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THE ALLIANCE.

OFFICIAL ORGAN
NEBRASKA
STATE FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

VOL. I.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, WEDNESDAY, AUG. 7, 1889.

NO. 8.

Editorial Notes and Clippings.

Clubbing Rates.

To those of our readers who might wish to take a Daily newspaper—one whose opinions are his 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.

Let organization be the watchword the coming fall and winter in Nebraska.

The farmer who thinks his particular party owes him good things, and has good things in store for him, will die with something coming to him.

There must always be a taking from in order to add to. Therefore the more millionaires the more paupers, and thus the breach widens today.

The Farmers' Alliances of Hamilton county met at Aurora Saturday next, the 10th inst., to take measures toward the organization of a farmers' insurance company.

Bro. Evans, of the Inman Review, says complimentary things for our paper, and then scissors, purloins, or otherwise hooks two of our editorials last week, all of which is appreciated.

Bro. John A. Hogg, of Shelton, says of the crops in his vicinity. Hundreds of acres of oats went to the ground on account of the wet weather. Some large fields were never touched on the Platte valley.

The Banker's Monthly for July recommends to its readers investments in trusts. It says: "Sugar trusts, cotton-seed oil trusts, and gas trusts have proved advancing investments, and others will be listed perhaps quite as good."—Nonconformist.

There will be more farms change hands, and more mortgages foreclosed the next twelve months than any previous twelve months in the history of Cowley county, Kansas. Large numbers are just deciding over their farms without assistance of sheriff.—P. H. Albright.

The State Journal has just discovered the fact that an Alliance paper is to be published in this city. If the Journal had been launched forth shortly after the pilgrim fathers "first landed in America" it would by this time be on the banks of the Hudson river taking a skeptical squint at Bob Fulton's "steam fixin'" experiment.

Bro. W. T. Allen, of Ashland, called in to see us this week. He reports everything jogging along nicely in his county. The threshing machines are now running and the wheat is turning out very fairly per acre, and the quality excellent. The protracted wet spell during harvest did not do the damage which was feared by the farmers. All of which we are glad to hear.

The Alliance has made a remarkable growth in North Carolina. There are now 1800 Sub-Alliances in the state, and still the good work goes on. This is cheering news. The more the farmers organize the better their rights will be protected and the brighter will be their future. We congratulate the "Old North State" upon this splendid success.—Farm and Home.

They have got an old fellow over in Pike township, Indiana, who is crankier than any of us. He has become so thoroughly imbued with the idea that the Harrison administration means starvation to the people that he positively refuses to eat anything, and has now fasted forty-three days. But then, as an Indiana paper puts it, he doubtless began early in order to avoid the rush.

The old farmer said to his boys that "this thing of sittin' around an' waitin' for sunthin' to turn up, is a good deal like sittin' down on a milk stool and waitin' for a cow to back up to be milked." If we sit around waiting for a mysterious something—we don't know what—to turn up and bring about a better condition of things than we now have, we'll still be waiting when Gabriel blows his trumpet in the morning. Let's do the turning up ourselves.

These matters termed political are simply matters of straight business, bread and butter, dollars and cents. Still, during political times we turn it over in fee simple to bankers, corporations and hungry office seekers, and then go to the polls and warrant and defend their title.

"By George, a man will go to the poor house trying to farm in Ohio," said a young man from that state a few days ago. Yes, and by George, it seems that the farmers of that state too are beginning to get "unruly" just like we western fellows and the rest of our gang down south. We'll all get a thing or two beat into us by and by.

There was an inclination to believe among many, after the Exchange Store started up in Winfield, that it was only a question of a very short time, that institution would "go the trip," but from the showing made by the directors on Thursday last, it is rather on the increase than on the decrease. After examining the books of the manager carefully, they found a business of over \$24,000 to have been done in four months and that after paying all expenses, (which have been pretty heavy) the Exchange was \$401 ahead. This trade was carried on with a capital of \$1,600.—Dexter (Kan.) Free Press.

It is estimated that five hundred farms pass into the hands of eastern capitalists every day in the state of Kansas, through the process of closing mortgages and sheriff sale notices. Unless something can be done to turn this tide that is overflowing the farming element of our lovely state, nine out of every ten of our real estate owners will be renters and at the mercy of the corporate money power. Think of it, five hundred farms every day for one year, would make 182,500 farms. This state of affairs is getting alarming and it is about time something was being done to remedy the evil.—Dexter (Kan.) Free Press.

