

THE ALLIANCE.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, WEDNESDAY, AUG. 14, 1899.

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PER YEAR
IN ADVANCE.

VOL. I.

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 Weekly Call at \$6 per year. Of 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.

Editor Armitage and his aids are making a great State paper of THE ALLIANCE and will no doubt enlighten the people as to best way for farmers to get their share of what they produce.—State Democrat.

The two Alliances north of Venango are in a flourishing condition, members have been initiated every evening since they organized. Prejudice is dying out, and sympathy for the Alliance at the present rate will soon be universal.—Venango Argus.

Geo. W. Felton, of Angus, has been appointed organizer of Farmers' Alliances for this county, to whom applications should be made for such work. Mr. Felton is one of the county's oldest and most successful farmers, and seeing the pressing necessity on the part of the farmers for the speedy protection of their interests, has accepted the position he now holds in hopes of helping his fellow citizens.—Nuckols Co. Herald.

Government loans to the people are a great issue. This will lighten the great burden of debt upon the shoulders of the farmers to the extent of being two thirds extinguished to start with. With such an increased volume of money put in circulation the wheels of industry will begin to turn, thereby furnishing employment to the now vast army of unemployed workmen all over the land. Thus will labor be afforded some of the fat of the land, and thus will the farmer begin to realize what a home market is in deed and in truth.

The ring press of Dakota are at present greatly exercised over the la personal of the farmers comprising the constitutional convention. Because these farmers are not dressed in hickory shirts and overalls, and scatter hay seed over the carpets, the aforesaid press is raising a cry of warning to the dear people to look out for "fa se prophets." The last desperate act of a drowning man is to grab at straws, and this flimsy wail of the Dakota press is indicative that the waves of popular sovereignty in the territories are about to sweep them under.

On Tuesday the News contained an item stating that Conductor Ed Lyman was enjoying a lay off. The real truth of the matter has leaked out, that Conductor Lyman has been relieved permanently from duty by Supr. D. E. Thompson, but for what reason he refuses to state. However, in railroad circles it is fully understood that he has been relieved for the awful crime of being one of the chief officers of the Order of Railroad Conductors of this state. Since the strike of the engineers Supt. Thompson has kept an eye on the boys, and quietly let out all employees who join any order that in any way regulates the wages or hours of employment of any of the company's employes. Supt. Calvert has promised Conductor Lyman's friends that he shall have a full hearing before the board and if he has been wrongly discharged, he will at once be reinstated.—Neb. City News.

ON THE DEATH BED.
If there is a farmer in Indiana who is willing to do anything except gamble at the hard times, let him put his shoulder to the wheel and help push the crushing load off the backs of the people.
The trouble has been with the majority of the farmers, they have paid too much attention to the interests of the politicians and not enough to their own.
If that class of fellows had to do all the suffering we would not object to it so much, but the fact is, the

great mass of people are innocent, yet are made to suffer equally with those who are guilty.

The Leader proposes to do all it can to knock the scales from the eyes of the farmers so that they can see the sad predicament into which the country has fallen. We shall endeavor to give them the causes and we opine they know the effects. We shall also have a remedy for the disease, and if, after a thorough analysis of the remedy, they prefer the disease to the remedy, we shall quietly prepare for the funeral—for there will be a tremendous funeral—the nation will die. Is it exceedingly sick now, it is on the death bed, and, if the remedy be not hastily applied, the Republic must go out—it must die.

Farmer friends, it is for you to decide this great question of life or death with your country.

Would you have it live and its people again become prosperous and happy, in the name of the Supreme Ruler, throw aside your politics and work with all possible energy for yourself, your family and your country.—Indianapolis Leader.

