were socialized to correspond with the mode of socialized production—in other words, if equitably distributed. In the distribution of the social wealth the share which falls to the farmers as a class is inequitable, and insufficient to enable them to maintain their position in the industrial system as a body of independent laborers—as a yeomanry. The antagonism which arises from the inequitable distribution of the social wealth as it affects the class of farmers I hope to make clear.

No intelligent explanation of the mode of wealth distribution can be given or understood without first pointing out the factor of distribution. The production of wealth must precede its distribution. The factors of production are at the same time factors of distribution. We need then first to examine the factors of production. They, according to orthodox economy, are land, labor and capital.

The thought of the economist includes all natural means of production in the term land. It includes not only the soil we till, but the mines, the forests, the fisheries, the power and forces of nature—or the planet as it came to the hands of man, or, as man came to the use of it. Labor is the exertion of the brain, nerve and muscle of a human being in the production of an economic good,—some form of wealth.

Capital is a portion of wealth set apart to aid in the production of more wealth. It is embodied labor.

A little reflection will show any one that land and labor are the primary factors of production. Land alone has no value. It is an utility. Alone it produces no economic goods. Labor alone produces nothing. No wealth—economic goods—can be produced without bringing land and labor together. Separate the two factors, land and labor, or land and the laborers

(Continued on 3rd page.)

NEBRASKA LAWMAKERS

Quarrelling, Whitewashing and Junketing Fills the Time.

THE UNIVERSITY APPROPRIATION KILLED

Oleo Must be Labeled and Uncolored—The Senate Still Tramples on the Law—Parson Ludden's Trials—Stewart After Him

Hilton a Law to Himself

The work done by the legislature during the past week has not been at all stupendous. Most of the time has been spent in settling various quarrels among the Republicans. This and whitewashing and preparing to go on junketing trips and keeping more employees in the senate than the law allows and acting on a number of bills that don't interest anybody much except the lawyers, these cover about all the week's misdeeds.

KILLING THE UNIVERSITY APPROPRIATION.

The bill to make a half mill additional levy for the benefit of the state university was killed in the house by a very close vote. The proposed appropriation would amount to about \$60,000. There is a similar bill in the senate, which the friends of the university declare they will push, but it will probably meet a similar fate.

OLEO MUST BE LABELED.

A bill passed the senate compelling all hotel keepers, proprietors of eating houses, etc., who use oleomargarine or butterine, to advertise the fact to the world. The vote in favor of the bill was almost unanimous. It will unquestionably pass both houses and become a law. The only people fighting it are the stock yards people of South Omaha.

SENATE WILL KEEP ITS EMPLOYER.

The senate had another fight over its extra employes last week. The result was that it still continues to defy the law and to loot the state treasury in order to furnish soft snags for thirty-three unnecessary men. There were seven republicans in the senate who had manhood enough to vote to cut down this number, but the gang who run things were too many for these and the seven Pops, so the ninety-eight employes will stay and will be paid for every day of the session, while many of them will not do a single day's work in the whole time. It might be as well to state right here that the Republican claim that the Populist senate of '93 was just as bad is a lie. That senate had only sixty-eight employes and the law limiting the number to sixty-six was not then in existence.

LUDDEN'S TRIBULATIONS.

The house committee appointed to investigate Rev. Ludden and the relief commission reported this week. Said report was a sort of wishy-washy, namby-pamby affair, which neither approved nor condemned. What it should have done was to have asked Ludden's resignation, but it did not, so the people will have to put up with him and starve and shiver it out as best they may.

Over in the senate Senator Stewart and others roasted Mr. Ludden to the Queen's taste. Stewart is a terror when he gets stirred up. In response to a resolution adopted by the senate, the governor wrote a letter to each member of the relief commission urging that all possible diligence be used in sending out supplies and that each member of the commission stay right at headquarters and assist. It is but justice to say that the work is going forward in better shape the last week or two than before.

JUNKETING TRIPS.