In a single day last week three and a half millions of gold was shipped to England. Besides this, they are now coming directly and purchasing large industries and forming trusts, selling the stock at home; thus step by step we pass under the English yoke. They will soon own our industries, our government, our farms, and we will be their tenants. Then the revolutionary sire will rise from his grave to weep over his loss by ignorance and prejudice and venality, of all for which he fought and died. The Yankee was smart enough to fight for independence, but he is not smart enough to hold the prize. He could conquer British Armies, but meekly surrenders to British usurers.—Iowa Tribune.

In Barrett's Life of Lincoln, pages 309 and 310, there may be found a warning from Mr. Lincoln, the man who was head and shoulders above any so-called statesman now living. It must be remembered that this "warning," as Mr. Lincoln called it in his message to congress in 1861, has not been permitted to appear in the later histories of the life of Lincoln. Here it is:

"Monarchy itself is sometimes hinted at as a possible refuge from the power of the people. In my present position I could scarcely be justified were I to omit raising a warning voice against the approach of returning despotism. There is one point to which I ask a brief attention. It is the effort to place capital on an equal footing with or above labor, in the structure of government. Let them beware of surrendering a political power which they already have, and which, if surrendered, will surely be used to close the doors of advancement to such as they, and to fix new disabilities upon them, till all liberty is lost."

Later he says: "As a result of the war, corporations have been enthroned and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money power of the country will work upon the prejudices of the people until all wealth is aggregated in the hands of a few, and the republic is destroyed."—Ex.

It is hardly possible to conceive the crimes perpetrated against labor in the great cities in this boasted land of freedom and plenty where

men, women and children must work or starve. Pictures of the wretchedness of the poor classes have been presented again and again of the slaughter and torture of the poor, and yet their condition grows yearly more wretched. Congress can legislate to protect the great manufacturers, to protect monopolies and railroads and can grant millions of acres of public lands for speculative purposes, but it cannot help the poor. The oft repeated declaration that some day the law makers would be compelled to protect the helpless as well as the rich is being forced forward with rapid strides at these times. There is a limit to human endurance and the passiveness of the great army of laborers.—Call.

Here You Have It.

SPRING VALLEY, ILL., Aug. 2.—Twin children, belonging to the wife of one of the locked-out miners, died here today. The physicians pronounce it a clear case of starvation. The mother had but little food in the house and was unable to provide proper nourishment for them.

Bro. John A. Hogg, deputy organizer for Buffalo county, and one of the most successful fruit growers in that county, and a member of the Nebraska Horticultural Society, sends us a copy of resolutions adopted at a late meeting at Fremont, of interest to farmers and fruit raisers all over the state:

WHEREAS, It is known to this society that in all parts of the state, agents or dealers solicit and take orders for budded apple trees, claiming a grafted tree is worthless, being necessarily "black-hearted." That this condition originates at the splice, in the root, and spreads upward through the tree. And

WHEREAS, It has come to our knowledge also that these persons do not deliver budded apple trees, but root grafted trees, and they are by means of these false statements enabled to sell such trees at exorbitant prices, to wit: From forty cents to one dollar and fifty cents each. Therefore be it

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this society and of experienced horticulturists in general that for a vigorous climate a root grafted apple tree, properly made, is better in every respect than a budded tree.

Resolved, That "black-heart" does not in any case originate and spread upward.

Resolved, That "black-heart" is usually caused by the unadaptability of a tree to the climate, or the improper handling of a proper variety.

Resolved, That we request the press of the state to publish these resolutions.

A contributor to the National Economist sums up the necessary reform as: "First, Abolition of land monopoly. Second, Money at cost. Third, Transportation at cost."

Freedom of land, freedom to exchange the products of labor without usury, and free competition in transportation, is the way we would put it.

These reforms imply that the individual must be free; he must have liberty to act and to do. No statutes or governmental enactments should stand in the way of his freedom.

The abolition of land monopoly is necessary to the social advancement and deliverance of the people, but the statutes say no. The people are entitled to exchange the product of their labor without paying usury, or in other words, the right to use or issue any medium of exchange they may desire without the interference of the state and its pets the bankers, but the law says no!

Nothing short of liberty, absolute liberty, can save from the ills which bear with such terrible weight upon the producer. This cannot be secured through legislative enactments, or by making more laws. What is needed is to repeal, wipe out and annul all statutes which infringe, imperil, or abridge the rights, the liberties of the individual, and the star of social regeneracy will have risen.

It is not the money loaner, the land grabber, and the railroad monopolist that hurts, but the law which permits them to live.

Queries.

MR. EDITOR:—I hear a good deal of talk lately about the Farmers' Alliance and I would like to learn all about it I can, and therefore I desire to ask a few questions, that I may get more light on some points.