It pays farmers to deal through the Farmers' Alliance as illustrated in the following example. Mr. Wm. Johnson, living three miles southeast of town ordered a bill of lumber from the Alliance to build a house on his farm and he says he has made a saving of \$40 or \$50 besides getting a great deal better lumber than he could get by dealing elsewhere. \$40 or \$50 is as good to the farmer, who has to sell his corn and oats at 15 cts. a bushel, as to any one else.—Trenton Torpedo.

Push on the Wheel.

Let each and every one of us from now on renew our zeal in the cause we are so vitally interested in and push the organization of the Farmers' Alliance as we never pushed before. Let us begin at the base and work up. In other words, let us attend to matters of serious concern to us right at home first. From that ascend to the state, then take higher ground and "on to Washington. In the first place, the matter of assessments and taxation must be looked into. Those who have the wealth and "influence" are not paying their proportion of the taxes by a long way. In fact, their ways of shirking and shouldering the burden on those who are the least able to bear it, is bordering on the criminal, and would be if justice ruled today. For the time being, or until the legislature meets again, a good plan would be for the Alliances in each township, where the counties are under township organization, to have a committee appointed to meet with the township board of equalization and see to it that equality of rights, privileges and assessments are meted to all alike. A good many are under the impression that when the board sits as a board of equalization that that is the proper place to adjust all differences in the matter of assessments. This is a mistake where counties are under township organization. All the county board can do in this case is to equalize assessments of townships. They can not touch individual cases in a township. As we said before, you must go to your township board for that. A year from this fall we elect members to the 26th session of the legislature, and then is the time for us to do our work. We must see to it that a law is passed that will forever put a stop to bankers and rich "influential" men shirking their share of taxation. In the first place, in order to enact a law of this kind, we want to know that the men we send to make our laws are in zealous sympathy with our movements, and if they are not, DON'T VOTE FOR THEM if they are the best republicans or democrats that ever lived. This is not official, but the editor's own private say in the matter. We want to send THIEVES to jail, not to the legislature. A good many suggestions are now being advanced by our people as to how a law should be constructed to thoroughly cover the ground in this assessment matter, but the simplest and most effectual, Bro. Root of Omaha, advances. His plan is to provide every assessor with a seal, and all notes and other negotiable instruments falling due after the first of April be made non-collectable unless they bear the seal of the assessor. This would bring them to light with a flutter when the assessor came around.

Another thing we want, and MUST HAVE, is cheaper freight rates in Nebraska. How the rates in this state compare with those of Iowa we hope to be able to show right down to a cent in an early issue of our paper. We do not care particularly about passenger rates. Maybe when the railroad companies once get through

taxing up every ward political bumper's pass to the farmers on freight rates, they will make them pay fare when they ride in order to keep up the annual dividend on watered stock. My, but won't these little brass colored fishes yelp and snarl, though, at "hayseeds" when free riders are no more? It will be a red letter day in Nebraska when that time comes to calmly observe the frenzied gyrations of the little sleek-haired poodles.

There are other matters of great importance to be brought up at the next session of the legislature, which we will not touch upon this time. This article is long enough.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers not receiving their paper regularly will please report the fact promptly to us.

NOTICE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Nebraska State Farmers' Alliance will be held at the office of THE ALLIANCE, in Lincoln, on Tuesday, Sept. 10, 1899, at 1 p. m. By order of J. BURROWS, Chm. J. M. THOMPSON, Sec.

ALLIANCE MEETING.

The Alliances of Adams county are requested to meet at Juniata, Aug. 31 for the purpose of organizing a County Alliance. It is very essential that this meeting be well attended. Let every farmer in the county attend if possible. A. C. TOMPKINS, Organizer.

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.]

Flax Straw For Twine.

EDITOR ALLIANCE.—There seems to be an immense amount of work to do all along the line, and there is no way the farmers can turn to avoid the inevitable serfdom into which they are being drawn, only to keep constantly alert and active.

