

THE WEALTH MAKERS.

New Series of THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT. Consolidation of the Farmers Alliance and Neb. Independent. PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY The Wealth Makers Publishing Company, 1120 N. St., Lincoln, Nebraska.

GEORGE HOWARD GIBSON, Editor. J. H. HYATT, Business Manager.



N. I. P. A.

"If any man must fall for me to rise, Then seek I not to climb. Another's pain I choose not for my good. A golden chain, A robe of honor, is too good a prize To tempt my hasty hand to do a wrong Unto a fellow man. This life hath few Sufficent, wrought by man's satanic foe; And who that hath a heart would dare prolong Or add a sorrow to a strikers' soul? That seeks a healing balm to make it whole? My bosom owns the brotherhood of man."

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DEMOPOPIEM deserves to die. COMPETITION having failed, why not give it up and co-operate?

NEARLY all the Wall Street bankers have taken pains to applaud President Cleveland's letter on the silver question.

The name "demopops" and "demopp" party lost us more votes than Democratic endorsement gave us, and we could not escape the name after accepting the endorsement.

ACCORDING to official figures freight rates in Iowa are only half as high as they are in Nebraska, and the gross and net earnings in Iowa are less per mile than they are in Nebraska.

The Democratic party never endorses another party except for a political consideration—in other words, a recognized exchange of obligations. It would not have endorsed our ticket last fall if certain of our leaders, conferring with the Democratic leaders, had not agreed that the Populists would do for the Democrats "what was right." Do you catch on? A reform party pays four prices for every vote it buys, and loses its character, which is its only strength and life, whenever it allows its leaders to go into combinations.

GOVERNOR MCKINLEY has opened his mouth again to grind out the old tariff tune. In Hartford, Conn., week before last he said: "The present administration has transferred the burden of tax from imported goods of foreigners to the incomes, the investments, and the property of our own people." Still spreading the absurd proposition that by means of a tariff we can compel foreigners to pay our taxes, to support our government. And the discouraging part of it is, that something like half of the people believe it.

Just mark it down friends, that a man who sees all the state and national Populist papers of the country, and tells you that with one exception (the Watchman) they are solidly for the Omaha platform, knows what he is talking about when he tells you we can't be side-tracked on silver. The fellows who think themselves the "practical" politicians of the party read the old party daily papers, talk with their own kind, and fancy they know the sentiment of the Populist party and can run it. But they will get called down if they are not careful.

PROF. HERRON last week spoke in San Francisco on the subject of "The Church and the Workingman" and among other things said:

"There will be a day when history will look back and marvel at the great patience and heroic self-restraint and heroism that is exercised by the vast majority of our laboring men. In Chicago during the strike last summer nobody ever thought of the church and that ought to be said to our everlasting shame. The church ought to have been on the side of the oppressed and against the aggressor."

The daily papers of the east as well as west report it a "sensational address." Well and good. It is high time that the churches of Christendom received a sensation of the most powerful, awakening kind.

THE NEBRASKA BATTLEFIELD

In this time of plot and counter-plot, of scheming and struggling for the control of conventions on the part of the goldbug and silver-bug politicians of the old parties, the Populists should have their eyes open and guard well their platform, their ark of the covenant. The fight, tending to disrupt the old parties, the Democratic party especially, is not ours; but if we stand together, holding firmly to our sensible consistent patriotic opposition to all monopolies, the party-disrupting fight over silver will soon drive a great many voters from the old parties to us. The American Bi-metallic party is a mere threat, a club held over the old parties by the silver leaders to compel one or the other party to place a free coinage plank in its next national platform. The Democratic party will do this, then the American Bi-metallic party will melt out of sight. But in adopting a free silver plank the party will be given its disintegrating, destroying blow. The silver men in the Republican party will remain in that party in all states where the silver sentiment predominates, held together by their leaders, by the spoils of office, and by state platforms that call for free coinage.

