

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 M St., Lincoln, Nebraska.

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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 hand to do a wrong...

Publishers' Announcement.

The subscription price of THE WEALTH MAKERS is \$1.00 per year, in advance. Agents in soliciting subscriptions should be very careful that all names are correctly spelled and proper postoffice given.

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The newspapers seem to think the mass of their readers are more interested in foot ball struggles than anything else, judging from the space they devote to them.

Now congress plays its part, and the American public will hear much talk intended to deceive it while its rights and interests are being bartered to the corporations.

St. JEROME, who died in A. D. 420, still held to the teachings of Christ and preached what the churches now are not prepared to hear. He declared that: "Opulence is always the product of theft committed, if not by the actual possessor by his ancestors."

ALL the gratification the rich can get out of life comes to them through hired services, which contains no love. They live by forcing tribute from the poor, and the poor are coming to look upon them as despots, to be despised and hated for their brutal selfishness.

The Emperor of Germany is mad over the growth and power and demands of the Socialists. They are known as Social Democrats and in their demands are constantly encroaching on the hoary prerogatives of the imperial autocrat, aristocrats and plutocrats. They want the earth.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND's principal recommendation to the country, is that we retire the greenbacks, burn them, pay interest on bonds to borrow gold from the bankers to buy them, and then borrow bankers' notes at 10 per cent or more to replace them. Grover might better have remained a hangman, or been hung himself.

ELEVEN workers in an iron and coal mine in Brewster, N. Y., were crushed by falling rock, Nov. 29. They exposed their lives for wages and died, in order that the stockholders might live in luxury, safety and idleness from the profits (plunder) of their toil. All who live from the labor of others probably believe that the present day workers were made to live and die to build for them (the monopolists) princely mansions in this world, and that the Galilean carpenter died that they might live in mansions. He has been preparing for them in the next world. They were born to provide labor and vicarious suffering for the working classes, don't you see?

THE Transcontinental Passenger association agreement just signed, is doing between Chicago and the Pacific Coast what the great R. R. combination which we reported last week does in destroying all competition between the west and the Atlantic coast. So we now have two great railway pools or trusts that by consolidation do away with competition and gain power to raise and hold up rates, to benefit stockholders by plundering the public without natural or legal restraint. We are thus brought under a gang of public highwaymen who have power to rob everybody; or, if the term is offensive, call them commercial kings, self-enthroned, who grasp the right to tax the people unmercifully for their own private enrichment. Will the people rebel? What do you think? Do they love liberty yet?

BANK REPUBLICAN PARTISANSHIP

At the meeting of the State Canvassing Board last Friday, Republican partisanship put on a brazen front and voted straight for party interests, in the face of evidence that ought to have been regarded, evidence that the will of the people was for the Populist candidate. The history of the disputed count in Furnas county was brought out briefly by Governor Holcomb in language which we give below.

One man present when the speeches were made before the Canvassing Board, himself not a Populist or Democrat, said he would be a man, before he would be a Republican. Governor Holcomb said in his speech that such acts as were proposed were enough to make the Goddess of Liberty bow her head in shame.

Attorney General Churchill introduced a resolution so worded as to seat Norris, which of course received the votes of all the Republican members of the State Board of Canvassers.

Governor Holcomb in opposing the resolution said:

"I vote no on the resolution because I believe that the certificate is uncertain and equivocal and not such a certificate as the court ordered; that it does not show with certainty the vote cast for the different candidates for district judge in Furnas county, and especially do I object to the first part of the certificate, showing what purports to be a copy of the total of the tally sheets of the different poll books, for the reason that I believe in that tally sheet is one vote from Union precinct which, according to the evidence taken in the proceedings of the supreme court and the judgment rendered thereon is a fraudulent and forged vote and should not be counted, and that four other tallies going to make up the entire number, according to the tally sheet credited to G. W. Norris were from Beaver City precinct, and were, as I believe, interpolated upon the tally sheet after the county canvassing board had canvassed the returns of the election in Furnas county; and because each member of the canvassing board has, in an affidavit filed in the proceedings in the supreme court involving the same case, sworn that he believed the canvass as originally made, giving to the candidate G. W. Morris but 1,370 votes, as given in the latter part of the supplemental certificate, and according to the footings in the different poll books, gives the true and correct vote in Furnas county for G. W. Norris, and that he has not received 1,375 votes, as shown in the supplemental certificate by a purported copy of the tallies in the poll books, but only 1,370 as first found by the county canvassing board and as now shown by the certificate of the footings in the different poll books, and that the latter part of the certificate should be taken as the accurate vote for district judge in said county.

