

\$1.00
PER YEAR
IN ADVANCE.

THE ALLIANCE.

OFFICIAL ORGAN
NEBRASKA
STATE FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

VOL. I.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1889.

NO. 7.

Editorial Notes and Clippings.

Clubbing Rates.
To those of our readers who might wish to take a Daily newspaper—one whose opinions are its own, fearless and outspoken, we would say that we have made arrangements with the publishers of the Daily Call, of this city, whereby we can furnish their Daily and THE ALLIANCE at \$6 per year. Or, THE ALLIANCE and Weekly Call, one year for \$1.50. The weekly Call is a 6 col. quarto well filled with good family reading. This is an excellent chance to get two papers for nearly the price of one. Sample copies of Daily or Weekly Call will be sent upon application.

The people want a change that means something besides a change in office holders. —Advocate, Lewiston, Maine.

It is laws and systems that we have declared war against—not individuals. If your system gets hurt we cannot help it.

President Clover, of the Kansas State Alliance, has issued a call for the meeting of the State Alliance at Newton, Harvey county, Wednesday, August 14, 1889.

Thanks to Bro. Armstrong, of the Western News, of Ainsworth, for good words spoken for our paper. We appreciate such kind recognition from our brethren of the press, as it shows a kindly feeling for the cause in which we are engaged.

The rain of Monday night was general over Southern Kansas, and now the uncertainty concerning a mammoth corn crop has disappeared. Kansas will have millions of bushels this year. There will be plenty of corn bread and 'lasses if nothing else.—Nonconformist, Winfield, Kansas.

The Dexter Free Press, of Cowley county, Kansas, comes marked with the neighborly X this week. To be sure, Bro. Craig, we are more than pleased to reciprocate. These Kansas reformers have such a square out and out way of doing things that they are bound to win. Success to our brethren in Kansas.

The Farmers' Alliance has now reached a point—the critical point—where it is beginning to attract universal attention, and combination upon combination will soon be forming to crush it out. It therefore stands every one of its members in hand to redouble their diligence. Double the pickets! As Bro. Root, of Omaha, says, "we are getting into the enemies' country." Look out!

A good article from Bro. J. A. Porter, of Plainview, is on the hook for next week. Also a good one from Fillmore county, questions from "Querist," and several lengthy contributions. We ask the patient indulgence of writers of long communications. We can only run about one in each issue and consequently it takes some time to get around to all. By and by we hope to be able to "widen out" and then, like a church denomination we once heard of, we'll have "room for all."

The great contest of the age has drifted beyond mere party lines, mere sectional and local differences. It has become a struggle of life and death; for the life of individual liberty and a just return for labor on the one side, for the death of independence and the absolute subjugation of industry on the other. The fight is capitalism against industry, and that means the industry of every section and every class. The ultimate aim of capitalism is universal empire, and it is the natural enemy of every freeman of every section. A united opposition is the only hope for the people.—National Economist.

If a man is worth a million and wants to start a national bank, he buys one million of bonds which he deposits with the government who pay him interest for every dollar in gold twice a year. These bonds are not taxed one cent to help defray the expenses of the government. Now then, the government carrying out its policy to make the rich richer, issues him \$900,000 in greenbacks to bank on and get all the interest he can and charge him 1 per cent on the greenbacks to cover expense of engraving, etc. The man was worth \$1,000,000, the government makes him worth \$1,900,000, and untaxed. Is this right farmer? You bear the burden and your land can't escape taxation.—Toiler.

MASSIVE AND MAGNIFICENT.

President Burrows of the National Farmers' Alliance of America Makes a Powerful and Eloquent Argument on the Great Money Question.

Let Every Thinking Producer Study It With Care.

What's the Matter?

(Continued from last week.)

From the Farmers' Voice.

As distinctive factors of production the law confers no powers whatever upon either land or labor, while it does confer absolutely on money the power to liquidate debts and accumulate by interest.

Money, therefore, is the transcendent power which controls the other factors—exchanges the other factors—determines the value of the other factors, and therefore determines the income which may be derived from the other factors in rent or wages. Therefore, money, being the creation of man by law, and receiving its effective powers by law, may be modified and controlled by law.

The prime factors of all distribution are rent, wages, and interest, these being the natural derivatives of land, labor and money-capital. Let us briefly analyze these factors of distribution, and see if we cannot discover the cause of increasing poverty, and advancing wealth—the source of communal sickness which seems to be afflicting us—the power that gives Astor and Vanderbilt their annual millions, and their neighbors, the poor sewing women, their daily starvation.