That the combined action of the Alliance has held the price of binding twine this year from going away up higher, and making it a little lower than it was last year, is quite certain. But that they have not yet conquered the foe—only gained a battle—is equally certain. A call for cheaper twine and suggestion that jute and tow could be used has stirred up the trust, and a lot of worthless jute and tow twine has been thrown on the market to show the farmers that there is nothing but manilla and sisal that will make good binding twine. But there are some parties outside of the trust who have demonstrated to all who would take the trouble to get and try it, that good twine could just as well be made of jute and tow as to be made of manilla. I procured a sample ball of this twine and tried it on three different machines, viz: Deering, Buckeye and New McCormick, and no manilla could work any better than did this sample of jute twine. This trial dispels all the doubts that remained in the minds of the men I got to try it. Some of them had previously tried the trust jute twine. Again, we are informed that the same machinery with which jute twine is made will make tow twine just as well, and much cheaper, and the twine is just as good, every ball warranted.

Now, farmers, you are burning every year in Nebraska flax straw enough to supply the state, and perhaps the United States, with material not only for all the twine they want but an immense amount of other uses to which it can profitably be put. Will you in the near future start this, to you, new industry, or continue to burn up your valuable property to get it out of the way. More anon, S. E. SPAULDING, Neligh, Neb.

ALMA, NEB., Aug. 13.—EDITOR ALLIANCE.—In your issue of July 31 I notice an article from Georgia by R. M. Brown. He asks about the condition of the agriculturist in this state, and cites several supposed reasons. He asks if it is caused by laziness and extravagance? I would say that while there may be a few who are of a drowsy disposition, there are many more who are not. As a rule I think the farmers of Nebraska are as hard-working and energetic class of farmers as can be found anywhere in the United States. But, on the other hand, I am compelled to

say, that they are quite extravagant. If, while you are traveling over the state, you see a farmer that places his machine under shelter, you will see that nine-tenths of them, when they are through with them for the season, pile them out doors exposed to the sun, wind and rain, and consequently next season they are obliged to purchase new implements or get repairing done to such an extent that would more than pay for lumber to build shelter.

The banking system is also a great curse as well as the high rates we are compelled to pay for shipping, caused by the freight rates on watered railroad stocks and R. R. pools. The trusts and combinations of capital by their villainous schemes are draining the purse of the people. But in regard to a too high tariff. It is not high enough on some commodities, on others it is too high. High tariff as a rule tends to benefit the farmer. You say the price the farmer gets for his produce is small and wages of the laborer is insufficient. Do you not know that a tariff on your produce tends to keep out the produce that is raised in foreign countries, and evidently in such cases the demand is greater and prices are higher, where if you install a free trade system and allow foreign countries to flood our markets with their surplus produce, the demand for our produce will diminish and prices will decrease as the amount of produce is increased. In foreign countries wages of laborers are small compared with the wages of our laborers, consequently we are not able to compete with foreign prices. For these reasons we need a high tariff. On the other hand sugar may be taken for example. As there is a sugar trust, it then should be on the free list if the Farmers' Alliance does not take in hand the sugar industry and manufacture sugar. But a better way would be to place sugar on the protection list and instigate the farmers to raise sugar cane and beets as I understand it can be produced in any part of the U. S. By this means it seems that we could be able to remove the foundation from the sugar trust. Previous years have demonstrated that an absolute free trade system would be disastrous to the welfare of the nation. A high protective system should be installed and if the surplus becomes dangerous for congress to authorize the surplus to be distributed among the counties of the different states, estimating it according to the population of the last census. In return the taxes would be less on our homes. ALVIN.

