

THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT

Consolidation of the Farmers Alliance of Nebraska Independent

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY THE ALLIANCE PUBLISHING CO.

Cor. 11th and M Sts., Lincoln, Neb.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: S. E. THORNTON, Pres. H. S. BOWEN, V. Pres. N. A. MURRAY, Sec'y. F. HOFFER, Treas. B. S. LITTLEFIELD.

SUBSCRIPTION ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR

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N. I. P. A.



OUR AVERAGE WEEKLY Circulation for the 52 Weeks, ending March 30, 1893, 22,248 Copies.

Publishers Announcement. The subscription price of the ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT is \$1.00 per year, invariably in advance. Paper will be promptly discontinued if not paid for unless we receive orders to continue.

Two banks failed at Beatrice last Friday.

LOOK out for a number of fine articles in our next issue.

The silver league will be called to meet probably July 25.

SILVER has fallen over 20 cents an ounce since the closing of the Indian mint.

The panic seems to have reached Nebraska, from the number of recent bank failures.

THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT will reach subscribers one day late this week on account of delay in securing our stock of paper.

THE bond holders of New York are sending out circulars asking for the repeal of the Sherman law. When the Wall street fellows rouse themselves to such activity it is time for the people to be suspicious.

THE present financial difficulties have been caused by scarcity of money. Do the gold-bugs suppose that the repeal of the silver purchase act, by which money will become still more scarce will rectify the evil?

THE election of Cleveland and his subsequent acts in forcing democrats to assist in repealing the Sherman law, were all parts of a gigantic conspiracy hatched in London and carried out through Wall street, New York.

THE money power is suppressing all the news of bank failures it possibly can. Even THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT was asked not to say anything about the Beatrice bank failures. "It would be better for you" said one of the bank officials in town.

YOU don't hear much more about the "calamity howlers." The reason is that the calamity is coming. The predictions of the populist speakers are being fulfilled. Let the money power squeeze a little harder and there won't be anybody but populists in the west.

WORD has been sent out from republican headquarters that Judge Maxwell must be turned down. In the mean time some of our populist exchanges are putting the name of Judge Maxwell at the top of their columns for the populist nomination.

DONT DELAY.

The plan for reorganization of this company, and the rescue of the people from the grip of Shylock is now before the people. In the past two weeks many patriotic independents in Nebraska have sent in words of encouragement, and some have promised substantial aid. Many others, however, say they would invest some money in the company rather than see it fail, but they are waiting to see if the required sum can not be raised without their help. To all such we wish to say, respectfully, but most earnestly: "Doings are dangerous." Will you, by delay or hesitation, jeopardize the welfare of your noble cause? Within the next two weeks we hope to hear from at least ten hundred men who will take rank in the amount of \$10 each or more.

Address all correspondence to J. V. Wolfe, Lincoln, Neb.

THE SILVER ISSUE.

One of the greatest legislative crises in the history of this country is swiftly approaching. The president has thought it necessary to call congress together in extraordinary session. The date of meeting is August 7. The object sought is the repeal of the present silver law known as the Sherman law.

The United States has reached "the dividing of the ways." About twenty years ago the great creditor class of the world, usually spoken of as the money power, began a systematic effort to contract the volume of money in all civilized nations. As the principal means of contraction they aimed to strike down one of the money metals, silver, to entirely demonetize it wherever possible, and to curtail its use and degrade it everywhere. In this scheme the money power has been eminently successful. The mints of the world are now closed against silver as an independent money metal. While silver is still used for subsidiary coins in nearly all countries, and in many countries is still minted into full legal tender coins, its coinage is everywhere limited and a wide divergence has been created between its money value and its bullion value.

In accomplishing the demonetization of silver the money power has used various means, the principal of which are:

First—Bribery: Lawmakers and public officers have been corrupted, newspapers have been subsidized, and politicians of high and low degree have been bought.

Second—False education of the people: False ideas concerning money have been persistently taught the people by the subsidized papers, by hired orators, writers and politicians. At the same time true ideas of money have been treated with scorn and ridicule.

Third—The power of money to oppress: The creditor class has used its power to extend its power. The borrower is a slave to the lender. As the debtor class has increased, the dominion of the creditor class has extended until now the money power can at will bias the prosperity, not only of individuals, but of the whole producing and commercial world.

Just now the money power is making a desperate effort to give silver its death blow in America. The subsidized press, the politicians, the bankers, the bond-holders, and the creditor class generally are striving to their utmost to secure the unconditional repeal of the Sherman law.

