

MADE A MESS OF IT.

(Continued from Fifth Page.)

fix up or arrange the matter. Not long ago he wrote a letter openly taking Burrows' part in the present contention.

H. B. McGaw was a member of the board during 1891, and passed upon and approved all the outrageous claims of that year.

Clark Olds is a new member of the committee. He did not attend the meeting of June 6. When he came to Lincoln, he manifested a strong disposition to court the society of Thompson and other friends of Burrows. I am satisfied he knows very little of the real history of alliance affairs, and that he made no adequate effort to inform himself. He simply allowed himself to be swayed by the older members.

Capt. P. H. Barry is also a new member and he is the only one who manifested a desire to investigate the facts. I find a verdict in accordance with them. He was at both meetings. But he was obliged to leave at 2 o'clock the last day. Before leaving, he wrote out his vote sustaining the charge of excessive charges on printing, etc. It will be observed that his name is not attached to the findings of the committee. I do not believe he will ever stultify himself by signing them.

This then is the self appointed jury before which I was summoned to appear.

This so-called investigation reminds me most strongly of the investigation of asylum frauds conducted by the board of public lands and buildings last fall. Still I relied upon these men to rise above prejudice and personal interest and find according to the facts. How sadly I was mistaken will be seen from the following.

FINDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

In the matter of the complaint of S. Edwin Thornton vs. J. M. Thompson, secretary, upon the evidence submitted the committee find:

First—That in the year 1889 under the instruction and assistance of the executive committee and Secretary Thompson, E. G. Armitage started the paper known as the Farmers' Alliance. In the spring of 1889 the paper failed, or was about to fail. By vote the executive committee authorized the purchase for the state alliance of the said paper for the sum of about \$900. The said paper continued in this relation for a period of about ten months, doing a portion of the job work for the state alliance, charging for said job work a good round price so as to meet the expenses of the paper in its struggle for an existence. In 1890 Thompson and Burrows assumed the indebtedness, and the said Thompson as secretary of said alliance contracted with said paper for the printing of the supplies for said alliance at a liberal profit, so as to maintain the paper as an instrument of organization. These bills were audited by the auditing committee knowing that they were liberal and submitted the same to the annual meeting of the state alliance held in 1890, and by that meeting approved. And now on further examination the committee find under the circumstances surrounding the alliance and the secretary, that the charges for printing for the years 1889 and 1890 were not exorbitant or excessive.

Second—In the fore part of the year 1891 the vigorous and rapid organization of subordinate alliances required a large amount of blanks and other printing which were charged and paid for by the secretary at prices which were large, and too large considering the amount of work done and the charge that said printing was let without competition is sustained.

Third—That the charge that the printing was let or contracted for by Secretary Thompson at exorbitant prices corruptly and with the intent to defraud the state alliance, is not sustained.

Fourth—As to the matter of clerk hire for the office of the secretary previous to the year 1889, the revenues were insufficient to pay a salary of \$40 per month to the secretary. The state alliance in its wisdom for the years 1890 and 1891 left the matter of clerk hire entirely to the discretion of the secretary subject to the approval of the state alliance at its next meeting. In the year 1891 the subject of clerk hire became of considerable magnitude. At the meeting held January, 1892, after approving of all the bills for clerk hire for 1891, the annual meeting fixed the clerk hire at not to exceed \$500, of which amount a little over \$400 was used, and therefore by the evidence the charge that the secretary has used unappropriated funds of the alliance for clerk hire is not sustained.

Fifth—As to the matter of rent, fuel, and light for secretary's office that the charge is extortion, after examination into the subject as far as possible, we find no exorbitant charge unless it is compared with like rents at the present time. The committee rely upon the report of the auditing committee for its facts for each year for office rent, light, and fuel in the absence of any other evidence in relation thereto. The charge of fraud and extortion in the matter of rent, fuel and light are not sustained.

Sixth—The committee finds that the charge that Secretary Thompson, acting as business manager of the publishing company, charged the alliance \$185 for printing 30,000 constitutions which were printed by The State Journal company for \$140 is sustained.

Seventh—We find from evidence submitted and otherwise that the continued and persistent publishing and charging of fraud and corruption and incompetency of Secretary Thompson without sufficient grounds by S. E. Thornton has been the principal cause of the subordinate alliances withholding their quarterly dues and somewhat of a division in the alliance which should have no existence.

These facts have already caused the resignation of our secretary and should these slanderous publications continue we recommend to alliance members to withdraw their support from such papers.