Rent is the amount of money the use of land will command. It is determined by the money value of the land, that is by the amount of money the land can be exchanged for, and the rate per cent of interest the money will command. These are determined primarily, and on an average by the volume of money existing in a country relative to the land and the exchangeable commodities of that country. The volume of money is determined by law, modified only in a small degree by the balance of trade. Therefore rent, as a factor of distribution, is entirely subordinate to and controlled by money, which is the creation of law. Therefore rent may be controlled by law through its control of the volume of money-capital.

Wages is the amount of money received by labor as compensation for its exercise in the production of wealth. The economist says that this is determined by competition—that is by the number of laborers relative to the number of employers. This may be conceded, with the reservation that the number of employers, and the ability of laborers to employ themselves, is determined by the volume of money relative to the land and its products, or the natural opportunity—to labor.—If such money volume is relatively small, business will stagnate, opportunities for self-employment be diminished, employers become fewer, laborers more plentiful, and wages lower. If such money volume is relatively large, business will be active, the production of wealth stimulated, opportunities for self-employment multiplied, employers increased in numbers, and wages higher. The money volume being determined by law, wages are also indirectly determined by law, modified of course to a certain extent by local circumstances, such as calamities, wars, droughts, etc.

What is interest? Interest is the rate per cent, allowed by law for the use of money-capital. This rate per cent, is determined by the method and conditions upon which money is issued by the government, and by its volume relative to population and production.

Interest is the controlling factor of distribution. Its rate determines what proportion of the earnings of labor shall be paid for the use of capital, and what proportion shall be retained as wages. Interest and rent are nearly synonymous terms, rent being interest paid for the use of capital in other forms than capital, and interest being the amount paid for capital in the form of money. Viewed in this light there are only two purposes to which the product of labor can be applied, one being rent or interest, the other being wages.

Whatever increases one must diminish the other. I have said that interest has no existence apart from labor. Money of itself produces nothing. If the mere possession of money produced interest, no burden would be imposed upon anybody by any rate of interest. But it is not the money, but the notes, mortgages, bonds, etc., into which money is transmuted which bear interest, and labor has to create the wealth and sell it to obtain the money to pay the interest. Hence money, through interest, controls labor, and the products of labor.

Interest is the great accumulator. There is no known legitimate business that will so rapidly and surely accumulate wealth as money loaned at 7 per cent interest. For example, suppose A at 21 years of age owns a farm of 100 acres which he rents at 7 per cent payable in land. At the age of 91 he can bequeath to his posterity one hundred and twenty-seven farms from the mere rent of the first one.

Now suppose A labors 300 days in the year at \$1 per day over and above his subsistence until he is 91, and saves all his earnings, he can leave his posterity only \$21,000.

Set apart one hundred families, each having \$250,000, or \$25,000,000, to loan at 6 per cent. Allow each family \$3,000 per year for expenses, or the interest at 6 per cent on \$50,000. Allow for an increase of 25 per cent in population every 12 years. They intermarry for five generations of thirty years each, and each couple upon marriage receives \$50,000, or its annual income of \$3,000. Follow this computation out for five generations of thirty years, and it will be found that these 100 families have accumulated over and above all the expenses named the astonishing sum of \$75,131,750,000!

To comprehend the power with which interest in this country is concentrating the products of labor in the hands of the men who control money, it is only necessary to consider the volume of bonds and mortgages owned by individuals and insurance and loan companies, the U. S., State, County, City, Railroad, School and other bonds, and all the moneys lent on notes by banks, brokers and individuals, and to remember that all are operating alike with a terrible centralizing power against the producers and in favor of the money lenders. This is the great centralizing agency which is seized and controlled by the classes against the masses. Banks are based on obligations of the people which bear interest. Railroad bonds, based on the taxing power of rates, bear interest.

Money issued by the people in their sovereign capacity reaches the people only through the hands of corporations, and bears an exorbitant interest. There is said to be \$300,000,000,000 of debt in the United States. At 6 per cent this takes \$1,800,000,000 annually of the earnings of labor from the pockets of the laborers, and transfers it to the pockets of those who "toil not, neither do they spin," but who control money, and are continually transmuting it into some form of interest-bearing securities.

Thus we have found the seat of our commercial disease. It is the seizure by the money interests of every legal avenue for the accumulation of money through interest. This is the secret of Vanderbilt's wealth, and the sewing woman's poverty. It is the grip the classes have upon the masses. It is what's the matter?

