

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, returning on themselves, Move onward, leading up the golden year."

Ex-President Harrison is seriously ill. Prof. John Stuart Blackie of Scotland is dead.

Twenty thousand coal miners in the Pittsburgh district are out on a strike.

Indiana legislators indulged in a fist fight on the floor of the legislature, Mar. 7th.

Mrs. Lena Johnson of Minneapolis was arrested and thrown into jail for stealing to keep her four children from starving to death.

Fifty tramps captured a freight train near Baltimore and rode to Wilmington, March 9th, where eleven were arrested, after a fight.

Harry Hayward, the Minneapolis murderer, declared guilty by the jury. He seems to be a specimen of a man without a conscience.

The price of oil has been for some time advancing (for over two months) under the manipulation of the Rockefeller gang of plunderers.

Enormous damage was done in Florida to the orange industry by the frost, and all industries there are crippled in consequence. Farmers will appeal for relief from taxation.

The Standard Oil Trust has secured control of the Chicago Gas Trust. The cost of manufacturing gas is 30 cts. per thousand feet, and the Trust gets \$1.25.

A bill has been introduced into the New York legislature to authorize cities of a certain specified size to provide for municipal ownership of the street railroads.

The sugar bounty bill, appropriating over five millions from other industries to pay sugar producers, got through congress after a hard fight. The three Populists in the senate voted for it.

The city of Toronto, Ontario, has a bill before the legislature to enable it to go into the insurance business. And why not? It is sensible, economic, safe. Cities should insure at cost, as well as with its fire department put out fires.

Charles Davis, 20 years old, sober and willing to work, living with a mother and four brothers and sisters in a New York tenement, had been unable to get employment for six months, and Feb. 26th, shot himself to end the agony of poverty.

"The Rothschilds, the Financial Rulers of Europe" is the title of a book which claims that they have emissaries in every nation's every cabinet. But why call them simply the rulers of Europe, when the United States, and the whole world, for that matter, is in their hand?

Sir William Harcourt, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the Parliament debate over the proposed Money Conference said he believed England should adhere to its historic policy of the gold standard, and he had little hope of an International Conference accomplishing anything.

Mrs. Annie Pensal of 111 West 15th, street New York killed her six months old baby Feb. 9, and was about to kill her four other children when prevented by the police. She was crazed from hunger and cold. Her husband had been out of work for some time and had not been seen for several days.

Nikola Tesla expects to perfect inventions that will produce electric lights without the device being electrically connected with anything, and other means of transmitting messages through the earth, from ships at any distance on the ocean to cities they may wish to communicate with. He is said to be actually solving the problem of economizing one-third of the 99 per cent of electric energy which is now lost.

According to both Sauerbeck and the London "Economist," general prices fell seven and a half per cent last year. The result is that the profits of the entire year for tens of thousands of merchants in England and on the Continent were wiped out by the fall in value of their stock. A great many were forced into bankruptcy. But this fall of prices adds about \$600,000,000 to the value of the debts owed England by the rest of the world.

A plasterer named Taylor, living at Lower Footing, near London, Ill., cut the throats of his wife and six children and then took his own life, March 7. All eight are dead except one child, which is at the point of death. Taylor was a sober steady workman, but had been thrown out of work by stagnation in building operations. "It is evident that he determined to kill them and then himself in order to save them from slowly starving to death," says the associated press dispatch.

Delaware is in the clutch of the gas millionaire, Addicks. He is said to have spent \$70,000 to secure the election of six members of the legislature. It takes but sixteen votes to elect a U. S. senator; and Addicks controls 13. But the other three he cannot get, and neither can they agree on any one else. There are nineteen Republicans and eleven Democrats in the legislature. Addicks says if he is not elected he will allow no one else to be. The two old parties there have intense hatred of each other.

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.]

(CONCLUDED FROM LAST WEEK.)

International free trade means not the abolition of taxes on imports, but so laying them as to preserve the regulation principle of competition.

Now let the American importer buy a yard of English cloth at a cost of \$1 at the port of entry. Our government fines the importer twenty-five cents on each yard. The cost to the importer is then \$1.25. He puts it on the market, leaving off his profits, at \$1.27. The American manufacturer can put his competing yard of cloth on the same market for \$1. Here is a yard of cloth at \$1, versus a yard of imported cloth at \$1.25.