Is the Alliance in favor of the government issuing money to the people on real estate security at the same rate of interest that it now issues to the national banks? If so, it looks as though a few men who came to this

western country eighteen or twenty years ago and homesteaded and timber claimed one-half section of land, could now incorporate under the laws of this state and get their money for one per cent per year, and then, while paying the government their taxes on the land, could start in business at any of the towns and could undersell other firms who have to borrow money of the banks, so that the few men would be able to have a monopoly of that branch of the business and might be the cause of bankrupting all the other dealers who would be in debt to the banks.

Yes, under this infamous national banking system somebody has surely, as the Dutchman said, got to "go burst," the only question being as to what class it shall be. However, the farmers have the numerical strength, and by a thorough system of organization can save themselves.

The Farmers' Alliance invites business men of all classes to co-operate with it, wipe out the plundering system and all be saved. If they do not choose to do it they will have to be the ones that "go burst," that's all.

I understand that the Alliance has started a store at a small town on the St. Joe & Grand Island railroad where there was a good store with about \$5,000 stock of goods, and I hear that he was doing a good business, and now I hear that he is going to leave the place. I hear that it is a good place for business and that it is a fine farming country, and that the farmers are as well fixed around there as any place. So what was the use of starting a store where there was one that could furnish the community with all the goods they wanted?

Yes, apparently there was only room for one store in the locality you speak of, but the farmers' store must have been the one that saved them the money, otherwise the first one would not be ready to "go burst."

Oh yes; there is one other thing I want to know. Are the ALLIANCE men going to stick to the old PARTIES, or are they going to form a new party, or will they be independent? If they are independent will they ever get an office from either of the old parties, or would they be allowed to take part in the caucus or convention of the grand old republican party?

As to the Alliance sticking to the old "PARTIES," we are not prepared to say. The old deacon said to his son, "John, get money honest if you can, but GET MONEY." So, we presume, it will be with the Farmers' Alliance. If they can't get there through the old Parties they'll get there anyhow.

I hear that you are publishing a paper called THE ALLIANCE, and if you publish this I will be sure to get the paper so that I can see what your answers are to my inquiries. Hoping that I haven't asked any unanswerable questions I will await the answers.

P. S.—If you answer these may I ask a few more questions? Q. Sure thing.

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.]

Bro. Porter Talks Business.

PLAINVIEW, NEB., July 28.—ED. ALLIANCE.—Not seeing anything in THE ALLIANCE from this place, I will drop you a few lines, as you have promised to correct all grammatical mistakes and bad spelling. The question that appears to interest us as farmers is, how can we secure ourselves against the manipulation of the political wire workers who have the programme arranged and the tickets made out for the dear people to accept? Here the farmers have the control of the future in their hands. They are the safety valve, and by demanding that none but farmers be sent to represent them they can redeem the state from the dead beats who are, like the devil-fish, sucking the life and energy out of the independence of the citizens. Now, we will be told that this will hurt your party and build up the opposite party. But have you not capable and honest farmers in your party that you can trust to represent your interests? It is not gas and gab you want so much as men with principle and action. But the only sure means you have for obtaining reform is in securing representation by men of your

own class. Another effectual means of reaching the candidates would be to bind them by a system of promises on printed circulars, and oblige all candidates to give explicit answers and sign their names to it so that there could be no dodging the issue. The Farmers' Alliance can propound all the questions that are suitable, and localities may add those appropriate to their local situation. If the candidate refuses to sign this obligation leave him out in the cold and select one who has the manhood to express his honest convictions. The struggle is now between the party hacks and the farmers. So never mind your parties; vote for yourselves and your true interests. Wishing prosperity to THE ALLIANCE,
Yours for justice,
J. A. PORTER.

BROMFIELD, NEB., Aug. 4.—EDITOR ALLIANCE.

I am a reader of your paper, and when I read the notes sent to you by the farmers I cannot help but express myself, for there exists a most serious state of affairs. The most useful class in this country, they who should be the most fortunate and independent, are becoming oppressed, the hardest worked, poorest paid, and are looked upon as the mud sills of society. Now there is no necessity for such, but is a reality and the farmer knows it, and every year it becomes worse. So I will say to my brother farmers, stand up for your rights as free Americans, for your cause is one the noblest of man and is your duty to your posterity. And don't be led astray by sleek politicians and other important cranks, for I think that any farmer who has not the grit to demand his own, in receiving what he earns, is not worthy of the name of an American. We have between five and six hundred members in this county who have the spirit of 1776. We don't mean to just cast the tea overboard, but kick a hole through the bottom of the ship. We have been supporting too many kings.