This action on the part of the Republican Board forces Judge Welty to fight his way to the office given him upon the face of the returns, and Norris simply has to defend his seat.

AN HONEST INVESTIGATION

When we stop to think of it, it is not an amazing thing that there is so much misery, want and anxiety in the world among people who are willing to work and capable of producing with their labor all sorts of wealth to satisfy their needs? How many there are all about us, here, there and every where, who are in need of good, well-furnished homes! And the carpenters, masons, producers of all sorts of building materials, painters, decorators, carpet weavers, furniture makers, artists, authors, publishers, printers, and the rest, would gladly build, beautify and furnish luxuriously homes for all. They could do it easily if kept at work. The farmers could feed all, the factories could clothe all, and the workers could all be rich, with every legitimate want supplied, if all the able-bodied were kept at work eight hours a day, six days in the week, 300 days in the year for a period of ten years. Modern machinery and natural motive power have so multiplied the results of labor in almost every branch of industry that need should be unknown. But machinery steam and electricity, have not benefited the poor. Invention and tireless motive power have not done away with poverty. The percentage of landless, homeless, dependent people is even steadily increasing. Great numbers of sober, capable men and women cannot obtain regular employment, cannot exchange services with one another and so meet their mutual wants.

It is true of the different classes that the rich are growing richer, the people with small means are growing poorer, the numbers who cannot find regular employment are increasing, and the struggle between competing workers for the insufficient places and wages decreed to them by the landlords and capitalists, is growing more desperate, degrading and destructive. In the degree that wealth is concentrating the world is growing worse, more selfish, more miserable. "The rich man's wealth is his strong city; the destruction of the poor is their poverty." "The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant unto the lender." Capitalists are organized and organizing to increase their power and exactions; the wage-workers are organizing to resist wage reductions; and between these two commercial forces relentless, wasteful, terrible war is determined. Between contract and contract truces are observed, but there is no such thing as settled peace. On the one side the capitalists, never satisfied, out of the profits from under-paid labor are buying up and monopolizing more and more

of the natural resources, the increasingly valuable land, mines, oil wells, lumber regions, municipal monopolies, costly machinery, the necessary means of production and exchange, and are so increasing yearly the sum total of their tribute; and on the other side the wage workers are organizing to fight for enough to live on, and they will never cease demanding more and more, until we have industrial equality as well as political equality, or until, starved to desperation, the bomb and torch shall be resorted to by the maddened masses. The great consolidating corporations and the class called monopolists, with the law and customs of the centuries behind them, will not force less from the workers than they have obtained power to, and the workers will not endure dependence and destitution as their permanent place and part in society. It is also true that the knowledge of injustice is spreading, and an explosion upward cannot be long prevented by force or subtlety. An industrial despot, when men are enlightened, will be seen to be as oppressive a tyrant as a political despot. A monopolist is as much a king as if crowned and publicly proclaimed such.

But monopolists cannot be condemned, save as we condemn the business system which has made them. And have we not all plunged into it and lived by its law, or rule? In view of the results of the business struggle it is forced upon us to ask, is it right? is it Christian? are the commercial transactions which all engage in, the acts of trade commonly regarded as legitimate, moral?

From an editorial in an Omaha daily we clipped a few years ago the plain statement following, written in answer to a query of a correspondent. That paper said:

"It is the law of the business world and the law of the industrial world that the buyer and seller, whether labor or material be bought or sold, stand for the time being in antagonism to each other."

Each gets as much as he can and gives as little as he must, buys cheap and sells dear, if he can do so, and considers it practical wisdom and necessary business so to do. It matters not how much kindness of heart and sympathy individuals may possess, it is not allowed to interfere to any appreciable extent with the business struggle. "Business is business," we say.

But this struggle for gain one of another, which we call "business," is anti-Christian, is exactly contrary to the moral law. "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." And it is this selfish struggle which has divided men and produced all the innumerable, immeasurable, indescribable evils which flow out of selfishness. Let this statement sink down into your minds and receive careful consideration, that the business system of selfish forces which fixes all prices and wages and distributes the rewards of labor, is anti-Christian, immoral, and we must separate ourselves from it. We must come out of this Babylon, whose doom foretold approaches, or we shall continue to suffer her plagues and go down with her into final destruction. "For her sins have reached unto heaven and God hath remembered her iniquities."