What happens? Why, our government levies no excise tax on the American manufacturer as *did* the English government in the other case. But our government tells the American manufacturer he may levy the tax on the purchaser and collect it in that way for himself.

The U. S. government gets only twenty-five cents on the imported yard, in case it comes in and *nothing* from the home manufacturer.

This scheme checks, or annuls, foreign competition, so-called, and allows the domestic manufacturer to exercise the sovereign power of the state to levy and collect 680 millions to over a billion dollars a year from our people. That was under the McKinley bill. The people paid this sum above what they would have paid under a tariff so laid as to preserve competition, the inherent law of the system founded on private property and personal liberty. The real object, as proved by the effects of this destruction of effective competition both domestic and foreign, in the industries protected, is to secure and assure rent, interest and profit—surplus value. This surplus value amounting to hundreds of millions a year is taken indirectly, by force of law, to enrich those who are engaged in the industries protected, and at the expense of the masses in general, but more particularly the farmers who produce staple farm products, as will appear. Still the majority of the class farmers have been steadily voting to establish this system and to uphold it, for the last thirty years. In many farmers' families it has become hereditary—to vote for "protection."

We are now in a position to follow the fortunes of the farmer in the game of production and distribution of wealth.

The farmer too desires rent, interest and profit. Assuming the case in which a farmer owns his land, stock, implements and buildings, which are capital, free of debt, and he owns his own labor power. Consider the family as the producing unit—they are the factor labor. Thus the farmer in the case supposed owns and represents the three factors of production. Such an one is an independent laborer—a yeoman. I say he desires rent, interest and profit, and has the same right to them as the classes described. But he has not been as intelligent in economic and political matters as the manufacturer. But he's getting a move on him. He is beginning to understand that every important question of political issue is first an economic or social question; and that the solution of a political question can only be found in sound economic and ethical principles. He is beginning to do his own thinking.

A few propositions will make clear the relative economic situation of the farmer.

First. Every farmer in the United States who produces staple farm products—as wheat, cotton, etc.—to a competitor with every other farmer who produces like products.

Second. Staple farm products are produced in the United States in excess of domestic competition. One-fourth to one-third of the national output must be and is disposed of abroad; or it would remain at home to rot, or depress prices below cost of production under home competition.

Third. England is the chief purchaser of our surplus staple farm products. The price she pays in the Liverpool market, open to world wide competition, is not higher than the lowest price for which the Liverpool merchant can buy the same products from any other country of the world.

Therefore the *lowest* price for which any country will sell staple farm products, becomes the *highest* price for which the American surplus can be sold.

Fourth. The price of the surplus sold abroad fixes the price of two-thirds or three-fourths of the staple crops consumed at home.

It fixes the price of the part left at home at every farm and plantation in the United States though it may be consumed within twenty rods of the ground on which it was raised.

The price at the farm is the Liverpool

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UNITED WE STAND

The N. E. P. A. Committee Confers With Our Official Leaders and Reports.

NO ABANDONMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The Omaha Platform, Opposing All Monopolies, Our Chart and Compass. Some Honest Differences, but Room For All.

All Will March in Solid Phalanx.

To the National Reform Press Association, Brethren:

Your committee appointed at our recent meeting at Kansas City to visit Washington for the purpose of conferring with our party congressmen, officials and friends upon the political situation and outlook, has performed the mission assigned us, and it is gratifying to state that in the conference we held with our members in both houses of congress we were met in a spirit of the utmost cordiality, and as anticipated were given un-mistakable assurances on every hand that the associated press had for a purpose misrepresented the position of our leaders.