Now in regard to taxation and assessments made on property. I believe that property should be assessed at its full cash value, and any one who has sworn that he has given in his property to the assessor correctly should be compelled to take the assessed price for it if offered. I think it would catch some men who shirk lawful taxation. The farmers of this county are paying taxes on mortgaged property, and when the assessor comes around to the money loaner he (the money loaner) is very poor, own but few notes and saddles the taxes on the poor man.

Not wishing to worry you, I will close by saying that I think President Burrows is on the right financial track. Yours very respectfully,
B. F. MCDANNELL.

LINCOLN, NEB., Aug. 8.—EDITOR ALLIANCE.

The B. & M. railroad company, true to their low, debased instincts, have employed a worthless whelp in this city to work himself into the good graces of the Knights of Labor here, and by a solemn obligation to uphold its principles join the order, and thus keep his vile masters informed as to what transpires at every meeting of the order, and whether any B. & M. employes are members. All society spurns a low, debased traitor, and is a servant greater than his master? K. of L.

EDITOR ALLIANCE.

—All the farmers who are not stuck in the mud of partizan politics are fairly alive to the necessity of organizing to protect themselves against the various combinations of wicked, selfish men, who have combined for the purpose of extortion. They see the tide of debts, mortgages and interest, rising higher and higher, and the price of their products sinking lower year by year. They have at last awakened and fully realize the fact that interest suckers, speculators and extortioners of every kind, have combined to filch from them each year all the products of their toil except barely sufficient to keep them strong enough to produce another crop the next year for thieves to consume, and are now ready to take hold of anything that will check this system of spoliation which has driven them to the verge of bankruptcy and despair. Oh! if the farmers could be made to see the necessity of withdrawing their financial support from the good for nothing sheets in every village which are run in the interest of corporations and selfish greed, and throw their moral and financial support to the few papers that champion their cause so bravely, the battle would be half won. Now

my farmer friends, let me tell you that just as long as you furnish the sinews of war for the enemy and put canons, rifles, shot guns, pistols and squirt guns, in their hands and all loaded, your bodies will receive the contents. In the name of God, and for love of my country, I ask you to help support the little band of self-sacrificing men that are fighting so nobly for your homes, your wives and your little children. DON'T allow them to be driven from the field by the enemy, (because they are legion) for lack of your support. "Cast your bread upon the waters and it will return to you after many days" So will your money with compound interest. Dont fear.
C. J. MECHAN,
Cambridge, Neb.

Who is to Blame?

The question asserts itself, and repeating itself, asks: Who is to blame and where rests the existing evils of today? The answer comes loud, strong and clear—with the farmer, laborer and workman alone. Certainly if the monopolist has been allowed to make the laws, he has legislated for his own interest; obeyed the law made by himself; got rich; lives in luxury and comfort; puts his finger to his nose and cries "hunky walker" and trusts go on. The same stands true concerning all great railroad companies. The constitution of the state of Nebraska plainly says that the legislature shall control the tolls of transportation, and the legislature, in answer to the farmer's cry, wail and lament—do what? Create a railroad commission whose chief end is to draw their own salary, freights going up and down at the will of the railroad companies, the high rate of tariff still existing. Who is to blame? Please notice that a few years ago a bill was introduced in the Nebraska legislature reducing the rate of passenger travel from five to three cents per mile. The bill was introduced by the wrong parties (anti-monopolists) and died the death. Two years later the bill was again introduced, amended so as to read, "to and from all stations east of McCook," and so passed. This reduction required no railroad commission, and there is no good, solid, sound reason why freight rates west of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers should be so much higher than they are east of Chicago. Of one thing the farmers may rest assured—monied power is a hard one to fight, and if we free ourselves from the masters whom we have helped to make, it will require closed pockets, rolled-up sleeves, a determined will, with a strong pull together combined with deaf ears to slick, oily pleadings of the fellows who have got there and propose to stay. The railroad companies are not to blame. If we donate them twenty miles of land on each side of their road, vote immense bonds as an inducement for them to lay down the iron, give them the undivided half of two or more sections if they will plant us a depot, give them full control of the grain elevators, and allow them all the freight these men of little conscience may ask. All this has been done blindly, on our part, I admit. Now I take it, the men who have opened out the great west, stood the storms, trials and fearful hardships of the emigrant's life, are no faint hearted fellows. All we need, boys, is rousing up. We have the power. Shall we lift? And if so, by all means let us lift together, using the law of our state reducing the freight charges down to a reasonable figure, and putting laws upon our statute books curtailing the power of the monopolist, and stamping out the trusts. I would not advocate radical measures, but we would enjoy a small slice of turkey instead of all buzzard.