H. P. ALLEN, Chm.
ALLEN ROSS, Sec.
H. B. MCGAW,
CLARK OLDS,
P. H. BARRY, Com.

COMMENTS.

On reading the above "findings" one is at a loss to know whether to laugh or to weep. They so meager, so at variance with the facts, so patched up, my charges are so minuscule, and the whole thing is so evidently framed to whitewash Thompson and condemn me, that

It ought to disgust every honest fair-minded alliance man.

I cannot discuss these findings at length now. This article is already too long. But I want to call your attention to a few points:

The statement that Burrows and Thompson assumed the indebtedness of the paper and became its owners in 1890 is absolutely false. It was my back in 1889.

The committee says Thompson contracted with the publishing concern to do the printing at a liberal profit. This is undoubtedly true. In other words he let the printing to himself and his partner.

The claim that these excessive charges were made to maintain the paper etc. is ridiculous. The paper during 1889 made money "hand over fist." At one time Burrows and Thompson drew out of its treasury over \$900 apiece, and Burrows repeatedly drew large sums of money from it.

The claim that these bills were audited by the committee with a full knowledge of their excessive character is purely gratuitous. I do not believe it. But if they did, they did it under a false impression that it was necessary to support the paper.

The committee says the charges for 1891 "were large, too large considering the amount done." How mild! Not a word of condemnation for anybody!

Then the committee says that the charge that Thompson let the printing "at exorbitant prices corruptly and with intent to defraud the state alliance is not sustained." Who said he did? I never made any such charge. I said he did it knowingly and to advance his own personal interest.

The finding regarding clerk-hire is a miserable subterfuge. It doesn't cover the case at all. Either Mr. Thompson's salary was never earned, or the clerk-hire should never have been charged, and there's no way to get out of it.

The finding regarding rent and fuel is no better than its predecessor.

These findings were made after Capt. Barry left in the afternoon. They were completed before supper. About 4 o'clock the committee sent for Thompson and either formally or informally demanded his resignation. After supper the last finding was made.

It is based on a falsehood. I never slandered Thompson. I never charged him with fraud and corruption through the columns of THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT. It was fixed up to complete the whitewash of Thompson and cast reproach on me.

Why didn't the committee have the courage to say that it had demanded the resignation of Thompson? Why try to saddle his resignation onto me? Still I am willing to accept the honor of having caused it.

BURROWS NOT INVESTIGATED.

When I appeared before the committee to hear the verdict, I asked what had been done with the charges against Burrows. Allen Root replied that they had decided to follow the decision of the supreme court—"not to impeach an ex-officer." I think the remark was very appropriate. I think the example of Post and Norval was well followed throughout.

Thus the cowardly schemer who has been mainly responsible for the whole affair escaped without ever the form of an investigation.

Then a new secretary must be appointed and in performing that duty the committee

CAPPED THE CLIMAX OF FOLLY.

They appointed Mr. Thompson's lady clerk! I have nothing to say against the young lady. But she has been a member of Jay Burrows' family most of the time for four years. She is so fully under the influence of Burrows and Thompson as it is possible for a human being to be. She is not and can not legally be a member of our order. I doubt if she ever attended a sub-alliance meeting in her life.

What do you think of it all, dear alliance people? Didn't the committee make a miserable mess of it to say the least?

Can our order ever be revived and built up by such methods?

As to the committee's threat of boycotting this paper, it is a fitting finale of this miserable business. I am free to say that I am ashamed of the men who drafted and signed that resort. I pity them for their weakness, for their moral cowardice, for their treacherous subservience to a man who has shown himself unworthy the respect and confidence of honest men.

I have only tried to do my duty. I believe I have done it. If the people see fit to boycott me for that, let them do so. It will not swerve me a hair-breadth from the path of duty.

But I have no fear of it. I would rather have the condemnation of that committee than its approval. At the most, its threat is the roar of a lion that has neither teeth nor claws.

Yours for Justice,
S. EDWIN THORNTON.

Am going east. I left my \$60.00 life scholarship with Professor Ong of the Omaha College of Shorthand and Typewriting to sell for \$19.00. Send him \$19 and he will issue a life scholarship in your name. Tell your friends. Write at once. GEO. S. CURRIE, "Gen. Del.," Omaha, Neb.

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INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

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HAIL.

Policies are being written and sent out as fast as we can.