Evidence of the most convincing character is daily exhibited of the general disintegration of both the old parties, and of a re-alignment of political forces. The Democratic party is demoralized and disrupted, and their allies, the Republicans, are at sea, unable to determine what this wonderful upheaval of public sentiment will bring forth. Amid all the uncertainty which beclouds the political horizon of the old parties, the Populist party, harmonious in rank and file, free from jealousies and schisms among its leaders, united in its aims and purposes, invoking the aid of the God of our fathers, undauntedly confronts the enemies of the people and is marching in solid phalanx, boldly and resolutely, to meet the impending conflict. Manifestly the purpose of our adversaries in publishing throughout the country the statement, that the Populist leaders at the national capitol were contemplating an abandonment of the demands made in the second Declaration of Independence promulgated at Omaha, July 4th, 1892, is one of their old threadbare schemes to sow seeds of discord. Though these publications of the great Democratic and Republican journals under flaming headlines, were prima facie evidence of their falsity, yet in wise consideration, the National Reform Press Association deemed it advisable that representatives of that body should meet face to face our friends at the capitol, counsel with them, and, as far as possible, correct the false impressions made by venal partisans, and give our readers a true statement of existing conditions.

Your committee being in full sympathy and accord with the constituents of our National Reform Press, that has ever kept in touch with the masses, and after having rubbed up against the practical issues of the day, are extremely gratified to be able to report that Populists in congress, Populists of the Reform Press, and the vast army of Populists throughout the country, have the common aims and purposes—the relief of the people from the despotism of plutocracy, which we agree can be secured by using the same chart and compass, viz: "The Omaha Platform." Attesting this statement your committee submit the following papers:

We the undersigned members of Congress desire to say to the Committee of the Reform Press, that we do not regard the address of February 14th, 1895, issued by us as in any way antagonistic to the Omaha platform, which must govern the party, until it is changed or amended by the only proper authority—the party in delegate convention assembled.

Hence there can be no conflict in our views.

(Signed.) WM. BAKER, W. A. HARRIS, JOHN DAVIS, WM. V. ALLEN, W. A. MCKEIGHAN, JERRY SIMPSON, T. J. HUDSON, H. E. BOEN, JAS. H. KYLE, LAFF PENCE, O. M. KEM.

We have always held, and still hold, that the National Committee, nor any other body outside of a national convention, has any right to, or can, revise the Omaha platform; but circumstances have developed conditions that make it indispensable for the good of the party, that

the money question be made the paramount issue. February 28th, 1895. (Signed.) H. E. TAUBENECK, J. H. TURNER.

Before concluding this report it is due the gallant band of Populist representatives in congress, to say that no righteous cause ever drew to its support more unselfish adherents, no people struggling under oppression ever boasted of more earnest advocates and no period in national history ever inspired a loftier patriotism.

Regarding the chairman and secretary of the national committee we desire to say that they enjoy the confidence of our congressional delegation, who have had the best opportunities to judge the motives and conduct of these gentlemen, in the highest degree, and the encomiums passed upon their work by several members are recognized by your committee as eminently just and deserving.

Respectfully submitted, J. HUGH McDOWELL, FRANK BURKETT, HARRY TRACY.

CIRCULAR NUMBER ONE

Industrial Legion or People's Party Organization at Work

OMAHA, Neb., 1895.

The National Industrial Legion at its annual meeting, held with Reform Press Association, at Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 22, 1895, elected the following officers for two years:

Paul VanDervoort, Commander, Omaha, Neb.
Frank Burkett, Vice Commander, Okolona, Miss.
J. A. Edgerton, Adjutant General, Lincoln, Neb.
Milton Park, Quartermaster General, Dallas, Tex.
W. S. Morgan, Sentinel, Hardy, Ark.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Geo. F. Washburn, Boston, Mass.
Thomas V. Cator, San Francisco, Cal.
John W. Moakler, Denver, Colo.
Rev. J. D. Botkin, Eldorado, Kan.
Arthur Roselle, Tarkio, Mo.
Headquarters will continue at Omaha for the present at 1110 South Thirty-second street, and all mail and applications for charters should be addressed to Paul VanDervoort.

The resolution adopted by the National Committee at St. Louis, Dec. 29, provided that all political organizations should report to the Legion headquarters.

That these organizations could be called Industrial Legions, People's Legions, or People's Party Clubs or Leagues, as seemed to be the best adapted to the locality.

That charter fees should be reduced to 50 cents and each member urged to pay 10 cents per annum to National Headquarters.

That Clubs, Leagues, Alliances, and all farm and labor orders that wish a charter should send names of officers and members at 20 cents for postage and receive charter without change of officers or their titles.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Reform Press Association of Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 22, 1895:

"Whereas, The National Reform Press Association recognizes in General Paul VanDervoort one of the most earnest, efficient and enthusiastic organizers of the Reform forces in the country, and we believe that the comrades associated with him in the work are zealous Populists whose hearts are in this great work; therefore,

"Resolved, That the National Reform Press Association endorse the Industrial Legion, and pledges its hearty co-operation in the movement."