The only direct effect of the Sherman law has been to put into circulation about four million dollars per month of treasury notes since August 1, 1890, a little more than \$140,000,000 in all. This has been a substantial addition to our currency in a form most acceptable to the people. The repeal of the law means the stoppage of this issue. It means that all increase of paper currency will cease. No silver dollars have been coined for two years. If the gold-bugs have their way not another silver dollar will ever be coined in the United States. A small part of the silver bullion in the treasury vaults will be coined into dimes, quarters and half-dollars, and the balance will finally be sold for use in the arts. All debts will become payable in form and in fact in gold or its equivalent.

Yet we are told by the tools of the money power that all this must be done to restore confidence, to avert disaster, to revive prosperity. As well might a doctor prescribe bleeding for a patient who is already pale, emaciated and weak from loss of blood. Contraction of the currency has brought this country into the terrible throes of poverty, bankruptcy and despair, yet the remedy proposed is more contraction.

What will the repeal of the Sherman law do? Will it lift any mortgages? Will it increase the prices of farm products? Will it revive our languishing industries and start new ones? Will it give employment to labor? Will it make banks safe? No; on the contrary it will make it utterly impossible for farmers to ever pay off their mortgages. It will increase the value of every not-bond and mortgage, but decrease the debtor's power to pay. It will force prices of farm products lower than ever before. It will rivet the fetters which the money power has placed on the nation's limbs.

It is true that times might be temporarily improved if the demands of the money power are granted.

The present financial trouble has been brought on to a large extent by Wall street for a purpose. When that purpose is achieved, Wall street's power will be exerted to relieve the stringency. But what is a more temporary relief, beside the awful effects which must ultimately flow from the adoption of the single gold standard?

To relieve the present stringency by surrendering to the money means to pave the way for a panic ten times greater and more awful in its effects.

It is the duty of every patriot to stand by silver in this crisis, to oppose the repeal of the Sherman law unless free coinage can be substituted.

FOSTER'S FAILURE

The following appeared in the associated press reports for last Friday: CHICAGO, O., June 30.—The failure of Tiffers Foster and his business associ-

ates in the city of Fostoria, has assumed proportions which are astonishing. The failure will in all probability approximate \$1,000,000.

The figures astonish everybody, and none more so than Foster himself. Over \$75,000 of claims held by the wholesale grocery firm of Davis & Foster were rejected as absolutely worthless by the appraisers. Foster's account in his bank is overdrawn \$136,000.

This is the same Foster who last year sent out a statement, as secretary of the treasury, falsifying statistics as to the amount of money in circulation; and generally doing the bidding of Wall street.

"The mills of the gods grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly small."

SILVER AND WHEAT.

In the associate press dispatches of one day occurred two dispatches which tell an important story. Read this on silver:

DENVER, Colo., June 29.—Silver mining and smelting in Colorado will cease. This decision was reached at a meeting of all the leading mine owners and managers of the state held this afternoon. The mines cannot be operated at the present prices and to stop further loss all operations will come to a standstill and 25,000 to 30,000 men will be thrown out of employment.

The great drop in the price of silver has resulted in a depreciation in the price of mining stock such as was never before witnessed. Mollie Gibson stock which a couple of months ago was selling at \$7.75 per share, and which closed yesterday at \$3, slumped today to \$1.55 and was selling at that figure in the east this afternoon with prospects of sinking to \$1, or less. Business on the mining exchange is practically at a standstill, only gold stock being traded in. There is absolutely no market for silver stock at any price, nor will there be until there is a change in the aspect of the silver market.

Now read this of the same date on wheat:

CHICAGO, Ill., June 29.—Wheat of contract grade No. 2 regular, sold on the board of trade at 62 cents a bushel today, breaking all previous records since 1857. A feeling akin to a panic prevailed on the exchange and traders ran around asking each other what the matter was, and when it was going to end. Of the dozens of explanations given to account for the low prices, that most commonly advanced was the silver condition, and in further support of this proposition it was said that the price of bullion had dropped to 63 cents this morning, which would bring the silver dollar down below 50 cents measured by gold. Just why a drop in the commercial value of silver should affect the price of wheat was not explained.

Perhaps the paid lackeys of the associated press cannot or dare not make such an explanation. Most any man of common sense could do so however.

CAUSE OF GOLD SHIPMENTS.