We have had about twenty losses reported, but so far none of them are heavy; the largest is less than \$150 and some of them are very small; one tells us that his corn is coming out and perhaps will not be worth while to send an adjuster. I hope that members in the county alliance will recommend some good man for adjuster.

We urge all to write names very plain, and especially on title page of the application.

CYCLONE.

The terrible cyclones of last week in Iowa should be a warning to all who are not insured against this form of calamity. It is not safe to say that you will never have a cyclone because you have not had one in your community for a number of years. Some claim that they are safe because storms follow streams or valleys, others that they do not, hence all try to find an excuse, the same as hundreds did in the path of the recent storm in Iowa, but now they will all see that they were mistaken in their manner of reasoning, and now they are falling over each other trying to get insured before the next storm.

Will you be so negligent as to "wait until after the horse is stolen before you lock the barn."

Agents wanted. Write for applications and instruction in fire and lightning.

THE MARKETS.

Chicago Grain and Live Stock.

CHICAGO, July 11, 1893. CATTLE—Receipts 9,000 head; market lower; good to choice steers, \$4 40 to \$5 40; others, \$4 10 to \$4 30; Texans, \$2 40 to \$3 75; cows and heifers, \$1 90 to \$2 25. HOGS—Receipts 19,000 head; market steady but higher; mixed and packers, \$6 00 to \$6 25; prime heavy and butcher's weights, \$6 25 to \$6 50; prime light, \$6 50 to \$7 00. SHEEP—Receipts 9,000 head; market lower; Prime natives, \$4 25; \$5 50; westerns, \$4 15 to \$4 50; Texans, \$4 00; lambs, \$5 50 to \$6 40. GRAIN—Wheat, 66 c; corn, 40 1/4; oats, 28 1/4.

Omaha Live Stock.

OMAHA, July 11, 1893. CATTLE—Good to choice steers, \$4 50 to \$5 00; others \$4 25 to \$4 50. Cows—\$1 25 to \$3 50; stockers and feeders, 2 00 to \$3 75. HOGS—\$ 5 75 to \$6 05. SHEEP—\$ 7 00 to \$7 50.

Story of a "Fun-Dial."

There are many interesting stories told of the buildings in the Inner Temple, the chief quarters of the London lawyers. On one house, which was destroyed in the great fire of 1838, there was a sun-dial whose motto was praised by Charles Lamb for its "strange heart language." Its language was certainly strange, though whether it stirred the heart or not, may be doubted, for it read simply, "Begone about your business." This curious inscription is said by Mr. Loftie to have risen in this way: The workman who was setting up the dial asked the treasurer of the temple for a motto, and the latter thinking the man was joking, replied in the words of the inscription. On his part, the workman, taking the treasurer seriously, wrote the motto, "Begone about your business," which remained as long as the dial existed.

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(Signed) T. B. HART. NO-TO-BAC is absolutely guaranteed to cure any form of the tobacco habit; you can buy it at H. T. Clark Drug Co., Lincoln, Neb., our agents. Call and get a copy of our little book, entitled "Don't Tobacco Spit or Smoke Your Life Away."

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Conditional Agreement.

We, the undersigned, agree to pay the sum set opposite our names, as stock to "The Alliance Publishing Co.," the same to be paid or sent to J. V. Wolfe, treasurer of the committee, Lincoln, Neb., to be deposited, or held by him, until the sum of Twenty-five Hundred Dollars or more is subscribed and paid in, and the value thereof, in stock, in said paper, to be issued to the parties paying the same or to some one designated by them, in shares of Twenty Dollars each, said stock to be fully paid up and non-assessable. Said company to be reorganized when said amount is raised and fully paid, on the call of the committee appointed at the Lindell Hotel in Lincoln, June 14, 1893.

Said money to be returned to the subscribers of said amount if \$2,500 is not paid in or there is any failure in said reorganization. Provided, that no subscriber shall be required to take out and hold stock in said company unless he desires to do so.

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Am going east. Professor Ong of the Omaha College of Shorthand and Typewriting is instructed to sell my \$60.00 life scholarship for \$19.00. Send him \$19.00 and he will issue a life scholarship in your name. Show this to your friend. Write at once. GEO. S. CURRIE, "Gen. Del.," Omaha, Neb.

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WANTED--Location for a Populist paper. Address, E. L. V., Box 707, York, Neb.