TELL ME. Do you as individuals find anyone who guards and cares for your interests as he does his own? Is not all business, so far as can be seen, a selfish thing? And was not the poet Lanier right when he said:

The poor, the poor, the poor! they stand Wedged by the pressing of Trade's hand, Against an inward-opening door. That pressure tightens evermore; They sigh a monstrous, foul-air sigh For the outside leagues of liberty, Where art, sweet art, translates the sky Into a heavenly melody. "Each day, all day (these poor folks say) In the same old year-long, drear-long way, In the same mill and weave in the kilns, We sivee mis-mashes under the mills, To relieve, O God, what manner of life?— The bossis, they hummer, and eat and die; And so do we, and the world's a sty." "Sense fellow-swine, why narble and cry? Swinehood hath no remedy!" Say many men, and hasten by. "But who said ones, in a lordly tone, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, But all that cometh from the Throne?'" Hath God said so? But Trade saith "No;" And the kilns and the curt-tongued mills say "Go."

There's plenty that can if you can't, we know; Move out if you think you're underpaid, The poor are prolific, we're not afraid; Trade is trade."

It is not possible to escape partnership in the moral obliquity of the selfish business system if we buy and sell in the markets. We may be very careful not to lie or misrepresent, not to violate the customs of the respectably selfish, and those we buy of may be willing to have us pay merely what is established as the market or going price for their goods or services; but this does not clear us.

How are the market wages and prices established? By force. By need on one side and greed on the other. By monopoly and misery. By subtlety dealing with ignorance. By class legislation. By wrongs enthroned. By introducing modern machinery and steam and electricity to serve the capitalists, so throwing out of employment great numbers of the working class, to make competition for employment more fierce between them and labor organization more difficult and weak. Wages and prices are to some degree affected by organized labor, by strikes; but organized capital is stronger, and generally starves out the strikers.

alone and battled or haggled with his equals over the terms of exchange for hand made goods. Now we are facing the waste, desolations and distress of organized selfishness, of war between corporations that have no souls and workers that have no liberties, i. e., no land, no homes.

Frederic Harrison, speaking before the Industrial Remuneration Conference which met in England in 1886, said:

"If the cause of industrial misery be traced to the passion of self-interest, and to a low sense of social duty, there might seem to be no more to be said. We should have to wait for a general improvement in civilization. But there is more to be said. Industry has managed to develop a moral code of its own. In politics, philosophy, art, or manners, in domestic or social life, self-interest is not canonized as the principal social duty of man. In industry it is otherwise. For all industrial matters, in modern Europe and America, a moral code has been evolved, which makes the unlimited indulgence of self-interest, pushed to the very verge of liability to law, the supreme social duty of the industrial citizen. To buy cheap and sell dear, to exhaust the arts of competition, to undersell rivals, to extend business, to develop trade, to lead on the best security [and at the highest rates], to introduce every novelty, to double and halve business at every turn in the market—in a word to create the biggest business in the least time, and to accumulate the greatest wealth with the smallest capital—this is seriously taught as the first duty of the trading man. Economists, politicians, moralists, and even preachers urge on the enterprising capitalist that the industrialist does best his duty by society who does best his duty by himself. Banker, merchant, manufacturer, proprietor, tradesman and workman alike submit to this strange moral law. It is assumed as beyond proof that the rapid increase of wealth, is a good per se—good for the capitalist, good for society. No account is taken of the business ruined, of the workmen thrown out of employment, of the over-production of the useless, mischievous, rotten trade created, and of all the manifold evils scattered broadcast amongst the producers and everyone within range of the work. It is enough to have made business, to have accumulated wealth, without coming within the grasp of the law.

"Here, then, is the all-sufficient source of industrial maladies. We have come, in matters industrial, to treat duty to others, and duty to society, as only to be found in duty to self. * * * The solution of the industrial problem is a moral, social, and religious question. Industry must be moralized—infused with a spirit of social duty from top to bottom."

In our next issue we shall discuss what is required to moralize or Christianize industry, what each must do to escape the immorality of business selfishness.

ARE COMMON MEN BENEFITED?

WYMORE, Neb., Nov. 27, 1895.

GEORGE HOWARD GIBSON, Esq. DEAR SIR:—In your next issue of THE WEALTH MAKERS will you please discuss as to "Whether labor saving inventions are a benefit to the common mass of people."

If this is too late for this week's issue, please treat this subject on the following week. I am respectfully yours, HATTIE FINK.

