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THE ALLIANCE.

OFFICIAL ORGAN
NEBRASKA
STATE FARMERS' ALLIANCE

"THERE IS NOTHING WHICH IS HUMAN THAT IS ALIEN TO ME."—Terence.

VOL. I. LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, SATURDAY, OCT. 26, 1889. NO. 19.

THE ALLIANCE.
PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING.
BY THE
ALLIANCE PUBLISHING CO.
BOHANNAN BLOCK,
Lincoln, - - - Nebraska.
J. BURROWS, Editor.
J. M. THOMPSON, Associate Editor.

All communications for the paper should be addressed to THE ALLIANCE PUBLISHING CO., and all matters pertaining to the Farmers' Alliance, including subscriptions to the paper, to the Secretary.

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its Editor, is President of the National Farmers' Alliance, and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Farmers' State Alliance. He has had long experience in newspaper work. He will bring to his aid able men in different spheres of thought, and will make THE ALLIANCE one of the ablest papers in the west.

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Oh, wondrously fair are the Islands of Rest—
The islands we never have seen—
But we know they are smiling out there in the West.

Their valleys all glowing in green,
No cloud ever crosses their tropical sky,
They know naught of sadness or sin,
At rest in their harbor, all peacefully lie
Our ships that can never come in.

There dwell the fair faces our fancies may see,
With eyes of the tenderest blue,
That come in our slumbers to you and to me,
In dreams that can never come true.

We joyfully greet them, nor wish they were here,
Midst earth's ceaseless sorrow and din.
They are blissfully guarding the hopes that are dear—
Our ships that never come in.

Manderson's Melancholy.
Good-by, certificate, Good-by!
This parting brings a deep-brown sigh.
I never wanted you at all;
Still I'm regretting your recall.

But to my mind the thought will come,
Four thousand is a nice little sum.
I've always had a gnawing fear
I couldn't read my title clear.
Still, had the public shut its eyes,
I might have caught your pretty prize.

I very frequently have pressed
The inside pocket of my vest,
And wished with tinnings of despair
I had the swan you called for there.
Though I know I'm a poor fellow,
I confess I'm a rather sorry mess;

And since this thing being I've feared
My popularity is "queered."
But Tanner's honest—so is Ben—
We all of us are honest men.
And thus I gladly let you go,
Because—the people will it so.

No one our motives dare impeach.
WE NEVER TAKE WHAT'S OUT OF REACH!
—Chicago Herald.

EDITORIAL.
THE TAXATION OF FRANCHISES.

Taxation on the Lines of Least Resistance.
While a surplus revenue is accumulating in the treasury it would not seem necessary to seek new points upon which to apply taxation. But it is desirable to impose all taxes upon the lines of least resistance—that is upon lines where they will be least felt as a burden by the people. The principle which seems to have become quite firmly established of taxing a portion or all of the people for the benefit of another portion of them, through the tariff, is un-American, inasmuch as it is unequal in its operation. As it is stimulated by special interests it becomes unjust and oppressive; and the day will never come when a fair system of taxation, which will bear equally upon all classes, can be evolved out of it.

An income tax is advocated because it tends to place taxation upon those who are most able to bear it. But it cannot be fully commended as placing taxation equally upon all classes according to their wealth and the protection they receive. When lines of resistance are considered its objectionable features are at once seen. It is an odious and inquisitorial tax, and would cause immense friction in its collection.

The George scheme to lay all taxes upon land values is under discussion. If it would accomplish half that its advocates claim it ought to be adopted at once. But it is not clear that it would do so. The tariff tax is imposed to protect. The single land tax would be imposed to destroy private ownership of land. Both of these motives are foreign to the legitimate purpose of taxation. This is to raise a revenue for the actual necessary expenses of government. The single land tax will primarily transfer all taxation upon consumption, and to that extent diffuse it equally through all classes. Under that system if a citizen could get along without consuming anything he could evade all taxation, unless he happened to be a tiller of the soil. But as all taxes are paid out of current business and current production, and not out of accumulated capital, ultimately the single tax would fall upon production. Carried to its final analysis, it would rest upon the actual producers of wealth from the soil. Hence this tax, instead of being levied upon lines of least resistance, would impose an unusual and unbearable burden—in fact all the burden of taxation—upon one class, viz: the actual soil tillers.

necessary to impose a great burden to gain a small revenue. Its extent could be graduated according to need; and as business increased its burden could be diminished. With the Henry George tax increase of values must increase the imposition. The purpose of the tax being to destroy speculative rent, the volume of the tax must all the time advance as rent advances.