It has been claimed by the gold bug element that the existence of the Sherman law is the cause of the present financial stringency. Without attempting to discuss the matter, we will simply cite an authority from the ranks of the gold-bugs themselves, whose statements utterly refute this claim. Major S. G. Brock, the retiring chief of the bureau of statistics who has made a close study of the present financial situation. He says:

"There seems to be a disposition at this time of business trouble and apprehension to attribute all the ills of large gold exports, stringency in the money markets and failures of banks to the Sherman silver bill. To my mind this is a serious mistake. The so-called Sherman silver bill has little or nothing to do with the large exports of gold and to entirely different causes are the present financial disturbances in the United States attributed. It should be remembered that our gold is not driven from this country as is so frequently asserted, but it is drawn from this country to Europe because the demand for it there is greater than it is here.

Gold, like all other commodities, flows to the markets where it is most in demand. To my mind it appears very plain that the fact that the United States purchases every month 4,500,000 ounces of silver at 83 1/2 cents per ounce, amounting to about \$45,000,000 during a year, for which it pays treasury notes which are redeemable in silver or gold, has no more to do with drawing gold out of the country than the expenditure of \$3,000,000 for rivers and harbors or \$30,000,000 for ships of war, or hundreds of millions for other purposes, because these greenbacks, treasury notes, etc., paid out for the purposes mentioned, are redeemable in gold or silver, some of them in gold only.

SILVER MINES CLOSE.

At a recent meeting of the silver mine owners of Colorado, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That it is the unanimous sense of this meeting of mine, mill and smelter owners, that we put a stop to our further losses by an immediate and complete cessation of all our silver mining, milling and smelting operations in the state of Colorado in the full belief that the monometallist element will finally appreciate three vital points, namely, that the world cannot transact its business without the use of silver as money; that the actual cost and value of the metal exceeds the incorrect views which they have formed; that the inevitable course of events will quickly demonstrate that the enormous sums of money invested in railroads, loans and other property will so depreciate in value that the monometallists will also be convinced that some action must be taken with silver to restore it to its legitimate use, which it has held from time immemorial.

By this means nearly 200,000 men will be immediately thrown out of employment. This vast army of idle men verging on starvation will become a menace to the entire west.

FRIDAY and Saturday of last week saw seven bank failures in Nebraska.

AN EXTRA SESSION.

The decision has been made. The president, prior to departing on a fishing excursion, called congress to meet in session extraordinary August 7. Then he immediately gathered his rods, reels and flies and hid himself away to Hog Island on Buzzard's Bay, we do not remember which.

In the latter days of June silver is stricken down in India. Immediately the president calls congress together to complete the striking down of silver in America. Thus the successive steps in the gold bug scheme are carried out.

The president's message calling congress together dwells only on one question, that of finance. It has but one object—the repeal of 'certain legislation'—in other words, the Sherman law.

America twice beat back the arms of England, but she seems in a fair way to succumb to English gold. The conquest that failed by the sword may succeed through the counting house.

The attempt will be made to give American silver its death blow and to place America at the mercy of the Bank of England. If this can be done the British system, tenant farming, landlordism, aristocracy and all, will be fastened on the United States and Andrew Carnegie's dream will be realized.

That is what awaits this country if the plan of the gold-bugs is carried out. We are right on the threshold of such a system. Congress meets next month and the president has given his edict that it shall repeal the silver purchase act, the only thing that stands between this country and the gold basis.

It remains for patriotic Americans to prevent this calamity.

RIGHT SIDE UP WITH CARE.

The following from the Platte County Argus of last week is a compliment which we appreciate particularly as it comes from one of the brightest and best informed editors in the west, Mr. Warwick Saunders:

"He laughs best who laughs last" is an old saw which is offered those who were rejoicing because they thought THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT of Lincoln had been crushed to death by its enemies. This paper with its many thousands of subscribers scattered all over the state, has been one of the most potent factors in the successful workings of the alliance and the rolling up of a crushing vote at the polls in favor of the common interests of the people of the state.

THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT, ever since S. Edwin Thornton and his associates have had control of it, has been heaving to the line and permitting the chips to drop where they may. The paper has made a courageous fight for all the demands made by the true and able populists throughout the state in standing by the paper as simply doing their duty to the paper as THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT has performed its duty to them. It goes without saying that any man, set of men or party which desires the support of a newspaper will not hesitate in support of their press whenever their common enemy tries to crush it to death.

THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT is too well backed by able populists throughout the state to be floored by the crowd which has been hounding the paper with a view of spiking one of the people's most effective guns in this serious battle between the great common people and the unduly favored classes.

THE PEOPLE ARE FOR SILVER.