The legislature adjourned from Friday forenoon last to Thursday afternoon, a period of six days. The time was spent by members of the senate and house going on junketing trips to the various state institutions. These trips cost the state \$5 per day per member and expenses. As there were about a dozen from each house who went the cost would be considerable.

Be it said to their credit that not a single Populist or Democrat went on any of these trips. They were all Republicans.

HILTON'S SUBLIME GALL.

An now comes L. P. Hilton, ex-oil inspector, and says that inasmuch as there is no law for inspecting gasoline, he refuses to turn over to the state any of the money collected for that purpose. He further says that he did not inspect the gasoline at all, though he received something like \$5,000 in fees for doing so, thus admitting that he is not only a thief but a swindler as well. The people of the state stand breathless before this man's supply of gall.

It is claimed now that Gov. Crouse appointed Hilton because the latter owed him money.

Gentle reader, Republican politics in this state is a sweet-scented affair.

How do you like it? J. A. E.

Dr. Davis, diseases of teeth and mouth.

Senator Allen's Platform.

EDITOR WEALTH MAKERS: Senator Allen, Populist senator (7) from Nebraska, lately entertained the United States senate by reading a platform containing thirteen planks, and he is reported—in the Nonconformist—as saying to the senate:

"These paragraphs I have read embrace the principles of the Populist party as I understand them to exist."

We take the liberty to call the attention of the honorable senator to the fact that he was elected on the Omaha platform; that he is expected to labor diligently to enact into law the principles of that platform in their entirety.

If it was desirable to bring the principles of the Populist party to the attention of the senate why didn't Senator Allen read the Omaha platform? What right has Senator Allen to assume that any other platform "embraces the principles of the Populist party"?

We call the attention of Senator Allen to the following, taken from the Omaha platform:

FINANCE.

We demand a national currency, safe, sound and flexible; issued by the general government only; a full legal tender for all debts public and private; and that without the use of banking corporations; a just, equitable and efficient means of distribution direct to the people, at a tax not to exceed 2 per cent per annum.

We demand that postal savings banks be established by the government for the safe deposit of the earnings of the people and the facilitation of exchange.

TRANSPORTATION.

Transportation being a means of exchange and a public necessity, the government should own and operate the railroads in the interest of the people.

The telegraph and telephone, like the post office system, being a necessity, for the transmission of news, should be owned and operated by the government in the interest of the people.

The principle of the government ownership of all railroads and their operation at cost price; the principle of government ownership of the telegraph and the telephone; the principle of government loans direct to the people at 2 per cent; the principle of postal savings banks, through which the government may make its loans to the people, are the only principles in the Omaha platform worth making a party fight for. They are the only principles seriously objected to by the railroad, telegraph, banking and other corporations.

When Senator Allen formulates a platform and leaves out the essentials, the very life of the Omaha platform, and undertakes to sidetrack the Populist party on a platform of meaningless generalities—he may not "understand it." But he practically places himself square in line with the corporations that now enslave the people.

The Populist party is a unit in favor of the government ownership of the railroads. More than 50 per cent of the voters of the old parties are in favor of the same. Many business men and the best educators in the land are filling up the ranks of the Populist party because the party demands government and municipal ownership of all the monopolies that are now robbing the people.

For the control of the railroads and other monopolies Senator Allen's platform contains the following:

"5. All corporations must be strictly confined to the legitimate purposes of their creation, and laws must be enacted for the prohibition of trusts and combinations which injuriously affect commerce, labor and industry.

"6. We denounce pooling, stock watering and discrimination in the rate charges of the railroads, telegraph and telephone companies and demand that Congress shall by appropriate legislation effectually correct such abuses."

For years the old parties have periodically regaled the people with similar resolutions in their platforms. The Interstate Commerce and Anti-Trust laws are the embodiment of the old party ideas of controlling trusts and monopolies. The people have had enough of such control. They are tired of trying to control. They are ready for government ownership.