But suppose, instead of relinquishing its own property, the public franchises, into the hands of corporations or individuals, and then taxing them, the community retains original possession and uses them for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the government. The city of Lincoln has granted—that is given away—franchises which, properly administered by the city government, would defray all its expenses, and in time lay out parks and adorn them, establish libraries and endow schools. These franchises go to enrich a few favored individuals, and build up monopolies which are greivous burdens. Certainly, with all our boasted progress our methods are full of unreason, and far behind what our intelligence and our civilization demand. The same is true of the state and the nation. If they used their own wealth for the benefit of the whole people, instead of conferring it as a bounty upon special classes, much of the injustice of privilege would disappear, and the burden of taxation be lifted.

HOW SHALL WE VOTE?
This is the time of year when great solicitude is felt about the welfare of the farmers. In the opinion of most professional politicians and all of the candidates, it is important that the farmers' interests should receive more looking after by our legislative solons, and that he is entitled to a much higher place in the government than he actually receives; and each one of these candidates and professionals is just the man to accord these high privileges if he can get the opportunity. And he will remain steadfast in that opinion until after election. But as a preliminary consideration he must "stick by the party" and "vote the straight ticket."

President Elliott, long a republican, then a mugwump, and now declaring his adhesion to the democratic party, declares that every man should join one of two leading parties, and his failure to do so is evidence that he is without political convictions. A fervid republican county boss in southern Kansas declared last week that a desertion of his political party was as much a crime as a desertion of his colors in time of battle by a soldier. Both of these positions are radically wrong. With all men of honor adhesion to a party implies acceptance of the rule of the majority in that party, and a support of the candidates and principles which have the approval of that majority. The man who remains in a party, and at the same time stabs its candidates and opposes its declarations, is a traitor in the house of his friends, and will receive the contempt he deserves. If corrupt men and bad counsels are approved by the majority, the only manner in which a self-respecting man can assert his manhood is by withdrawing from the party and opposing it until better counsels prevail.

Nearly all the corrupt practices, credit mobilities and vile judicial decisions have been made possible by enforcing the dogma that men must vote the straight ticket, no matter if a yellow dog was nominated. Per contra, every reform that has been accomplished, and every advance that has been made towards a higher civilization and better political methods has been brought about by men who broke the shackles of party and repudiated the domination of the caucus. If the opposite principle had prevailed Lovjoy would have remained silent, and Wendell Phillips and Wm. Lloyd Garrison been smothered beneath a party majority.

No. True manhood and the sturdy independence that makes a free people demands the independent voter. No man who is imbued with the spirit of a Hampden can subordinate his conscience to a political caucus.

The approaching election offers a case peculiarly in point. The republican candidate for Supreme Judge is the creature of the railroad power of this state. Were he pure as the driven snow, and as deaf to the voice of corruption as the sphinx, no self-respecting citizen who is opposed to the domination of corporate power can give him his suffrage. Such men owe it to themselves and to their state and county to rebuke the power that placed Mr. Norval in nomination. Though their rebuke may have no practical effect, they will at least preserve their own self-respect.

In the Second district vote for C. D. Casper for member of congress, and in the state vote for John H. Ames for supreme judge. If you cannot do this, abstain from voting, and then you will have no blood on your skirts.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.—Senator Stewart says that when the government seeks a settler a quarter section of land it ought to guarantee him enough water for irrigating purposes.

So it had. Turn about is fair play. That is what it has been doing in the case of franchises given to corporations for the past twenty years.