I am going east. I have a \$60.00 life scholarship for the Omaha College of Shorthand and Typewriting for sale for \$19.00 cash. Purchasers can call or write to Professor Ong of college and upon receiving \$19.00 he will issue in your name the life scholarship I possess. You can attend anytime you wish. Please cut this out and show it to your friends. Write or call at once to college or GEO. S. CURRIE, "Gen. Del.," Omaha, Neb.

Missouri Pacific Railway. Ticket Office at Depot, corner Twelfth and O Streets.

Table with columns: Leaves, Arrives. Lists routes like Auburn and Neb. City Exp., St. Louis day Express, etc.

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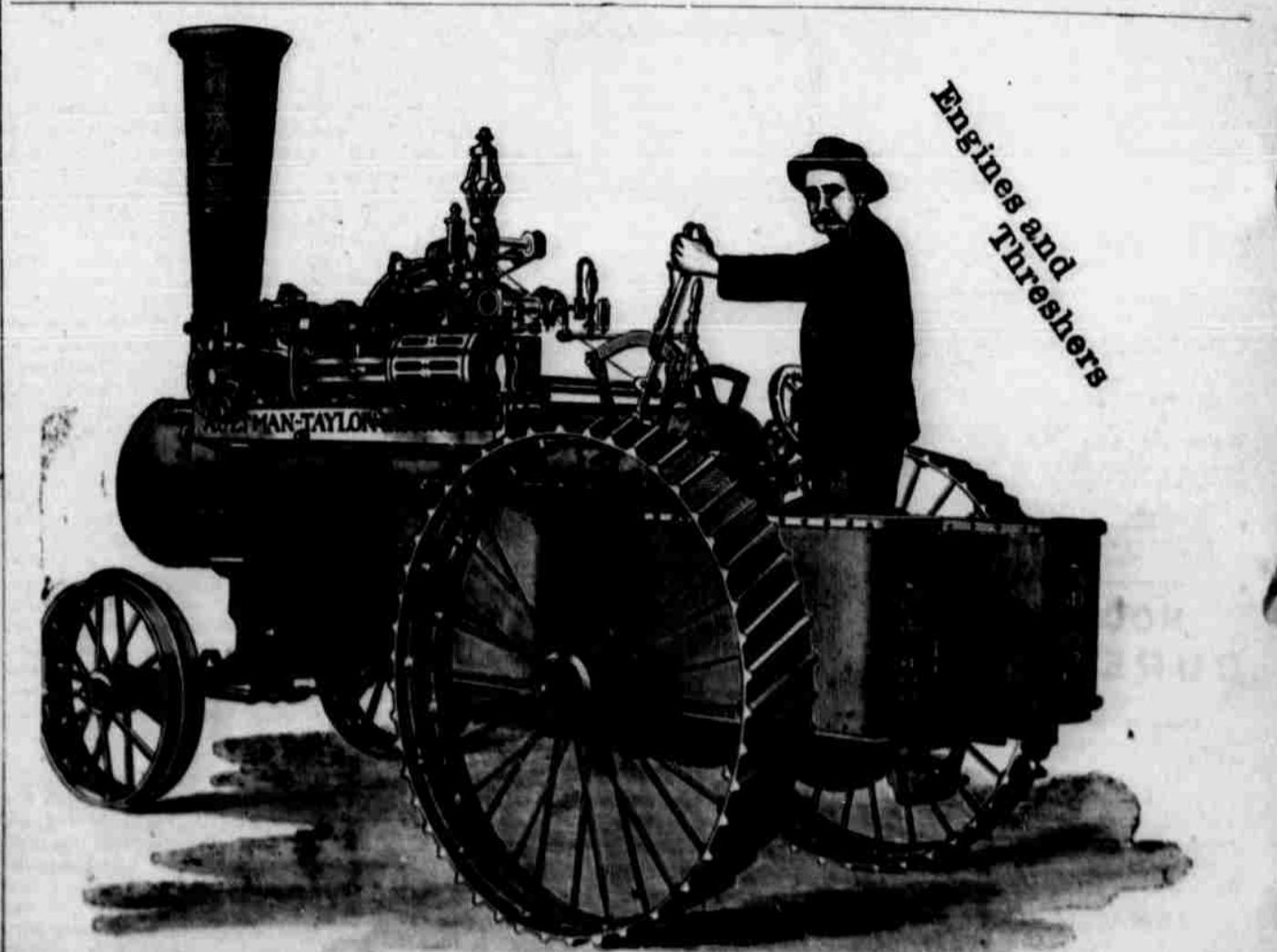
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