The Democratic party will lose without gaining in the west, and in the north-eastern section of the country the Democratic party will be but a name and a memory. The goldbugs will get out of it, and the silverbugs will not in any large numbers go to it. New bottles for new wine. It will find out in one campaign that it takes more than a promise to restore confidence in and morally resurrect an old party. It will make manifest the fact that an old rotten party cannot succeed, acting in the role of a reform party.

The Populist party has everything to gain by keeping its eyes fixed on the goal it set up July 4, 1892. We are demanding no more than is just, no more than it is necessary to obtain, and soon.

If we fuse this year, in 1896 we are gone. Entangling alliances will kill us if we allow ourselves to be led into them by our political enemies and by men in our own ranks who are in haste to get into office. Silver is not the substance, the essential part of our demands; and if we allow ourselves to be tied up with the Democratic party and their free silver leaders it will destroy our reputation for honesty and our power to command the confidence of honest men. It would destroy our confidence in our own leaders and in one another and break the party to pieces.

Our call for postal card opinions on the series of five resolutions introduced by Judge Bryant at the meeting of our State Central Committee a few weeks ago, has met with a most encouraging response. Everyone who has written us has been in full accord with the sentiments and views expressed in those resolutions. But one thing we have till now purposely withheld. Those resolutions which have been unanimously supported by those who have written us, were, by majority vote of the members of the State Committee present, tabled, refused, you understand.

Why? No sufficient reason suggests itself to our mind except this: that they were opposed by men who could see an opportunity to tie up again with the Democrats, and they voted against the resolutions in order to do it. That there was too much secret tying up last year we have most of us discovered. Do the rank and file know what was sent by the Democratic Central Committee to our candidates for the State legislature? One of the Populist nominees has sent THE WEALTH MAKERS a verbatim copy of the letter that came to him, and as he was a radical Populist it cannot be doubted that all the other nominees were similarly tempted. It reads, with name of recipient and his post office omitted, as follows:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. C. J. SMYTHE, Chairman. W. H. THOMPSON, Secretary. J. A. O'SHEE, Secretary. J. F. MALLON, Secretary. F. J. MORGAN, Treasurer.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE DEMOCRATIC STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE. Branch headquarters: Rooms 30-31 Capitol Hotel, Lincoln, under the direction of J. A. O'Shee. OMAHA, Neb., Oct. 22, 1894.

MY DEAR SIR:—The Democratic State Central Committee is informed that in your district the Democrats have no candidate of their own, neither have they endorsed you. We are willing to assist you in defeating the Republican nominee; and should like to hear from you as to how, in your opinion, we may effectually aid you. How are you disposed to the candidacy of Mr. W. J. Bryan for the U. S. senate? If the Democratic State Central Committee will request the Democrats of your district to support you will you pledge yourself to vote first and last for W. J. Bryan for the U. S. senate?

An immediate reply is desired, as well as direct answers to the questions asked. Yours very truly, LEE HERDMAN, Secretary. C. J. SMYTHE, Chairman.

The man who received this demand to pledge himself to vote for a Democrat refused to give the pledge, and the Democrats, by massing their votes on his Republican rival, succeeded in defeating him. This is a pointer which shows how Populists were generally defeated for the legislature. Some few of the sort who could not be bribed to pledge their votes for a Democrat, for supports purchased, were strong enough to pull through, but the legislature was lost to the Populists by the method above shown.

The Democrats led by Bryan, are still eager to buy and sell, to endorse and be endorsed. But have not the Populists learned better than to seek Democratic endorsement or try to gain votes through commercial intercourse with their political enemies?

THE CRISIS JUST AHEAD. Senator Roach, Democrat from North Dakota, says in a published interview concerning the silver movement: "If we put a free silver plank in our national platform there will be no third ticket in the field, and the Democratic candidate will be elected."