If the sentiment of the people of the people of the United States could be wholly ascertained, there is little doubt but there would be an overwhelming majority for free silver. This has been practically admitted even by the enemies of the white metal. Irrespective of party, irrespective almost of section, there is a demand for more money. The Sherman law passed in 1890 was a compromise to prevent the passage of a free silver bill.

The attempt of Cleveland to force the repeal of that law, therefore, is an attempt to override the will of the people.

Both the republican and democratic platforms declared for bi-metallicism. It was the understanding of the adherents of those parties generally that they would stand upon those platforms. There was no fight made against the Sherman law before the people. That fight was made in secret. The sentiment of the people on this question is unchanged. It has been and is for free silver.

WHO CAUSED THE PANIC?

There is a little doubt that the present panic in this country was created for a purpose. The shipping of gold to Europe was for a purpose. The latter was intended to force the issue of mere bonds. The former was intended as the basis for a false cry against the Sherman law, and ultimately to force its repeal.

Both were brought about by the money power—not by the small bankers who are suffering, but the great fellows in Wall street and in London—the fellows who are concerned in the great conspiracy to put the world on a gold basis. The speculators of Wall street started the flurry, and they probably can stop it temporarily, after they have gained that for which they started out.

The cause of all the ruin, business stagnation, and misery, which has marked the present year, should be laid where it belongs.

Subscribe for THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT.

AMERICA MUST LEAD.

The money power has the civilized world by the throat. Every where is felt its terrible grip. The serfdom of the masses is the aim of plutocracy.

The populists of America should realize that they are fighting, not merely their own battles but the battle of the masses in all civilized nations. If the masses in free America can not assert their rights and maintain their liberties, what hope is there for the down-trodden masses of other lands? A recent dispatch shows the condition to which the masses of Norway have been reduced as follows:

"In a recent debate in the Norwegian legislature, Mr. Arestad, member for one of the chief agricultural districts in the country, maintained that the landowners and farmers were steadily falling deeper and deeper into debt. Those who now, he said, in reality own the soil of Norway are the Bank of Norway, the Land Mortgage bank, the savings banks and traders in towns. The mortgage debt on Norwegian agriculture has more than doubled in twenty years. He estimated that Norwegian peasant proprietors owned really about one-sixteenth of the value of the land, houses and forests in the country, and that the interest on the land debt at 4 per cent now amounts to one-sixth of the total yield of agriculture in Norway. He declared the condition of the farmers to be desperate, and that unless serious steps were taken they would be entirely ruined. Throughout the debate nobody disputed the desperate state to which the peasant proprietors had been reduced."

While the above shows the condition to which the people have been reduced in Norway, and what appears to be the immediate cause, it does not give the primary cause: In 1876 the money power succeeded in putting Norway on a gold basis. That is the root of the evil. That caused a contraction of the currency, a general depreciation of values, an appreciation of debt. It forced the peasants to become borrowers interest payers. It put them in the grip of Shylock. The result is that every year their surplus products go to pay interest, and they fall deeper and deeper into debt. They are virtually slaves.

What is true of Norway is true to a greater or less extent of every civilized nation. It is true of the United States. In this country the masses have the ballot. They have free speech and a free press. They have the means and opportunity to inform themselves, and to right their wrongs. The masses of the civilized world must look to the masses of America to lead the way, to start the revolution which will emancipate the producers of the world.

Farmers and laborers of the United States, do you realize the awful responsibility that rests upon you? Are you equal to the task? A century ago four fore-fathers enunciated the great principles of political liberty and equality, and established this nation on those principles. They fought to free men from political tyranny. Now a greater tyranny courses, and crushes civilization, the tyranny of plutocracy. You have already enunciated the principles on which industrial liberty must rest. Have you the intelligence, and heroism to maintain them? Will you lead the civilized world in its next step forward and upward?

THE MODERN SIREN.

What was the song of the sirens of old, That drew the unhappy wanderer wrong, Is a thing that never has been told; But what is the modern sirens' song is plain. "This—Gold—gold—gold." And after their music the vulgar throng Scamper and scramble and hurry along.

O, my Mother Age, can you boast no more Than that your children should cheat and lie And gamble and kill for a bit of ore? While under their feet the little ones cry They are crushing to death; and the totting poor And maimed and unfortunate starve and die For lack of what others have hoarded by?

And O, my country, is this the end Of all our fathers have done for thee, That the sons of these fathers their souls should bend In a strife so mean and miserly, To grind the poor they are sworn to defend— The poor these fathers fought to free— To bind in the shackles of slavery?