Is there a remedy? Most certainly there is. It is to be found in law—in a reform of our present financial system by law. As rent and wages are controlled by money and determined by interest, and as money is the creation of law, and is controlled by law, therefore law through its control of money and interest controls rent and wages. It controls them now in the interest of the classes. The reform must be to control them in the interest of the masses.

It is controlled now by the classes through the agency of a specie basis, and through the restriction of the volume of money to an amount entirely inadequate to do the business of the country. By this means men are forced to use all kinds of substitutes for money, and to do their business on a credit instead of a cash system, and the accumulative power of interest is constantly brought into play, always against the laborer and producer, and in favor of the capital owner.

The reform will come by the substitution of land security as the basis for money, and adequately increasing its volume. I invite study on these points, and shall write about "a true monetary system" hereafter.

The present money system has the prescriptive right of old age. It has nothing more. It is a hoary-headed monster. Old things are passing away, and all things becoming new. In these latter days single days develop more progress than ages have done before. The inventive force of humanity is not spent, but is only just coming into play.

Of one thing there is no manner of doubt—a new money system must be established—a system that will unbind men's energies instead of shackle them—that will develop instead of retard—that will reward labor instead of punish it—that will distribute wealth instead of concentrate it. That men are beginning to see this truth is herald of the day when they will proclaim and establish it.

It must be established, or this republic will go the cruel way of those

which, have preceded it. "There's a fount about to stream, There's a light about to beam, There's a warmth about to glow, There's a flower about to blow, There's a midnight blackness changing into gray; Men of thought, and men of action, Clear the way!"

"Aid the dawnning tongue and pen! Aid it, hopes of honest men! Aid it, paper! aid it type! Aid it, for the hour is ripe, And our earnest must not sicken into play; Men of thought, and men of action, Clear the way!"

J. BURROWS.

But why multiply words. All thoughtful men agree that the present aspect of society is portentous of great coming changes. The only question is, whether they will be for the better or the worse. Those who believe in man's essential nobleness lean to the former view, those who believe in his essential baseness to the latter. For my part, I hold to the former opinion. "Looking Backward" was written in the belief that the golden age lies before us and not behind us, and is not far away. Our children will surely see it, and we too, who are already men and women, if we deserve it by our faith and works. —Edward Bellamy.

In an interview with a leading banker of this city, last week, he admitted frankly that the farmers of the northwest could never pay off their mortgages with present prices of products, rates of interest, railroad charges, etc. He further said his bank was compelled to scrutinize more and more carefully its customers and to refuse men loans who have always been good customers heretofore, because they had nothing behind them but incumbered real estate. Thus the cords are being drawn around the victims as they journey the hard-pan road to bankruptcy. Moral—vote the old way, vote for Wall street, vote for a money famine, and cover the country ten feet deep with bonds and mortgages to enslave yourself and your posterity.—Iowa Journal.

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

Under this head we solicit short articles from the people upon any and all subjects of interest. We cannot undertake to be responsible however for any matter appearing under this head—the design being to allow the greatest freedom to writers, whereby they can discuss, and thus take an interest in the great questions of the day which are so materially affecting the people. Write plain but never mind your spelling, grammar, or anything of that sort, we'll attend to that. Sign what you choose to your articles, but send us your name always.

SILVER CREEK, July 29.—EDITOR ALLIANCE:—While the Farmers' Alliance is said to be non-partisan, its objects are supposed to be largely political, viz: To secure the election to office of upright and capable men and the enactment of equal and just laws. No one can question that these are very worthy objects of desire, but the question arises, how are they to be attained? How are the farmers effectively to exert their power? The answer will commonly be, through the ballot. But, how through the ballot? Two ways are presented to us,—either to work within old party lines, or to form a new party.

It is true we might all agree to join some one of the minor parties, but that is utterly impracticable, and not to be thought of, as a vast and overwhelming majority of the farmers now belong to one or the other of these old parties, either republican or democratic, I shall speak particularly with reference to them, and notwithstanding all the denunciation that is heaped upon them, and much of it justly so, I am free to say that of the two plans proposed, I think the true policy of the farmer is to choose the former, viz: to work within the old party lines. For the purpose of this discussion we may suppose them to have existed contemporaneously since the foundation of the government. While each may have many stains upon the pages of its history, each has a record of which, on the whole it may well be proud. Theoretically the party leaders, party platforms and public acts of these parties as represented in congress and state legislatures, faithfully represent the sentiment of the parties themselves, and, if this is not true, practically the fault is with the people themselves, in this, that they do not turn out to the primaries EN MASSE and choose faithful and efficient men to represent them in party councils. I have no patience with the goody-goody citizen who declaims against the old parties because they sometimes—and far too often, I admit—elect to office, county, state and national, tricksters, incompetents and