Which leads us to suggest that now is the time for the Populists to show emphatically that free silver is not all they demand, nor the greater part, and that we know better than to reduce our platform to one idea, an idea which would enable the Democratic party to smear and swallow us. There is strong indication now that every western and southern state will send a free silver delegation to the next national convention, and if they do, free silver will be a part of the platform. Now if we have got any Populists who think the Democratic tariff promises with a silver promise added are all the country needs, they can go back to the embraces of Democracy. But the Populist party cannot be caught in any such flytrap. It isn't our size. Silver with us is an incidental. Government ownership of the great monopolies is our main idea. We are the only party that recognizes the tyranny of established monopolies, their fearfully fast-growing enslaving strength, and the present desperate need of pressing the fight against their combined power. It is this recognition on the part of a million and a half of voters which is the one hope of the country. If we turn to the right hand or left, if we allow ourselves to be placed upon us and keep silent regarding the railroad, banking, telegraph and land monopolies, they will in less than five years so increase their power and oppression that a revolution, force meeting force in such a conflict as the world has never yet seen, will be precipitated. Every power of unselfish sacrifice to spread the truth and educate voters must be made use of, or powder and dynamite and fire will lay low the proud monuments of our selfish civilization.

"A TRAVELER FROM ALTRURIA"

Mr. Howells in his latest book, A Traveler from Altruria, has performed a great service for humanity, by exposing the truth that we are not a democratic, or Christian, or civilized people. We seem to believe in selfishness, in the competitive struggle, in the grasping of monopoly power and the practical slavery of the masses by the classes. We seem to believe that the many should labor without enjoyment or just reward, in order that the few may perpetually feast and make merry out of what they have not toiled to produce, out of what the laws have given them power to command from the productive workers. We accept "the divine right of kings" as generally as ever did any nation, the only point of differentiation being, that we disallow political kings and accept commercial or monopoly kings. We believe in landlords, money lords, railroad magnates, lumber and coal barons, oil, and iron kings, uncrowned men who control the markets, decree prices and fix wages. We do not believe that "all men are created equal and endowed by their Creator with the inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." We believe some were created to serve and some to be served. If not, why do we allow one class to inherit power and another class dependence? Why do we allow a class to live in luxurious idleness and command tribute forever in the shape of rent, interest and dividends?

We do not believe in Christianity, though we profess it. The few who declare plainly that love, the unselfish, sacrificing, real sort, should control men in business, in the exchange of industrial services, are considered the next thing to being crazy, and they are ridiculed as impracticable dreamers, or railed at as dangerous anarchists. (Witness Rev. Dr. Brown's railing accusations against Prof. Herron three weeks ago in San Francisco.)

We have not, as a people, outgrown the barbarism of competitive war, and we honor most those who, by heading piratical combinations, are most successful at plundering. We worship the "wolves" who prey upon the weak, and have no love for the "lamb" who are led to the slaughter. We are lawless anarchists, without conception of, or faith in, the one law that must perfectly unite men and make a divine organization of all members of society.

Mr. Howells in his book takes a novelist's advantage, and speaks through the lips of both rich and poor, the oppressors and the oppressed,—the banker, the manufacturer, the lawyer, the professor of political economy, the minister, the doctor, the woman of fashion, the artist,—and, on the other hand, in the thought of the boot-blacking porter, the intelligent farmer (Populist, evidently) and others. The Altrurian traveler, coming from a country, where community of interest is really recognized and equality of rights and duties actually believed in, finds it difficult to grasp our point of view. He cannot see how we can believe in political equality and not in industrial equality. With our political and Christian professions he is perplexed to find us honoring idlers and parasites, and despising those who serve. He wonders, when at the watering places, the summer resorts of

the rich, where the farmers and mechanics, factory operatives and other laborers spend their "elegant leisure." He is shocked to learn that the masses must work or be seeking work all the time, and hence cannot go to the sea shore or the mountains for rest and recreation. He does not see how a gentleman can allow others to do for him a service which he would not perform for himself or for them. Before coming to America he had read our Declaration of Independence and received the impression that we were done with kings and classes, that we honor all men alike; but he found that we were here imbued with the old class notions; pride, exclusiveness and contempt for the common working herd on one side, and a class of enforced servants who more or less hate and fight, or fawn upon, their masters. He found in the exploiting class self-worship and hard, inhuman exercise of monopoly (kingly) power, mixed with supercilious condescension and a spirit worse than the pontiff possesses when he allows poor sinners to kiss his toe; and on the other side their intelligent slaves, with spirits free, casting the truth in their teeth and despising the class that oppress even more than they are themselves contemned,—but with them a much larger number degraded by their dependence and accepting the ideas of the rich, respecting "the spheres of life in which it has pleased Providence (sic) to place us."