"SPLENDID FINANCING."
The New York money market has been a little tight. Notwithstanding Bradstreet's improving business, money on call has brought from 8 to 20 per cent of late. Mr. Secretary of the Treasury went down to New York the other day, and just to ease the money market, bought seventeen million dollars worth of bonds, for which he paid twenty millions of dollars. Every little whippersnapper of a machine paper in the country has been leading Mr. Windom for this transaction. "What splendid financing," etc., etc.

Let's see about it. In considering financial transactions it is proper to begin at the beginning. If the purchase of seventeen million dollars worth of bonds for twenty million dollars would relieve a stringency, the leaving of the twenty millions in the hands of the people would have prevented it, would it not? If twenty million dollars had been left in the hands of the people, where it belonged, instead of paying seventeen million dollars of three per cent debt, it would have paid twenty million dollars of ten per cent debt. The actual loss to the people in this brilliant financial transaction includes the three million bonus given to bondholders, and the unpaid 7 per cent on the unpaid twenty millions of ten per cent debt, and amounts in all to about eight million dollars—dead loss.

From the financing that creates a stringency by locking up the people's money, and then relieves it by paying twenty per cent bonus on bonds on which the government has an option, good Lord deliver us!

A New Decision Bearing on the Beef Combine.
The Iowa supreme court has just decided a whiskey case in which the principle embraced by the decision of the Minnesota court in regard to the beef inspection law is involved. The decision is that the constitutional right of the United States government to regulate inter-state commerce ceases as soon as the goods reach their destination, at which point the state may at once take the goods out of the hands of the carrier and destroy them. This principle must apply to all goods as well as whiskey. It is in accord with common sense and sound principle. It is exactly in accord with the position we took a few weeks ago, when commenting on the Minnesota decision. The opposite principle, which it was claimed by the Bee that the Minnesota decision established, would absolutely destroy every vestige of state power to regulate or prohibit the sale of any article, or to protect its citizens from adulterations and frauds.

Under the Iowa decision an inspection of cattle on the hoof at the place of slaughter may be made legal, and the importation of dressed beef indirectly prohibited. While the state may thus prohibit its importation, it has the undoubted right to regulate its sale, or prohibit it altogether if it so chooses.

THE CURRENCY QUESTION.
The prominence which leading papers are giving to the currency question fully justifies the memorial on that subject which was issued by the State Alliance last winter. The position of this memorial was that a large and continuous increase of population and production demanded a corresponding increase of money, the agency for exchanging products; and it showed that, instead of such increase a large decrease had taken place.

The bankers' convention at Kansas City practically admitted the truth of these propositions, and that the country had reached such a condition of prostration from that cause that relief was sorely needed. But it did not possess sufficient statesmanship to formulate a plan of relief. The scheme that was proposed by Mr. St. John, of retiring the greenbacks and increasing the silver coinage to four millions per month, has been rejected by the Central Executive Committee.

So, this great combination of bankers—these men of "brains" who, with their money, rule this country—these men who have fought silver, and by their policy of contraction have brought the country to the verge of ruin—meet in convention and fail to offer the country any plan of relief.

The Bee, in an article on "silver and greenbacks," in its issue of the 21st, makes some statements which, while fully in accord with the Alliance memorial, will strike the average gold-bug as rather startling. Speaking of the proposed retirement of the greenbacks, it says, "in the first place it is not necessary to an improvement of our currency to do so, and in the second place the legal tender notes are a part of the circulation which costs the people NOTHING, AND IS EQUALLY SAFE AND SERVICEABLE WITH THE OTHER PART OF THE CIRCULATION." The Bee goes on to say that there is no good reason why the legal tender notes should be retired to give place to another form of currency which would increase the taxes of the people.

This is exactly the ground of the greenback people on this question. There are three hundred and forty-six million dollars of greenbacks supposed to be in existence. They cannot be retired without a law by congress authorizing it. No one wants them redeemed, as it is called. The people prefer them to gold. In fact they redeem gold

with them every day, if exchanging gold for them is redeeming it. And yet—supreme folly—the government exchanged its interest-bearing bonds for one hundred million dollars of gold, as a greenback redemption fund, and holds that gold locked up in the treasury idle, while all industry is languishing for it. If the Bee would progress just a little further, and advocate the release of gold from its idle imprisonment, it would show considerable intelligence.