Prior to the nineteenth century almost all products were made and raised by hand, or by horse and cattle power, simple, inexpensive tools being the only instruments used. All workers who did not have to pay rent were free and independent. But the invention of the steam engine by Watt, the cotton gin by Whitney, and the power loom by a number of men, each of which helped to increase its efficiency, began to displace the handicraft system of production, and early in this century in England what is called the capitalist system of production had its rise. Water and steam power were used and goods were manufactured in factories by machinery, instead of by hand in the homes and small shops of the people. The building of factories and the introduction of machinery and mechanical power required a large outlay of money, which the poor did not have; they were, therefore, unable to produce as cheaply by hand as goods could be made by machinery, compelled to give up home and handicraft production, and seek employment at wages in the factories and mills of the capitalists, in order to live. But the capitalists, who thus had the masses at their mercy, would hire them only on inequitable terms of profit to themselves, the employers. And the employers would only keep the workers employed so long and at such times as goods could be sold above the cost (to the employers) of production. The capitalist system of production, for profit, cannot possibly keep the wage earners constantly at work producing, because the capitalists cannot find a market for the goods. The markets under this system invariably become periodically glutted, prices fall and the mills must run on part time or cease altogether until the demand catches up with the supply. The cause of this is the desire of the capitalists to accumulate—money, land, income-commanding investments—and the wage-earners cannot buy out of the markets only the percentage of goods, sold at a capitalistic profit, that their wages represent. If goods were sold at labor cost there would be no over-production, because labor of every kind would have in hand a money equivalent, and could buy the market empty as fast as the desire for labor products caused it to be filled.

England greatly developed her trade with the non-manufacturing nations of the world after the rise and development of the capitalistic system of production. But her millions of mines and factory operatives not only received no benefit: they were ground down by long hours, insufficient wages and women and child

labor until mortality among the workers undeniably increased, the average height and chest measurements were found, when examining recruits for war, to be startlingly less, and parliamentary committees of investigation revealed in the '40s and afterward, as the result of the machinery that was saving labor (wages) for the capitalists, that the common people, the wage-earners and farm laborers, were being destroyed physically mentally and morally. The ranks of the poor and dependent are constantly recruited and swelled by it out of what we call the middle class, the class with small or moderate means.

The capitalistic system of production tends always to make the rich richer and to reduce all the rest, or all except men of extraordinary talent, to abject, slavish dependence upon them. Mechanical motive power and labor saving inventions should prevent want, should shorten the hours of labor alike of all workers; but controlled by the few, to profit them alone, they become the means of concentrating in their hands all wealth, all natural means of subsistence and all power, the power of life and death. The author of the great work, "The Coming Revolution" which we have been publishing a review of, says:

"Machinery, which adds so greatly to the labor power of the world and swells its wealth, dispenses with labor—is labor saving. But labor receives no part of the benefits; capital is the owner of machinery and also the employer of labor, and having found in machinery a new and more valuable servant, can dispense with labor which is turned out of employment, while capital adds to its hoards from the gain of mechanical power. Thus the same means which increase the wealth of the world makes more wretched the condition of the poor. Every dollar added to the possessions of the rich but increases the power of capital over labor; and every labor-saving invention which adds to the labor power of the world, but renders more desperate the condition of the toiling masses."

INEQUITY INJURES ALL

The past six weeks has witnessed the failure of an unusually large number of firms engaged in the cloaking and clothing trade, and indications point to additional embarrassments before the close of the present month. The collapses have also extended to a few large dry goods jobbing houses.—Wooland Cotton Reporter.

Caused by underconsumption of clothing by the poor and the unemployed. Hundreds of thousands, yes millions, of the middle class are economizing in clothing at this season, owing to reduced incomes, low prices and wages. An injury to one, limiting the power of consumption, injures all who work by reducing his demand for goods and services. See?

REPRESENTATIVE BAKER and others of his party have camped on the trail of J. Sterling and will make an effort to impeach him for sundry and divers offenses, such as shutting off the free distribution of seeds to the farmers and making a general ass of himself in his efforts to serve the monopolists instead of the agricultural class.

DR. PARKHURST says 'brains and greed are the stock in trade' of the great daily papers, and that in New York they are guilty of treason, in instigating for political purposes violation of the excise law. "Clear to the innermost vitals of the performance it is treason, and involves, like any other act of treason, a grim menace to the stability and permanence of our institutions."

"AMBER," writing in last Sunday's Times-Herald, begins her article thus: "All day long I have been looking into a black hole. A hole that has no measured circumference, nor which any plummet devised by man has ever sounded. A hole that that is as deep as hell—indeed I am not so certain but that it is hell." She had spent the day looking directly into the fearful poverty and wretchedness of the places called homes, the homes of the enslaved working class of that city.