With wonderful knowledge of the workings of the minds of representative people of all classes Mr. Howells has in this book given what each from his standpoint would say, does say; and each class must be intensely interested in what the other classes have to say for themselves. He makes himself the mouth-piece of all classes, making for each such a fair statement of their ideas and views that none can pronounce him a crank or one-sided, and leaves truth to take care of itself in the conflict. But so searching is his analysis through one mouth or another that all unconscious shams and hypocrisies are exposed, and they who look into this remarkably faithful mirror of society and men's minds can not longer be deceived as to themselves or the character of our competitive civilization. In our judgment no other book can accomplish as much in opening the eyes of all classes to see the realities and shams of life and the great blessed truth regarding what ought to be and must be.

Send to Harper and Brothers, Franklin Square, New York, for a copy, and get everybody to read it. In paper, 50 cts.

REORGANIZE THE FARMERS

The Farmers Alliance organization has broken down, where it has broken down, through insufficient co-operation. It was an unconscious effort to confine co-operation to talk, and the mere talk grew monotonous. If tangible benefits, economic, industrial, social, had been carefully studied and by co-operation of capital and diffusion of intelligence secured, the Alliance would now be organized and flourishing in each locality. The Alliance men did a wise and necessary thing in going into politics. It is perfectly plain that the interests of the farmers are one and that they should not be voting in different, opposing parties. But the benefits that must come by electing men to office to enact all the political demands of the Alliance into law, are not at hand. Co-operation at the ballot box accomplishes nothing until a majority of all voters co-operate. Local majorities are of but little general benefit.

Co-operation in the matter of production and distribution is what must hold the farmers together. The Alliance has failed, where it has failed, because its members have not addressed themselves to things they could immediately accomplish. The Alliance should be a farmers' club to discuss local questions and to study out in what ways and by what combinations they can help one another. The question of improving their stock, by combining to purchase high-priced, pure-blood breeding animals, is an important question, it seems to us. There might also be a great economy and advantage in buying machinery together, both in the matter of securing something approaching wholesale prices, and in having some of it held in common, steam plows, threshing machines, etc., and in keeping it housed at a divided and reduced expense. The Alliance should also be supplied with a complete library of the most valuable books on the preparation of soils, for all sorts of crops, and on fruit growing, the breeding and care of live stock, etc., etc. In the Alliance meetings the question of the most profitable crops to cultivate on the hills and slopes and swales, the valleys and the tablelands, should be discussed. The wisdom of the wisest would thus be at the service of all.

Why not convert the Alliance into a joint stock company to carry out all these things which we have suggested? And right here, take notice that such a company could purchase supplies of all sorts at a reduction that would draw the entire farming class into it for the saving it would be to them. We have organized in Lancaster county what is known as the Christian Corporation, and one part of it is called the Mercantile department. This mercantile department is to be run (we shall open the 1st of May, probably) on the Rochdale plan, a plan that has proved wonderfully successful in England and Scotland during the last fifty years. It is a plan which eliminates risks, economizes labor, saves rent and interest, makes advertising unnecessary and saves to purchasers ten to twenty

per cent. of the cost of all purchases. Alliance in the country who do not wish to go into the mercantile business can buy through this central mercantile agency and save to their members all the profits that usually go to middlemen.

THE WEALTH MAKERS would like to hear from wide-awake farmers and Alliance men on this matter of the farmers helping one another and saving money as well as increasing their incomes by co-operating along lines we have suggested. Let us have a symposium of opinions and go to work to help one another.