The Bee truly says: "It is necessary to material progress and to the prosperity of the masses of the people that enterprise shall not be checked and curtailed by a contraction of the currency, and the next congress will have no more important matter to consider than that of providing against any reduction in the volume of the currency."

This is all right as far as it goes. But we invite the attention of the Bee to the fact that an enormous contraction, both absolute and relative to production and population, has already taken place, and has nearly throttled all legitimate industry. This contraction must not only be stopped, but a corresponding expansion take place, to restore prosperity and do justice to the producing masses.

RIDING WITH A JUDGE.
Monday evening last we had a cozy ride with a district judge. He is a genial gentleman, with a high sense of probity and honor. The conductor came along, and we contributed our paste-board, bought with cash. The judge looked up, the conductor asked his destination, made a memorandum, and passed along. The judge was riding on a pass. This pass is worth to the judge probably about \$300 a year, or upward. Now we know that judge pretty well, and it is our opinion that if we had a case in his court, and should put \$300 in an envelope and hand it to him, marked "complimentary," we would very speedily get into jail. But the other fellow—the corporation—probably has a case in his court every term. And the sheriff who serves the process, the clerk who makes the docket, the reporter who makes the records, all have that little "complimentary" \$300. Add the juror, the assessor, the legislator, each during his term, and every other business and professional man in the community "bending the supple knee" to that artificial person the corporation suing for the same favor. Is it any wonder that the moral sense of the community is blunted, and moral standards lowered, when these things are permitted?

KANSAS STATE ALLIANCE.
The Kansas State Alliance held its annual meeting at Topeka, Oct. 2d. One hundred and thirteen delegates were present. The secretary's report shows the Alliance to be in a very flourishing condition. He says:

"The outlook for the Alliance in Kansas is very encouraging indeed. Since our former report one hundred and forty-five new Alliances have been chartered, and county organizations have been effected in Morris, Bourbon, Ottawa, Norton, Phillips, Rawlins and Cheyenne counties; and many other counties will organize soon. Our members in many places are reaching out for substantial benefits, and co-operative associations and joint stock companies have been formed, and business operations begun.

The state meeting adopted some ringing resolutions. Among them was one in favor of the Australian voting system. The officers for the ensuing year are: President, I. M. Morris, White City; Secretary, T. J. McLain, Peabody. The delegates to St. Louis are: Pres't, I. M. Morris, Secretary T. J. McLain, Dr. G. Rohrer, of Chase; Col. Percy Daniels, of Girard; and Henry Shapcott, of Wellington.

The delegates were instructed to favor the union of the Northern and Southern Alliances.

SUBSIDIES.
It would be supposed that a conference of all the American states to promote trade relations would propose some scheme to remove restrictions upon trade. If there was some natural barrier between this country and South America plans would be suggested to remove it. But as God has established a free water way between them, artificial barriers in the form of import duties have been established, which are as effectual restrictions upon trade as a chain of mountains or an impassable river. And now, instead of removing these unnatural restrictions, and letting trade establish itself, the restrictions are to be preserved, and men induced to surmount them by bounties and subsidies. Having taxed commerce to death by a 45 per cent tariff, Jim Blaine proposes to resuscitate it by more taxation. No comment necessary.

Farmers' Meeting at Weeping Water.
A meeting of the farmers of Cass Co. will be held at Weeping Water on Saturday, Oct. 26, at 2 o'clock P. M., under the auspices of the Cass County Alliance. Hon. C. H. VAN WYCK and J. BURROWS will address the meeting. We are informed that a large turn out is expected.

The Lincoln Call (rep.) says, "The grand old party is a grand old fraud if it allows such cheap tools as Norval and Laws to be its favored sons."