BROMFIELD, NEB., Aug. 10.—EDITOR ALLIANCE.—Farmers in Hamilton are, and have been, so busy harvesting, &c., and will be threshing and haying for at least six weeks yet, that but little work has been done toward organizing. When farmers turn out Saturday evenings to their club meetings, and number from ten to twenty regular, you may depend that quite an interest is taken. Grove Alliance has some of the pluckiest ladies that ever dwelt in this land of the free. We take a few copies of THE ALLIANCE, and it is read by every man, woman and child, and all praise it. I see in its columns several good things from old friends, and those with whom I associated in the Alliance nine and eight years ago, and many others of later date have enlisted in the cause of freedom, and it is encouraging to follow their thoughts and know that the principles advocated by the old veterans of the Grange and Alliance have taken root in the minds of younger men, and now appear "like trees walking." I would say to all, keep a cool brain, face the foe and fight as never before, and victory is sure to perch upon the banner of labor. Let all classes of labor unite and work to each other's interest. Some say this cannot be done, but it is a fool's notion. If laboring men who work at manufacturing, and all other labor is not paid good wages, how can farmers expect to sell their produce? Again, if farmers are not well paid for grain, etc., how can they buy anything they need that is made by the hand of those who attend the forge, loom, mines, and many other useful occupations. Again, if farm produce is low, men and boys through the work shops, railroads and mines and make the supply of labor greater than the demand, and thus wages are reduced,

and, if wages are too low to support them in comfort, they again turn to the farms and cause an overproduction. This is what corporations and so-called capitalists want and the manner by which they manage to control labor. I will use the sewing machine as an example as most men and women know more of its work ings. If we twist the under tention too tight it draws the upper thread below and makes an imperfect seam. Likewise, twist the upper thread too hard and you have the same result. Now, it is easy to strike the medium, that both threads lock in the center of the cloth and perfection is the result.

Now we have only two classes of labor—farmers on one side, and all day laborers on the other. But what of the thread? Is it not money? And the garment to be made—the govern-ment that is to cloth, feed and protect her mighty millions on a basis of equality and justice.

Now let us all go to work like men and improve our monetary system—make it good and strong, and do not allow it to be controlled by a few selfish and greedy lords who are trying to resurrect the old master and slave system of the south—not only the colored race, but make it white slaves as well. I hope to see the day that all who practice industry and economy, will be retired at the age of fifty years with a sufficiency of this world's goods to keep him the remainder of his life in comfort. Beware of false leaders, but when you find men good and true stand by them through thick and thin, and don't let party have anything to do with principle, but let it be principle first, last and all the time, and if we get a man on our ticket who does not stand on such principles as we advocate, be he democrat, republican, or any other, scratch him off and put in place thereof some one from other parties who will represent our wishes.

We have a scripture like this—"Smite the leader and the flocks will scatter." Look sharp at this. They have already begun to cry out "Office seeker!" or call some too lazy to work, or some slander, slang or slush thrown at our leaders—all done to scatter the flocks of labor that they may feast a little longer, and dwell in luxury and comfort drawn from honest toilers by class legislation or trusts.

Down with the robbers end tyrants and let us have a government marked out by the most noble American citizen, Hon. Abraham Lincoln, viz: "Of, by, and for the people."

L. C. FLOYD.
MR. EDITOR.—I do not agree with Bro. Wooster politically, for we must have the united effort of the laboring class of the two old parties or monopoly will control us as it does today, for as long as we remain in the two old parties they will keep us fighting over the bloody shirt, or tariff and free trade, and whip us in with the old lash that they have wielded so effectually in the past. Monopoly wants us in the old parties, for there they can control us, but just as soon as we step out into a new party they cannot control us, and a new party is the only place that the laboring class can be united, for the laboring class of the republican party will not go into the democratic party, and vice versa. And when either of the old parties make such a proposition to the other they are asking their neighbor to do that which they are not willing to do themselves. So let us as brothers come out from among our enemies and meet them face to face, lest while we be fighting side by side with them they smite us under the fifth rib and we fall to rise no more. I think the Bro. means all right, but he is like a great many others, he has not got all the moss off yet. JOHN LONG.