THE FOREMOST WRITER'S VIEWS

Mr. H. H. Boyesen, the novelist, pronounces William Dean Howells the foremost man of letters in the United States, and thinks this opinion of his place in literature "an undisputed point." He says farther that Mr. Howells "is of opinion that our present governments, whether you call them democracies or monarchies, strengthen the hands of the strong and show undue favor to those who are least in need of it. They are instinctive combinations of the favored classes to retain hold upon the power to exploit their weaker brethren. The phrase is mine, not his; but it conveys the impression which I have derived from many conversations with him on the present social organization. This does not by any means imply that he is in favor of any violent plan for upsetting government and doing away with the feudal remnant of our civilization. For he has an abiding faith in slow and orderly evolution, which will, by the gradual change in men's sentiments toward a nobler and more universal altruism, accomplish the elevation of humanity and a just distribution of the fruits of labor and industry. I scarcely think I misrepresent him if I say that he believes that socialism in some yet undeveloped form belongs to the future."

See in another column editorial review of A Traveler from Altruria, Mr. Howells greatest work from a sociological and ethical standpoint. A later volume, Letters from an Altrurian Traveler, may be considered volume number two on, or a continuation of, the same study.

WHO IS DR. MACKAY?

It is rumored that the governor is slated to appoint Dr. J. H. Mackay superintendent of the Norfolk insane asylum. Who is Dr. Mackay, and what reason can be urged to induce Governor Holcomb to appoint him?

For some time prior to the opening of the last campaign he called himself a Populist; but when he could not get a Democrat nominated in the Populist congressional convention he went openly over to the Democrats, supported their Meiklejohn-assistant, third-in-the-race candidate, and used the utmost influence of his paper, the Madison Reporter, to defeat the Populist candidate. Is it for this job that he is asking pay of a Populist governor? He worked hard, it is true, inventing lies and circulating outrageous slanders against the Populist leaders of the Third district and against THE WEALTH MAKERS, but it strikes us very forcibly that the party or the congressional candidate who hired him, or whom these services benefited, should be the party to go to for pay.

If there are no Populist physicians in the Third district competent to fill the place of superintendent of the Norfolk asylum, it would be better to give the appointment to a good Republican, or a Democrat like Keiper, whose competency cannot be questioned and who would be at least respected by all the Populists of the district.

If the man who sought to nominate a Democrat in a Populist convention and bolted to the Democrats when they nominated a Populist is the man Governor Holcomb will select to reward, what must the people conclude?

If the man who originated and viciously circulated the lie that THE WEALTH MAKERS had an agent in the Third district dispensing Republican money to secure the nomination of a Populist by the Populists, so trying to destroy the Populist state paper,—if such a man for such work is to be paid by Governor Holcomb, what does it indicate?

If the man who slanderously declared and still declares that J. Sterling Morton, Tobo Castor and Meiklejohn got a Populist to run as a Populist, and had him nominated, and who himself served the Democrats, is the man above all others to be given a Third district Populist appointment, "where are we at?"

But we are morally certain Governor Holcomb will not make the appointment in question.

LATER.

Since the above was written Dr. Mackay has been appointed to the place in question. Have we a Populist party in Nebraska, or is it a "demopp" party? If the present organization is not entirely Populist, let us have an organization that is. If a part of our leaders are tied up with the Democratic leaders, let us have new leaders to take their places as soon as may be. The governor's private secretary says Mackay is a Democrat, and intimates that he has long been a Democrat. There is no doubt that he is now a Democrat, and that he has been appointed because of his active fight against the Populists in the last campaign.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

The dressed meat trust which has just raised the price of meat 20 to 30 percent

came into power in 1873 by means of a secret rebate of \$15.00 per car given to it on carload shipments alone, by the railroads, between Chicago and New York, a discrimination which enabled it to crush all competitors. It now kills sixty per cent of all cattle slaughtered, monopolizing the retail meat business as well, and its representatives meet every day and fix the buying prices that they will pay the farmers for their cattle, their work. There is no competition among buyers, was the report of the senate committee of investigation of 1868, and this report was sustained by the overwhelming weight of testimony from witnesses of the highest character.