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

WINFIELD, KANSAS, Oct. 19, 1889.
In response to an invitation from the Cowley County Alliance I left Lincoln Friday morning last to meet with that Alliance here this afternoon. Crossing the state of Kansas from north to south, or vice versa, is a devious task, which I will not undertake again until the Gulf harbor is completed, when time cards will be arranged for connections north and south as well as east and west. Between Lincoln and Winfield there were four lay-offs, making vexatious delays, viz: at Manhattan, Abilene, Strong City and Newton. A zigzag route. Long before reaching Winfield I felt like the old time fox of Kinderhook, didn't know whether I was going on or coming back.

But I reached Winfield at last, and found a beautiful little city of five or six thousand people, built of the light limestone rock common in that part of Kansas. (The city, not the people, built of the rock, I mean.) Broad streets, electric lights, street railways, three great railroads, a surrounding country of unsurpassed fertility—all it needs to abound in wealth is a system of irrigation to make it independent of hot winds and brassy skies, and an improved financial system which will make good prices for products. Trade is dull, extremely dull, the weight of debt, forced by low prices and several years of bad crops, bears heavily upon the people of this region, as on other regions where the same conditions exist. But in spite of the load the Kansas farmers are struggling under, that villainous little devil Jay Gould is in this state making propositions for more bonuses for railroad improvements. At Fort Scott he wanted right of way through one of their streets, and right of way for a belt line around the city, and one hundred and fifty thousand dollars bonus, for which he would make a new connection and build, or let some one else build, the belt line. When his satchel wants to make a trip out west he just picks up one or two such schemes to pay the expenses of his party, and scoop in a few hundred thousand in addition. And the poor deluded town boomers fall into his trap, and load their towns with bonds so that high rents and taxes more than neutralize the doubtful benefit of new railroads.

At Winfield I found a large gathering of Cowley county farmers, with their wives and daughters, all members of the Alliance. There were many from neighboring counties also. President B. H. Clover, of the State Alliance, was present, and presided at the meeting, and the pleasant beaming face of Mrs. Clover added pleasure to the occasion. An unexpected pleasure also awaited me in the meeting with Hon. Ben. Terrell, National Lecturer of the Southern Jurisdiction. This gentleman had come straight across the country from North Carolina to attend this meeting and others in Kansas. He is a man of medium height, with blue eyes and sandy complexion, and a pleasing and cordial address. He was moulded exactly for a national lecturer. He is a most admirable talker, clear, cogent, smiling, humorous. He meets the farmers on their own level, and pleases, convinces and instructs them. His whole soul is in the Alliance work, and good will result from his labors wherever he goes. I look forward to the time when he will make a tour of Nebraska.

I have never met a more intelligent audience than at Winfield. These Alliance men and women understand the situation, and fully realize that they must pool their issues and stand together for their interests, unless they would become entirely subordinated to the interests of other combinations.

Mr. Terrell made an instructive lecture in the forenoon. In the afternoon Mr. Burrows spoke, followed by a brief address from Mr. Terrell.

All these people are looking forward with great hope to the St. Louis meeting, when they expect to see the Northern and Southern Alliances joined in one body.

In the southern half of Kansas fall rains have been plenty; the winter wheat is most sown, and much of it is up and looking fine. J. B.

A Cereal Mill at St. Joe—Over the Left.
The manufacturers of cereal products, such as hominy, pearl barley, cracked wheat, etc., appear to have a trust. A friend informs us that a private enterprise for making these products was formed at St. Joe. This would be a nice thing for the town, and a nice thing for the farmers. When the building was about ready for the machinery it was found that its manufacturers had been absorbed by a trust. No machinery was to be had in the country. Well, they would go to Scotland for machinery, though it was not as good as the American. But on examining into this matter it was found that there was a duty of 80 per cent on such machinery. The building at St. Joe is rotting, the labor it would have employed is idle, the farmers have lost their market, and the capitalists have lost their money. Tally one for the trust and tariff.

LADIES' PREMIUMS.
We invite attention to our Special Premiums for ladies. See advertising columns.

Corporation-Republican Lying.