With this endorsement and the fact that the National Committee made the Legion and its Executive Committee has endorsed it three times and the full committee twice, there should be a union of Reform forces all along the line into this compact political organization, and all other plans should be abandoned and discouraged by our press and people.

We have a constituency of five millions to draw from if all in sympathy with our party would come in, as we admit all over 14, of both sexes.

We want one thousand woman's Legions, and I earnestly call on the noble women of our party to write me for instructions. They can raise enough money for 1896, and win thousands of voters to our cause.

We invite all the State, County, City, and Town Committees to recommend live recruiting officers at once.

We will commission no one who will not work. The National Committee has called on these committees five times "to organize the Legion in every voting pre-

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DOINGS AT THE CAPITOL

A Costly Session Which is Accomplishing Comparatively Little

THREE RELIEF BILLS PASSED

Wilson and Abbott Confirmed—Irrigation Bills Give the Moneyed Men a Monopoly—Beet Sugar Bounty

Penitentiary Warden Investigation

This Republican legislature has probably done less, in the same length of time, than any of its predecessors. The house has put in forty-nine days altogether and the senate nearly as many. Only eleven constitutional days yet remain; and yet only a very few bills have been passed, and they with one or two exceptions, have been of a very unimportant character.

The last week has been like most of the weeks that have preceded a great deal talk, a very little business. The appropriation for the drouth sufferers was practically given a black eye, while the bounty for the beet sugar barons went through with flying colors. The governor's nominations were promptly confirmed. Governor signed the oleo bill, suggesting an amendment; it was decided to investigate the penitentiary; the stock yards bill was recommended for passage, etc. Remainder of the work was largely of a routine character.

Following is the report in detail: MONDAY.

SENATE—Banking bill recommended to pass, taking insolvent banks out of the hands of the supreme court and putting them into the hands of the district court. Dr. L. J. Abbott unanimously confirmed for superintendent of the Lincoln asylum. HOUSE—Insurance bills killed. Bill recommended for passage giving to all children free high school education. The \$200,000 relief bill put on final passage. Too many republicans opposed the bill to pass it with the emergency clause. Recommitted to committee of the whole.

TUESDAY.

The governor signed the anti-oleo bill, but sent a message recommending an amendment allowing the manufacture of the article for export to other states.

SENATE—Governor's message considered and bill introduced to comply with it. Irrigation bills passed. Bill favorably considered to have all hangings at the state penitentiary. HOUSE—Three relief bills passed, the \$200,000 bill without the emergency clause. The other two bills allow the use of surplus county and precinct funds for relief purposes. Bill for change of venue in Barrett Scott case passed by a strict party vote. Beet sugar bounty bill passed in the same way. Republicans unanimously favored both bills; populists and democrats opposed them. Anti-cigarette bill passed.

WEDNESDAY.

SENATE—Governor re-nominated Judge J. W. Wilson to be commandant of the Soldiers Home at Grand Island. Promptly confirmed by the senate. Bill extending life of supreme court commission sent to the governor. Communication received from South Dakota legislature concerning boundary line between the two states.

HOUSE—A ruling of the speaker expunged from the records. Landlord's lien bill recommitted. Arbitration bill knocked out. Several minor bills passed.

THURSDAY.

SENATE—Amended oleo bill considered. Placed on general file. Routine business. HOUSE—Bills to change exemption laws knocked out. Routine business all day.

FRIDAY.

SENATE—Decided to investigate penitentiary rumors. Decided also to investigate World's Fair Commissioner Garneau. Sifting committee knocked out. Sentiment favorable to the abolition of capital punishment is developed. Bills to change appointing power of oil inspector and labor commissioner placed on general file.

HOUSE—Bill to regulate charges at South Omaha stock yards considered all day in committee of the whole and finally recommended to pass by an overwhelming majority. Another stock yards bill recommended for passage on close vote.

Both houses adjourned over till Monday.

NOTES.