skunks, when at the same time he never in his life took an active part in his party primary. These are the men, who, wrapped in their robes of political self-righteousness, form new parties which are expected to take possession of the government—and the offices—and by the enactment of salutary laws, regenerate the world and usher in the millennium. Brother farmers, if you can't succeed in the old parties, where, at least in the great northwest you have a majority, you could not succeed in a new party. But remember that it will often take hard work and skillful work to carry your points; numbers alone are not sufficient. You must go to the primaries and to the polls with a clear and definite understanding of what you wish to accomplish and of the means by which you expect to carry your points. You must have a good knowledge of parliamentary law and be familiar with the tricks of your opponents. You must even be prepared to fight the devil with fire. If, after due attention and work, you find the nominee of your party is one whom you cannot conscientiously support, then I would exercise my God-given right to bolt, subjecting my party for the time to the discipline of disaster, hoping that through defeat it might learn wisdom. But while we may have the power of a tyrant—latent though it be—we should not use it like a tyrant. I would not have all the offices filled by farmers if I could. All citizens are equal before the law; all classes and callings having special interests which become the subjects of legislation, in so far as practicable, are entitled to an equitable representation; and no one class of citizens, simply because it might have the numerical strength, should seek to dominate everything. CHAS. WOOSTER.

BRO. LOUCKS TO THE FRONT.

The Zealous and Energetic President of the South Dakota Farmers' Alliance Is In the Field to Stay,

And the Politicians and Corporations Rend Their Garments and Grab Frantically for a Grain of Comfort.

Their Last Hold Has Slipped.

During the past ten days the press of the country has been making merry over dispatches from South Dakota that President Loucks of the State Farmers' Alliance was found to be ineligible to the office of United States senator; that he was a Canadian; that he had not been a resident of the United States the time required by constitution, etc. The Omaha Republican specially paraded this recently discovered mare's nest with a great flourish of trumpets. To satisfy myself fully in regard to the matter, we wrote to Dakota last week and received the following, which knocks the last prop from under the sinking cause of corporation and ring rule in South Dakota:

OFFICE OF THE ALLIANCE HAIL ASSOCIATION, HURON, SOUTH DAKOTA, July 28.—H. G. ARMITAGE:—In reply to yours of the 23rd to Mr. Crose will say that Mr. Loucks was born in Canada, emigrated to the states about fourteen years ago, has been naturalized over ten years, is about forty-five years of age, has always voted the republican ticket, is one of the the cleanest, brainiest, and most popular farmers in Dakota, and if that doesn't render him eligible to a seat in the United States senate then I see no other way for us to do than to import some fine land thieves from Minnesota or Wisconsin, or railroad robbers from California or Colorado, or Standard Oil hoodlums from Ohio for senatorial material. The farmers of both Dakotas are on the war path and propose to get there this year. Respectfully yours, A. WARDALL.

Unearthed at Last.
The Nonconformist of Winfield, Kansas, has for six months applied itself vigorously to the task of hunting out the authors of the Coffeyville dynamite explosion, that created such a commotion in our sister state just prior to the last election. They have located one of the parties in the state house, where it appears he was given an appointment to keep him quiet, and applications for arrest have thus far been declined. The revelations in connection have created the greatest sensation of the season in that state. A private letter from the editor states that the full history will be out this week in pamphlet form, to be sold at 15 cts. per copy. Like thousands of others we want that history, for written in the style peculiar to that editor, one can almost imagine the sparks flying as from a dynamo. The Non Con is also one of the strongest supporters of the Alliance in Kansas, an item we are glad to note in its favor.

From Liberty Alliance.
Mr. Editor:—Thinking perhaps you would like to hear from your old home Alliance, of its general prosperity etc., I will pen you the following: Liberty Alliance is moving along in an even tenor adding frequently new members, members of sterling worth and staying qualities who will help keep up the reputation this Alliance has always borne of keeping up her end of the plank as high as any of them. We have not done a very great amount of work thus far, but one thing we did accomplish, we procured our binding twine at a less price than it cost us last season in spite of the great twine trust, while others, outside of the order, paid an advance above last season. So much for co-operation if even on a small scale.