It is this the end, why then give o'er, Your struggles for liberty all were vain. Forget the glorious deeds of yore— Forget—for the narrowing lust of gain, And you'll hear the voice of the "Nevermore" Over freedom dead, a sad refrain. While your glories and honors and liberties wane.

Not in it wealth, not in its greed, Not in its gains, is a nation great; But give to each toiler his simple need And lift from his shoulders the galling weight Of the hunger and poverty, want and need That the drones in the hive of toil create, And bright is the future of your state.

Over the earth men are bursting the bands And breaking the chains of slavery. The movement is spreading to other lands A world-wide struggle—then—Liberty! On the heritage of time the hands Point to the dawn of a century When the roused-up millions will be free —J. A. EDGEMORE, in Nonconformist.

IF. If, for the agony we suffer here We are repaid in future happiness, Then what a joy have some of us stored up! If, for the loss of all that we hold dear, If, for the misery and wretchedness, If, for the bitter of life's wormwood cup, At last the scale is balanced, what will be To some—the pleasures of eternity? If, for the suffering we cause to others, The unkind words we might have left unaid The heart breaks and heart burnings; if, The needless sorrow we have caused our (brothers) It is repaid in future on our head "There better that we ask the rocks to fall, And crush us utterly than we should be Participants in such eternity."

Between the two we stand perplexed, uncertain Some ills we bear, no doubt and some create. Between the two the scales may turn contrary. And so we quake a little ere the curtain Rises to let us look upon our fate: We quake and turn and dread, uncertain, (very) Whether we wish to die quite dead, or be Chance-takers for this same eternity. —J. A. EDGEMORE, in Twentieth Century.

AMONG OUR EXCHANGES.

The editor of the Schuyler Quill speaks his honest convictions, and he indorses his words by action, when he holds the name Samuel Maxwell at the head of his paper for the supreme court. There are lots of us with you, brother. —Fremont Leader.

The eastern bankers have become "fat" cranks of the worst order. They are now issuing what is known as clearing house certificates to serve as money among themselves. These certificates are purely "fat" based on confidence and very little of that—Independent American.

After carefully following the daily proceedings, the utterances of recognized leaders and reading of important papers before the bankers and business men's congress last week, the results may all be summed up in one sentence—combined to exterminate the greenback and forever suppress silver.—Nonconformist.

I have been in forty-nine fights with roads and never won one, said Eugene Debs, late grand secretary of the Brotherhood of Firemen, in Chicago the other day. "The place for the men to strike is at the ballot box"—for the government ownership of railroads. There would then be no further need for strikes among railroad men.—Iowa Tribune.

Henry Watterson has been making democratic speeches ever since anybody can recollect, and was the man chosen by the democrats to speak for them at the great debate at Philadelphia. After General Weaver had a crack at him he announced his intention to never make another political speech after the scoring he got. This is the most sensible conclusion of his life.—Industrial Union.

General Weaver's telegram to the News on the pending crisis has the true silver ring, and is worthy of the man who led the free coinage hosts in the last presidential contest. His call for a new declaration of independence will be echoed by thousands of Americans who are being oppressed by England's financial system not less severely than the men of '76 suffered from her political tyranny. The choice is indeed between financial freedom and enforced European serfdom. General Weaver is a wise and brave leader.—Rocky Mountain News.

The populists are proudly pointing to President Cleveland's announcement of his intention to call an extra session of congress to deal with the financial situation, as a vindication of the position they took in the past presidential campaign, that the only real issue before the country was involved in the money question. They say the great campaign was won and lost on side issues, both the republicans and democrats having practically ignored the question of finance, which the populists made the corner-stone of their campaign. It does seem a little queer that Mr. Cleveland should not have mentioned the tariff in saying what the extra session will be called upon to do.—Conflict, Detroit, Mich.

Hon. William McKinley, Jr., in a speech at Toledo, O., Feb. 12, 1891, said: "During all of his years at the head of the government," speaking of President Cleveland, "he was dishonoring one of our precious metals, one of our own great products; discrediting silver and enhancing the price of gold. He endeavored even before his inauguration to office to stop the coinage of silver dollars and afterwards and to the end of his administration, persistently used his power to that end. He was determined to contract the circulating medium and demonetize one of the coin of commerce, limit the volume of money among the people, make money scarce and therefore dear. He would have increased the value of money and diminished the value of everything else—money, the master, everything else its servant." We are anxious to know where Governor McKinley "is at" now on the silver question.—National View.

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