"The democrats of Iowa fixed up a little plot, with a recent president of the state farmers' alliance to raid the reputation of Senator Hutchinson, the republican candidate for governor. The democrats however nipped the scheme in the bud. They produced documentary evidence showing that the ex-president had within a few weeks strongly endorsed Hutchinson as the friend of the farmers and all that could be desired, and they made the fact of his purchase by the democrats so patent that he and his allies are covered with general contempt as with a garment."

The lying effrontery of the above from that brass-collared sheet the Lincoln Journal is only equalled by the depth of its ignorance about the Iowa Alliance. The Alliance of Iowa, like that of Nebraska, is a non-partizan body. Its support of or opposition to a candidate is based solely upon his record as a friend of the farmers, or otherwise, and his personal fitness for position, and not at all upon his party affiliations. The railroads of Iowa defeated Gov. Larrabee in convention, and nominated Mr. Hutchinson. Investigation of the latter's record showed that through all his public career he had been a facile, though obscure, tool of the corporations. Mr. Ashby, never a president, but now and for some time past, state lecturer of the Iowa Alliance, published this record, and advised the members of the Alliance to defeat Mr. Hutchinson; and defeated he will be.

The railroad organs have no resource in the truth; so they are covering Mr. Ashby with abuse, and spreading the vile falsehood that he has been bought by the democrats. In other words, they appeal to the partisan tie and party fidelity to save their candidate, in a contest in which no partisan issue is at stake, but where the fight lies solely between the corporations and the people. Will the people be hoodwinked any longer by this kind of stuff?

These lying Railroad-republican villains can rest assured that the State Alliance of Iowa is back of its State Lecturer; and they had better pull Mr. Hutchinson off the track, and put a reputable man in his place; for salt-petre won't save him.

SHORT OF CARS.—A Chicago dispatch of Oct. 21 says:
"A careful canvass failed, to-day, to find a solitary Chicago road, bound in any direction, which was not complaining of a scarcity of cars. The least shortage was 500 cars on any line, and the Pennsylvania was 2,500 short."

In view of the fact that the grain receipts last week were over 3,000 tons short of the receipts for the corresponding week of 1888, and the gross receipts at Chicago almost exactly the same, this shortage of cars would seem remarkable. It proves that railroad officials are interested in buying grain, and that they are in a conspiracy to force the price still lower. They know that the farmers cannot haul their grain to Chicago in wagons, and they take this method to glut the elevators and make money scarcer, so as to buy the grain at still lower prices. And every paper that helps spread this lie about the scarcity of cars is either the willing tool or ignorant dupe of these plundering operators.

HOW TO ORGANIZE.
The following from the Iowa Homestead is exactly applicable to Nebraska. Therefore we adopt it, and recommend action in accordance with it.

A great many Alliances should be organized before the winter sets in. The counties that have county Alliances should at once put an active, energetic man, who is enthusiastic for the Alliance, into the field as county organizer. The local Alliances should always have their eyes open to find favorable localities in which to organize new Alliances. When they find such a neighborhood they should appoint a committee to arrange the time and place for the meeting, and should instruct the committee to call the meeting and properly notify those living in the locality. If there is a county organizer, he should be notified of the meeting and invited to be present, and help in the work of organizing. But no locality should wait to be organized. Let the man who feels an interest in having a good, live farm organization in his neighborhood call a meeting for the purpose of organizing. Then let him send to the State Secretary for constitution, blank applications, etc. If there be an Alliance near enough invite some of the members to assist; or if there be a county organizer, send an invitation for him to be present. But do not wait for anyone. Go ahead. Elect a chairman and secretary as temporary officers. Have the constitution read and such other literature as you may have bearing upon the organization. Call upon those present for a brief discussion of the benefits of organizing, and the advisability of organizing then and there. Then let the secretary enroll those who will become charter members. If sufficient names be obtained to secure a charter, proceed to elect officers, choose a name, and fill out the application according to the blank. Adopt the State and local constitution by a vote. Appoint such a committee as may be needed. There is no civil township in Iowa where an Alliance should not succeed, and succeed well. Where an Alliance succeeds it means a bettering of farm conditions in every line. Therefore organize.

It is said that natural gas has been discovered at Chicago. Probably the World's Fair Correspondence Committee has sprung a leak.