Mr. Editor, it is quite amusing now—a-days to hear the old party line men of one party twitting and jeering the others about the difference in prices between democratic versus republican administration. But they go to the elevator men, railroads and shyster politicians, and are told it is caused by an "overproduction" and, oyster like, the old bats and clogs to prosperity, swallow it, and put in a few more acres of grain, a few more hours of toil, deprive themselves of less of the comforts of life, in order to keep the ball a rolling and make the interest payment on the farm. Talk about overproduction when within six hundred miles of us, according to your last issue, over twenty thousand people are starving and suffering for the want of food, and pray Mr. Republican what is on the market today that has been produced since Mr. Harrison was inaugurated? As I understand it, Mr. Editor, we expect to accomplish our looked for reform by education of the masses, but it seems that with such men as these that the expression of the Missouri preacher, after being tarred and feathered, would be applicable. When asked about the society down there his answer was that "death and education would make it far more pleasant." Likewise with us, it looks as though it would take something more than education. Hoping and wishing you success in your good work, I remain Yours &c. A MEMBER.

SHARES OF \$10 EACH.

The objects of the association is the shipping and sale of farm products and the purchase of farm supplies. The incorporators are G. W. Bailey, F. M. Rathbun, and ten others. The Omaha Republican in noticing the filing of these articles of incorporation childishly "vents its spleen" by ridiculing the color and kind of paper the document is written upon. In the meantime the Farmers' Alliance goes right on attending to its business of making just such transparent subjects as the Republican howl.

Send Us Your Neighborhood News.
Will our friends in all parts of the state kindly send us all matters of local interest from time to time in their respective neighborhoods? This way we will all know what is going on around us and make our paper the farmer's newspaper as well as an aid to the organization. Who will be the first to respond with a good local news letter.

WINFIELD, KANS., July 28.—EDITOR ALLIANCE:—I have just been reading one of your recent issues and must say, Good for Nebraska! Your farmers are getting on the right track at last. In this county of Cowley we have over 4,000 members and upwards of fifty Subordinate Alliances, with an exchange store here that does a cash business of \$300 to \$1,400 per day. It is a total revolutionizing everything, and politicians are, as never before, wholly at sea.

Yours for liberation by the shortest cut. H. VINCENT.

FREMONT, NEB., July 23.—EDITOR ALLIANCE: In traveling around I find that farmers are glad to get a copy of THE ALLIANCE and the constitution, and, all agree, that the farmers should organize; and that after the busy season is over they will call a meeting and let me know, and all think that they will go in full length for "Equality before the Law." As this seems prevalent, I think that after harvest there will be a general uprising and union of strength among the farmers and then there will be some rattling among the dry bones of monopolists of any and all kinds. I think that within a month I can add to your subscription list very materially, but, of course, time will tell. Fraternaly, J. Y. M. SWIGART.

FORT GAINES, GA., July 23.—EDITOR ALLIANCE:—What is the pecuniary condition of the agriculturist and laborer in your state? If not in a satisfactory condition, why? Is it caused by laziness and extravagance? The banking system? By freight rates on watered R. R. stocks? By R. R. pools? By trusts? By combination of capital? By a too high tariff? If none of these, then why the unsatisfactory condition? Let us reason together, ascertain the cause and apply the remedy. Let us learn of each other what is needed, and, like a band of brothers, forget a solid north, a solid west, a solid south, and only owe fealty to a solid patriotic union; agree on issues, and elect members to congress that will carry them out. Let me hear from you. Fraternaly yours, R. M. BROWN.

Some More B. & M.
Last week Lieut. Hayes of the 22nd Street Station had to call out a large force of patrolmen to prevent the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Company from laying tracks in the Sixth Ward without an ordinance. The employees of the corporation showed fight until Hayes' men showed their guns. The action of the railroad company was unwarranted and illegal and was a gross usurpation of the people's rights and privileges. The trespassers have not been prosecuted, though it is the plain duty of the city to do so.—From Chicago Tribune of July 17th.

Yes, this is the C. B. & Q. every day in the week. The right to tear down peoples houses, rip up yards and grounds without proceeding according to law is strictly in keeping with a spirit evinced toward the people of this state ever since the road crossed the Missouri river. They assume chartered rights to mean a life lease on the universe apparently.

Job Printing For Alliances.
We are prepared to do any and all kinds of printing for Alliances. Letter and note heads, envelopes, cards, by-laws, circulars, handbills, etc. Send in your orders and we will do the work at prices as reasonable as it can be done.

Cambridge Alliance Incorporates.
Articles of incorporation of the Cambridge Farmers' Alliance Business Association were filed with the secretary of state, last week. The capital stock is placed at \$20,000 divided into