KENESAW, NEB.—The heaviest thunder storm of the season visited this locality last Thursday evening. During the storm lightning struck the barn of John Trueman, a mile southwest of this place, and killed eight horses—all the horses on the farm. As Mr. Trueman had no insurance on his stock the loss falls heavily upon him. Kind friends and neighbors, however, circulated a subscription paper and obtained quite a neat sum for him.

So much wet weather is retarding the threshing contemplated by the farmers and not much threshing has thus far been done. Wheat will probably run from 12 to 20 bushels per acre and a fair quality. Oats

have been somewhat damaged, but this is confined to pieces cut a little too green and weedy. What flax has been threshed has turned out from 10 to 12 bushels per acre. The prospects for a good crop of corn was never better, and if the B. & M. persists in giving the "long haul" preference over the short haul, and sells western coal cheaper the farther east they haul it, there will be thousands of bushels of the golden product of Nebraska consumed for fuel in this locality this winter. The Farmers' Alliances are progressing flourishingly and all say that as soon as the present rush of work is over that the work of organization will be pushed as never before.

In the matter of G. D. Coleman, formerly of this place, vs. the B. & M. R. R., it is generally understood around here that the company are going to try and prove that Mr. C. attempted to do bodily injury to the conductor during the "scrimmage" incident to putting him off the train, with a car link. As passenger coaches do not happen to be provided with car links, and as the putting off process took place on the prairie away from blacksmith or machine shops, where Mr. Coleman could have got hold of a dangerous car link, the B. & M. will have to say. Perhaps they will undertake to prove that he is a duplicate of "the coon wot carried a razor."

We notice the Nonpareil is advocating the Henry George theory of taxes on land alone. However plausible such a scheme might be with the multitudes who populate the eastern cities, living in tenements or occupying rooms on the floors of the various stories of houses thronged with the poor class of people who never owned a foot of land, or expect so to do, the great plausible plan falls to the ground and becomes all bosh long ere it crosses the father of waters. The pioneer of the west—the homesteader, the man who left the comforts of eastern homes, endured the hardships of the early settlement, opens out new and unexplored states and territories—should anyone escape taxation on his little home, that is the man who ought to go free, not the manufacturer, merchant, bank or speculator. Our candid opinion is that by far the fairest system of taxation would be "a graded income tax." Tax the landed speculator pro ratio with the farmer, that is, less improvements, otherwise as the lands compare, so tax the lord of the uncultivated manor. No one for a moment doubts, nor questions, the detriment that these large wastes of idle, uncultivated lands, are to our country. Tax the farmer on his income. Tax the money lender on his income. Tax the railroad companies on their income. Tax the merchant, the mechanic, the doctor, the newspaper, in fact, tax the human family according to the return of wealth as it comes rolling in each year, allowing the assessor a wide range in making his assessments or rendering his returns. Is it not a fact that the property of the farmer is returned for taxation much nearer its full value than the property of corporations, manufacturer, banker or merchant? Hence the farmer pays more than his share of the public expense.

For instance (and the following is a true and correct statement.) A farmer's real, actual worth—land, stock, improvements, etc.—is \$5,000. Upon that he pays a tax of \$50. Now, the farmer's income from that farm—worth all told in dollars and cents, \$5,000—in no case exceeds \$1,000, and that is a liberal estimate. Out of the \$1,000 income he pays hired help, threshing bills, wear and tare of machinery, loss of stock, &c., and pays on his income of \$1,000 a tax of five per cent. What other man in the land pays one half of that amount?

Is it not a fact that legion of other men who receive a salary of from \$1,000 to \$2,000 a year escape without paying a dollar of direct tax, save the poll tax?

What per cent does the money lender pay on his income?
Is it not a fact that a direct tax of five per cent on income would stagnate, mire and destroy all business? Yet, the poor farmer endures the burden, and struggles on in hardship and poverty to the end of the chapter.