They are way ahead of us in France. A majority of the Chamber of Deputies has voted for progressive taxation of inheritances, the government tax on inheritances to increase correlatively with size of fortune bequeathed. Here our corporation owned Supreme Court would knock us all down if we made such a law, by declaring it unconstitutional. Socialistic ideas are in the ascendancy in France, and gaining fast in Germany and Great Britain.

The richest gold deposits ever discovered are reported in Canada, Alaska, Utah and other places. Even the sand in Nebraska farms is declared to be gold, and there is apparently no limit to the so-called "intrinsic" unfluctuating value (?) stuff. Suppose, then, it be freely coined and each gets his pockets full of eagles, and the banks and U. S. Treasury vaults are filled to overflowing with yellow gold and we pay all our debts with it and buy the markets empty, and so set all wheels to humming and all the unemployed to producing, in order that we may buy all the good things we need. In other words, let us coin our labor into money and set every one at work to pay his debts and produce wealth for his needs. But greenback legal tenders will do all this and we can save ourselves the labor of digging and separating and coin the gold said to have been found. Why not economize labor?

Clubbing List.

1895-96.

THE WEALTH MAKERS' Clubbing List for this season has been carefully culled, and only the best publications are used.

Our readers can make considerable saving by ordering all of their reading matter for the coming year, through us. Cash must accompany all orders; and remittances must be made by Bank Draft, Postoffice Money Order, or Express Order. Where checks upon local banks are sent, there must be 10 cents added for exchange.

The prices quoted below include one year's subscription to The Wealth Makers. Address all orders to THE WEALTH MAKERS, Lincoln, Neb.

Old subscribers may take advantage of these offers as well as new subscribers.

Table with columns: NAME OF PAPER, Price, including one year's subscription to The W. M. Includes a list of various publications and their prices.

IT IS COMING.

Socialism Has Passed the Stage of Ridicule and Must Be Given a Hearing. A recent socialism, the San Francisco Daily Examiner of September 25, says editorially:

"Socialism can no longer be dismissed with contempt; it has numbers and intelligence in its service, and it must be heard. It has two million disciples in Germany; it has secured the majority in some German and French cities, and it is not impossible that it may obtain control of some European governments. It is in practical politics, and its arguments are entitled to as much consideration as is given to those of protectionists and free traders."

This is quite an advance for the biggest daily on this coast with its over 75,000 daily circulation. It indexes a great change in public sentiment. So intelligent and successful has been the propaganda of socialism that at last it commands respect. Sneers and invective are no longer considered good answers to the arguments of its advocates. Confounding socialism with anarchism gets a man credit in these days for being an ignoramus or a bigot. Many of the brainiest men and women of the times are avowed socialists. None who make pretense of being progressive dare refuse a consideration of its claims.—New Charter.

The Metallic Fallacy.

The supposition that nothing can be money which is not redeemable in gold or silver still clings to our civilization despite the fact that it is disproved every day in our transactions. The money that is "sound" is money that is redeemable for everything. This is demonstrated daily over every counter in Evansville and in the United States. The silver certificates, for instance, which are redeemable only in silver on their face, are made "receivable for all customs, taxes and all public dues," that is they are legal tender for all public obligations, and they are preferred to silver itself because any money that is receivable for taxes is accepted for bread and meat and rent and clothing and all the necessities and luxuries of life. The only mark of barbarism left in this enlightened century is that currency, to have the qualities of money, must be redeemable in gold or silver only. This barbarism still exists because the people although they disapprove the theory, permit a few interested bankers and usurers to keep up the practice by the aid of laws that are a disgrace to Christian civilization.—Evansville Courier (Dem.).

"Old Slippery Elm"

Indications point strongly to the nomination of Allison by the republicans. He just about fills the bill. The republicans will adopt a silver plank which will be open to construction so that it will satisfy the gold-bugs and at the same time give silver republicans a chance to so interpret it as to squint at bimetalism, says an Omaha paper. It would not do to nominate an eastern man, because that would awaken suspicion. They must find a western man with eastern ideas, and Allison is just the man. He can be trusted by the gold-bugs of Wall street as implicitly as Senator Sherman himself, but he can slide around and be non-committal with more grace than Sherman. Senator Allison, otherwise known as "Old Slippery Elm," is growing in republican favor.—Chicago Dispatch.

—Voters, let go of party names and take hold of the problems of government, that your sons and daughters may enjoy the precious heritage of freedom which you are criminally and heedlessly allowing to slip away from you.—Midland Journal.