The action of the Governor in suggesting an amendment to the anti-oleo bill is everywhere commended. As it was, the bill simply wiped out a Nebraska industry. As the governor proposes to amend it, the industry can go on for export and sale in other states.

The senate has come down off its high horse. Notice how promptly it now confirms the governor's appointments.

The liberality with which this republican legislature deals with beet sugar barons and the niggardliness it shows toward the drouth sufferers is everywhere remarked. Beet sugar barons can put up. Drouth sufferers cannot. See? The contemptible way in which the re-

publican house treated the old soldiers continues to haunt and bother that body. It has caused trouble all this week.

There is another penitentiary scandal. Two ex-convicts tell of shocking cruelty and inhumanity practiced by the present prison officials. Committees have been appointed in both houses to investigate the charges.

The president of the state irrigation society is indignant over the irrigation bills that are being passed by this legislature. He says they give a monopoly of the whole irrigation business to a few moneyed men in the eastern part of the state. J. A. EDGERTON.

The Condition in Boyd County.

Mr. Erskine of Boyd county while at Lincoln soliciting aid for that county, received the following letter from Rev. N. H. Blackmer, which graphically describes the destitute condition of the people and the inadequacy of the relief. Mr. Blackmer says:

"The condition of the people is deplorable. They are looking starvation in the face because the state relief is not half enough. Nearly all families have enough clothing, but they are out of money, and there is no credit at stores. Forty-two sacks of flour of fifty pounds each came into this precinct to supply 150 families. And the settlers in the center third of the precinct were allowed one-half sack per family for those who applied. Of course all did not apply. No one knows where or when the next will come from or how much there will be. A week ago some Germans took their children and went about ten miles to a distribution of Am. S. S. Union clothing. They asked for flour, but there were only two or three fifty pound sacks on hand, and they had been distributed. The women saw a man eating a bunch of crackers and begged for some for the children, who, when they received them, ate them like famished dogs. The sight was so pitiful that two Americans gave up their flour to the women.

"In January a Russian German went to Lynch for flour and could not get trusted and could not get any donated. He returned to the store and carried off a sack of flour. The constable was summoned to arrest the man, but when he found the German's children eating the flour through holes they had broken in the sack, his heart revolted and he pulled out a dollar and gave it to the man, with which to settle for the flour. A crowd went to Lynch the other day and forced the M. E. minister to deal out church flour, after he had refused to open up. He was rather pale over it, but more accommodating than usual. The determined men will take the flour as long as there is any, but no one knows how long there will be any; and the timid will suffer and die if relief is not poured in here."

We Must Destroy Interest.

The central idea to be kept in sight in a study of the money question is that the ultimate to be attained is the entire abolition of commercial, or discount interest, called "usury" in the Bible. It is not the *issue*, or material of money, but its *distribution* which is the vital question.

What matters it who issues the money, or how much is issued, if, after having made one round of exchange, it is congested as deposits, in the hands of private bankers who may charge what they please for its use. The better prices caused by an increased volume of money would simply act as a narcotic and put the masses to sleep, while the absorptions of interest continued to be about three times as great as the net earnings of productive enterprises. And why should two millions of voters, most of whom are educated to an understanding of the idiocy of a "metallic standard of value," seriously propose to adopt as campaign slogans the senseless yaws "standard money" and "money of ultimate redemption"? If we wish to make an honest effort to preserve our distinctive party tests, let us rather declare for gold, silver, and paper money; the paper to be absolute and inconvertible; and the elimination of the factor, interest, from our economic and commercial systems. Interest can be destroyed only by the people, as a community, loaning their communal credit (money) to themselves, as individuals, at the cost of carrying on the system. Eyes front, boys, and forward, march!

GEORGE C. WARD.

All parties who may wish to take advantage of our clubbing rates or receive our premiums must pay back subscription to date if in arrears.

The last session of congress just closed was another billion dollar affair, the third of its kind in that respect. Yet the Democrats raised a howl over the first (Republican) congress whose appropriations reach the enormous sum of a thousand millions of dollars.

The anti-lottery bill barely squeezed through congress, being fought hard and by all possible tricks of delay. Gorman and Brice, the Democratic leaders, were the men who got in sharp work against it. The bill makes it a felony to transport lottery matter from state to state, thus striking at the express companies.