The question, what price shall cattle and hog raisers get for their stock, is a question of great importance to every farmer and ranchman who grows stock for the market. The meat trust is costing them money (more money value than free silver would bring them) every year; and it is costing the buyers (consumers) of meat as much as it is costing the producers of it. (An increase in the volume of the currency, of silver or paper, even by the government would not benefit the man out of debt very much, because it would raise the price of what he bought almost as much as it raised the price of what he sold. We say "almost as much" instead of "as much," because reducing the debts of the producing class would increase somewhat society's sum total of purchasing power. The rich who own the debt obligations, are limited in their power of consuming, and the workers in debt are limited by those debts. Therefore an increase of currency volume, setting more men at work, would increase their means to buy with, and so benefit to some degree the workers who are not in debt.) But to go back to the question that is of such great interest to every farmer and every meat consumer, the price of stock, the price of meat, now controlled by P. D. Armour & Co., Nelson Morris & Co., and G. T. & C. E. Swift, with, as some affirm, the Cudahy Packing Co., Hammond & Co., and Schwarzhild & Sdlzburger added. The trust is just one feature, one incidental part of, the transportation monopoly question. The Standard Oil trust, which commands monopoly tribute from every family in America, is another incidental part of the transportation question, it having also been built up and thrived by "the smokeless rebate" by which the railroads secretly robbed rival oil shippers and divided the spoils with the Rockefeller-led conspirators. The coal barons also command monopoly tribute from every family that uses coal, and this robbery is but an incidental or collateral part of the transportation monopoly.

RENEW your subscription.

It is reported that "a good many manufacturers are still running without a profit, and are anxiously awaiting better markets." By profit here is meant a surplus to add to capital after having paid managers' salaries, wages, wear and tear, taxes and insurance. But why is profit of this sort demanded? Capital eats nothing and wears nothing. If all who work are paid, dividing just what they produce between them, all who work will have just what they produce, and is not that enough? If profit from other people's labor were not demanded by capitalists all could be kept at work steadily, for they would be able, would have enough money, to buy out of the market as much as they turned into it. It is the demand for rent, interest and profits which makes it impossible for the producers to buy back as much as they produce.

GENERAL WEAVER, leading the one-idea free silver men of Iowa, was well beaten in the meeting of the Populist State Central Committee of Iowa Tuesday of this week, and the straightout Populists are jubilant. Chairman R. N. Scott, and nine of the eleven members of the committee were present. The state convention will be held at Des Moines June 11. The struggle was over the matter of choosing a temporary chairman for the June convention. H. S. Bashor the Democratic-Populist, or Populist-Democrat, Third district candidate for congress last fall, was the Weaver faction's man, and C. A. Lloyd of Muscatine was put forward by those who desired to stand on the entire Omaha platform. Lloyd was chosen by a vote of five to four. Weaver and his man Bashor declared they would carry the fight into the state convention, and Chairman Scott, who is opposed to them, announced that the straightout Populists are ready for the conflict.

CONTEMPORARY OPINION

The new silver party, "American Bi-metallic" by name, is not one that can live long. And if it should live and be successful on its single plank platform, it would not—could not—free us from the grasp of the money sharks. It would simply make another monopoly. It would be just as easy, so long as the moneyed men were in control of all the other monopolies, for a gold syndicate and a silver syndicate to combine and manipulate the money as it is now for two gold syndicates to combine for the same purpose. There is but one course to pursue—unite on the Omaha platform and with a solid front strike all monopolies!—Saline Co. Independent.

There is no further doubt that it's the same element now trying to make a scarecrow out of "socialism" that made such a determined effort to have Walter Q. Gresham nominated at the Omaha convention. It is only a natural conclusion that these fellows will seek to dictate the nomination in '96 with the same regard