Let us have a graded income tax. H. B.
Price List of Oils to Alliances.
150 test, medium white coal oil, 11 1/2 cents.
150 " prime " " " " 15 " "
175 " Y. L. " " " " " 15 " "
74 " stove gasoline " " " 15 " "
These oils in barrel lots. The best harness oil in either one or five gallon cans, 70 cents per gallon. Pure Neat's 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.

Dead in the Harem.

Philadelphia Inquirer.
A story that reads like a romance of the "Arabian Nights" series comes from the land of the mystic crescent. It tells of the murder of fourteen women, one of them at one time well known in this city as a promising young soprano on the concert stage. The information of her terrible fate comes through friends in Milan, where she was known as "la bella prima donna."

Laura Schirmer is the only one of the fourteen inmates of the harem of the sultan of Turkey, in Constantinople, whose mysterious death occurred recently, whose identity is known on this side of the Atlantic. The matter has been kept secret, but friends of the unhappy cantatrice in Milan claim to have undoubted evidence of the crime.

According to the story, the sultan is believed to have been incensed at the attempts of the American minister, working on behalf of Laura's friends, to get the woman out of her gilded captivity, and so one night poison was placed in the ice cream furnished to the occupants of the imperial seraglio, and fourteen poor women, including the American girl, were found dead in the morning. Of course there was no inquest, no coroner's inquiry, no verdict. The bodies of the victims were hurried away to nameless graves and the curtain dropped.

Ten years ago, when she was only 18, Laura Schirmer had already won a proud place among Philadelphia concert singers, and a bright future seemed to beckon her to a yet higher place. She was known then as the "beautiful Laura Schirmer." She had a handsome face and a fascinating manner, and her voice, a light soprano, was of an exquisite quality. Her mother, a Boston woman, was well-to-do, and the daughter was reared in luxury, and had the best musical training that Boston afforded.

The mother even boasted among her friends that "Cecilia Lieke Laura" was nobly born, she being connected with the Dutch nobility. Before her 20th year Laura had made so marked a success on the concert stage that her friends all urged her to study for the operatic stage, and after a year's study she sang at the theatre with Charles R. Adams in "La Juive" and "The Crown Diamonds." Later on she travelled through the United States, under Strakosch, singing in "Sonnambula," "Lucia di Lammermoor" and other well known operas.

It was then she met her evil genius, the English tenor, Byron. She fell in love with him, went to Europe with him. Her friends say he married her. At any rate they went to Milan to sing and study, and she made her Italian debut there. But it was not long before the American colony there began to talk about her unhappy life. Her husband's greatest joy, they said, appeared to be to degrade the lovely woman who had linked her fortunes with his. He made her perform the most menial offices, black his boots, cook his food and other things far worse.

She grew coarse and reckless in speech and action, her voice lost the flexibility and her face and form showed the effects of her degraded life. She and Byron took a theatre and tried management, but made a failure of it. Then they went to Constantinople and tried it again, and under the favoring smiles of the sultan they succeeded better.

Wolves and Deer.

Maine historians say that over a hundred years ago wolves came down from the north and devoured almost all the deer in the colony. Some of the deer swam to the islands along the coast and a remnant was saved. The wolves having no deer to eat, turned to the domestic animals of the country, and gave the settlers great trouble. The Indians, too, robbed of their meat supply by the wolves, were for a long time in a starving condition, and often those in the interior went miles to the seashore for food. The wolves at length went northward, and little by little the deer increased until 1840, when there was another wolf raid, and for two years played havoc with deer and cattle. Then they disappeared, and have not since been seen much in the State. Deer are again increasing, both because of the absence of wolves and because of the stringent game laws of Maine.

Saved His Umbrella.

Some one took an umbrella from the hallway of a Lewiston man's house, and about the same time the dog was missed. A search was made and the dog was at last found in a Lisbon street, standing near the missing umbrella. A stranger had come into the store, followed by the dog. When he went out he left the umbrella, which the dog carefully guarded until his owner appeared.—Lewiston Me. Gazette.