H. B.

Bro. R. M. Brown, Fort Gaines, Georgia:—The matter is that the republicans leaders protect the English manufacturer by putting duty on raw material so our manufacturers cannot sell as cheap as the English, and the democrats want to ruin our manufacturers as well as the people who are working for them, so that England can send in goods free of duty, and that is what will ruin the farmer for a home market. Now, what we want is to get rid of the English spies who are holding seats in the U. S. senate and lower house of congress, and elect men who will let raw material come in free, so that if our manufacturers won't pay fair wages the workman can unite with the farmers and put up manufacturing of their own in every country and down old England in every hamlet in the world on goods of all kinds, and have a home market for our produce, and in less than ten years we would have a country that would support 60,000,000 more people. We also want our people who take the places of the English spies now in congress to loan money direct to the

people at one per cent per annum, and the government to own and operate all railroads and telegraph the same as the postoffices. Then we will be independent as our forefathers fought for, in place of where we are today, slaves, and our masters don't grub us, or nurse us when we are sick, or bury us when we are dead, but go on protecting monopolies and make them the independent people of the nation.

We are working the third party here and are going to carry the county in order to get rid of the whisky bums of attorneys who are running Lincoln county and the state. We showed Bro. Stebbins' letter in No. 6 to the N. K. here and they say they will be right with us; also the merchants and every farmer. All say that the farmers in protecting themselves are doing what they ought to do. Let every county in the state and nation do the same.
HENRY FACKA, North Platte.

What Must We do to be Saved?

Every year the farmer finds it harder and harder to pay interest on his mortgaged indebtedness, to say nothing of the principal. Without a change in our present systems it will soon be impossible to keep up this interest and mortgages will be foreclosed by the wholesale. With so much property thrown upon the market it will naturally be depreciated in value to a mere nothing. Those having the money will garner in the golden harvest of other men's long years of weary toil and anxiety. Now then, who has the money? Who gets the land? There is only one way to avert this pending state of affairs—and that is by a thorough organization and unity of action on the part of the farmers to the end that they may have complete control of the law-making power of the states. This would frighten the money power of the nation into relaxing their hold on the throats of the people to some extent through fear of general repudiation. Then by a policy of "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," we will go on and gradually unload some of our crushing burdens. This is the only answer to the question, "What shall we do to be saved?" S. V.

Omaha Fair.

Omaha Fair and Exposition Sept. 2 to 6 inclusive. Merchants and manufacturers meet during this time at the Coliseum. Attractions the most beautiful. It will be worth a lifetime to visit Omaha at this time. ST.

Official Notice to Alliances.

All Subordinate or County Alliances wanting coal the coming season from the state agency should send in the number of ears wanted, the grade of coal used, and be sure to state what railroad they are tributary to. This matter must be attended to at once and reports sent in promptly to the secretary of the State Alliance.

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.

Price List of Oils to Alliances.

150 test, medium white coal oil, 11 1/2 cts.
150 " prime " " " " 10 1/2 " "
175 " Y. L. " " " " 11 " "
175 " stove gasoline " " " 11 " "
These oils in barrel lots. The best harness oil in either one or five gallon cans, 70 cents per gallon. Pure kerosene a foot oil in one to five gallon cans, 60 cents per gallon. In barrel lots, 50 cents per gallon. Axle grease, thirty-six boxes in case, \$1.85.
ALLEN ROOT, State Agent.

State Agent's Notice.

It is very desirable and will save some expense, and be better in every way, if the Alliances will bulk their orders so one shipment will do for many parties. It is found that little or nothing can be saved on groceries at retail. If orders are in unbroken packages can be had at jobbers' rates. Price lists are of little account only in a general way. The price on sugar changed three cents in one week, not long since. Many other things the same.
ALLEN ROOT,
State Agent.

FARMERS' UNION INS. CO., of Grand Island, Neb. I. N. White and A. Rodgers are Special Agents for Greeley and Wheeler counties. We invite you to investigate the merits of this company and see where the difference comes in. In the first place, you only pay one per cent for your insurance.

FIRE INSURANCE—See or address Stewart A. Bush, Head, Neb., Special Agents, Farmers' Union (Mutual) Ins. Co., Grand Island, Nebraska.

J. M. ROBINSON,
KENESAW, ADAMS COUNTY, NEBR.

Breeders and Raisers of Standard Bred Cattle and Horses. Grand Island, Nebraska.