That a Populist senator should fall into the ruts of the old parties on the question of controlling monopolies, and then claim that, as he "understands it," the old party plan is to become the programme of the Populist party, is an insult to the intelligence that has built up the party. But Senator Allen goes one step farther: by inference he reads out of the Populist party all those who do not agree with or subscribe to his platform, and that is adding injury to insult, as the people "understand it."

Shelton, Neb. JOHN STEBBINS.

FUTURE OF FINANCES

London Statist Discusses the President's Recent Message.

PRONOUNCED A SOUND DOCUMENT

Consequences of the Failure of Congress to Act—Results of Free Coinage of Silver and of Gold Demonetization.

LONDON, Feb. 1.—The Statist will say tomorrow: "President Cleveland's message appears to be wise and statesmanlike. As the law stands it is quite clear that a large sum could not be borrowed in Europe, as there is doubt about the president's ability to contract to pay gold. This would be fatal to any projected loan. Money can always be had at a price, but the government of the United States cannot act as if it was bankrupt. Its credit would stand as high as that of any country in the world if congress would only do its duty. If the present congress does not act, it is greatly feared that it will be too late to appeal to the new congress, as before it can be called together a crisis will probably have occurred. It is questioned whether, under the existing conditions, the president can even borrow at home. The banks, in order to avert a panic, may furnish him gold, but even then it is questionable, when a doubt exists respecting payment in gold, if enough gold can be got. In any case, mere borrowing will not avail, as the experience of the past year has shown that sooner or later there must be a contraction of the currency, or there would be a panic."

The Statist proceeds to discuss the consequences in the event, firstly, of gold being demonetized; secondly, no legislation whatever being arrived at; thirdly, the effects of the free coinage of silver. Then the Statist remarks: "If gold is demonetized it is perfectly clear that there will be a great transfer of property from the capitalists and lending classes to the producing and borrowing classes. This would be of immense advantage to the west and south, and would prove a serious loss to the eastern states and to Europe.

RESULT OF A SILVER STANDARD.

"Of course a great country like the United States adopting a silver standard would have great influence on the whole of the world, and silver would undoubtedly rise, but it would be long before it reached 60 pence. The great reduction of debts all over the United States by a fall of silver would give the farming and producing classes generally a sense of freedom and prosperity, which they have not had for many years, and would probably give a great stimulus to production. If silver did not rise much for awhile, American cotton, pork, etc., would compete with the product of other countries at a very great advantage, and there would probably be a very rapid and great growth of exports and the beginning of an era of great prosperity.

"On the other hand the lending and creditor classes would suffer, and their losses would not affect production to anything like the same extent as the gains of the debtors and producers would do. Further, there would be a very serious fall in securities, which would injure capitalists and lenders both in the United States and Europe. If Congress refuses legislation, then gold would go to a premium; but probably not high. The tendency would still be to benefit debtors and producers, and would injure capitalists and lenders, while production and exports would be stimulated, though not to a great extent.

"Thirdly, if the mints were opened for free coinage, which would tend to make the gold premium higher still, the premium would not be very high, and the reduction of the debt and the losses of capitalists would be small compared with the demonetization of gold."

Summing up this review of the financial possibilities, the Statist represents the west and south as being perfectly right in their view that a change of the present system would benefit their sections of the union. "The effect of the change they advocate would be a tendency to transfer property by wholesale from the east and Europe to the west and south. In fact, it would be a form of repudiation, and it would lower the credit of the United States, and prevent the free influx of European capital. In the future, probably European capitalists will always insist upon the gold clause—they will require a clear contract that they will be repaid in gold. In the event of gold demonetization matters will right themselves in the long run, but might be very long, and another point is that a great transfer of property would not act uniformly. Debts falling due soon after the change would be immensely reduced, whereas, debts falling due later, when silver has risen, would be less reduced, and if silver reached 60d, there would be no reduction of debts whatever."

Governor Upham has found 200 people in destitute circumstances in the vicinity of Grantsburg, Wis.