

lands of United States receivers, who always conduct them on the best business principles, shows what a simple matter it would be to nationalize and systematize the whole railroad business. Changing a comparatively few high officials for government officials, is all that is needed. We should then have all our transportation at cost, instead of as now at cost plus profits, which are making a great number of railroads millionaires. And the cost under an economically perfected, single system, would be not over half what it is now.

DO SUCH PRAYERS PLEASE GOD?

[Isaiah 58: 1-12]
A few weeks ago several Methodist bishops, Dr. Newman and others, met here in Lincoln to consult and pray over the financial condition of Wesleyan University. The Chancellor afterwards, in a sermon which we listened to, told of the great burden and need of money which weighed upon them, and how Bishop Newman prayed. Such a prayer! He told the Lord they must have help. He told the Lord they must look to Him. They had got to the end of their resources, and the work was His, &c. &c.

Without doubt it was a very eloquent petition, but, to our mind, it must have strained severely the patience of the Almighty. We are aware that these church leaders, the chief priests and teachers, are above being taught, are too certain that their teaching is perfect to listen for a moment to any criticism of their creed; nevertheless, for Christ's sake and humanity's sake, we are constrained to affirm that they are in their lives and their influence fundamentally, practically unchristian.

In the first place these heads of the church were not at the end of their resources, nor even at the beginning, if they had known it. The church can never be in financial straits except as the natural result of disobedience, trampling under foot Christ's teaching, God's law. It suffers with the selfish, struggling, Ishmaelish commercial world, because it has been sinning with it. If commercially all men "bite and devour one another," the individual has no chance to live unselfishly. But individuals organized to love and serve one another need not so live.

The church under the teaching, by the teaching, of these leaders is not seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. It does not know, it cannot find out by listening to their preaching, what the law of God's kingdom requires. These bishops, the people under them, and all the churches of Christendom take it for granted that God's will is known. But it is not known or believed in by any religious organization. The language of the law, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself," is plain, as it was to the Old Testament readers, but its meaning is again lost, and in the same way, by tradition and custom. Trusted leaders, coveting wealth and power, obtained influence in the church, and early set aside the property test of love, "the strait gate" which Christ built to keep out mammon worshippers. They atheistically rejected God's wisdom and accepted in place of it the worldly wisdom of selfishness, and so, through exalting man above God, the church was led back into the world of selfish, contending individualism, out of which it has never since as a body emerged. Substituting warring individual interests for a community of interests; they cut Christ's body into parts, and destroyed its spiritual life and world-saving power.

We say the church went back to live and do business by the rule of evil, the world's selfish way. But the professed object of the organization and of its individual members continued to be love, equal love for their neighbors and a desire to save them from the evils of selfishness. Put in plain English their professed creed was, and to this day is, "Be selfish in all your business relations, your every day deeds. In order that you may have money to pay for the preaching of unselfish words on Sunday. Do selfishly, as others do, get more labor than you give in exchange, compel men to work for less than they produce, and so furnish you the means to be more or less charitable (?) to those weaker neighbors whom you and other strong ones have despoiled of all natural rights in the earth and left utterly destitute; also that you may, if you can squeeze enough profit out of others, have a surplus fortune to endow theological schools and colleges, and so enable them by a perpetual accursed usury robbery to educate men to believe in, sanction and preach, practically, this sort of salvation." This for the strong, and for the weak the preaching has been.

"Be content in that humble, laborious, half-starved sphere of life in which it has pleased God to place you."

"Pleased God!" Dreadful must be the wrath called forth by this blasphemy, this ascription of evil to the All-Father.

These Methodist bishops and educators were on their faces before God, just as Joshua was, and we believe the same word given to Joshua is for them. The Lord said to him:

Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face? Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put it even among their own stuff.

Instead of lying on their faces praying, these modern Joshuas should be finding out who caused this panic and the enforced idleness and universally felt loss and distress. If they search thoroughly they will find it was caused by forcing the wealth producers who fill the market, to take less than the market price for their products, and that this injustice was made possible by an unjustly acquired monopoly of land, money and various forms of necessary capital.

They will find after consideration, that Jehovah was wiser than they are when He prohibited His people from selling the land forever, from monopolizing the land and the houses, and from taking "usury, or increase," for anything lent. They will see also that the various usury accumulations by the rich force economies upon the poor, by taking from them the money (justly theirs) to empty the markets, and that so production must more or less regularly be stopped, as at present, and poverty made to spread farther and farther, to embrace more and more.

And when they begin to see this, if they are brave men, they will "Cry aloud and spare not." They will show the people their transgressions; they will demand that the bands of wickedness be loosed, that the oppressed be set free, and that every yoke be broken. "Then they shall call, and the Lord will answer; they shall cry, and He shall say, Here I am."

REPRINTED FROM MONDAY'S BEE

LINCOLN, Dec. 23.—To the Editor of The Bee: In answer to my protest against your classing the Populists with wildcat money and currency inflation advocates, you suggest that I write a letter for publication, defining our position on the currency and government loan questions.

I take pleasure in doing this, and appreciate the courtesy and spirit of fairness which your suggestion shows.

"The spirit of party," which Washington warned us against, the spirit of political unfairness and unpatriotic selfishness, is the common spirit today. Commercialism has crowded patriotism largely out of the political, lawmaking world, and the class legislation which it has secured has given to the few a power which is appalling. The special privileges granted to corporations and the multiplication and growth of monopolies have made possible an unprecedentedly rapid concentration of wealth, the transfer of the money, capital and natural resources from many to comparatively few ruling hands. The condition of the country today illustrates most forcibly the fact that millions of our people are no longer free or independent. The multitudes who can neither employ themselves nor find employment have no available, no potential, right to life, liberty and happiness. And the still larger circle, which includes those who are at work and who must work for capitalists and those who must pay monopoly prices for services, shows to us the much larger number who are dependent, the number whose surplus earnings are taken from them to buy up more and more of the natural resources, thereby spreading and intensifying industrial slavery.

"Not less than 117,000 working people are out of work and in sore need" in Chicago is the telegraphic news of the 11th inst., and Chicago is not suffering more than the rest of the country. The panic and the succeeding stagnation and suffering was caused directly by the refusal of the banks to lead the money which is needed to keep the wheels of commerce and industry moving. The money could nowhere else be obtained, and so the great mass of the people suffer loss and are seen to be dependent on the money lords, the associated bankers.

The People's party is the first to say that the money monopoly must be broken, that the wealth-concentrating, labor-enervating drain of usury must be stopped; that unless it can be stopped there is no liberty, no independence possible for the common people. As a party we not only see this, but we have, after a careful study of the money question and the needs of industry, formulated a plan to keep the supply of money in government control, where those who need capital can borrow money without interest, at cost of examining and caring for securities. We propose a new financial system, a scientifically perfect, government issued legal tender money, and means of circulating it. We do not propose currency inflation and a depreciated dollar, as many suppose, nor does our plan lead to it. By our system money will increase in volume, but only as wealth or capital increases. The volume will be regulated by natural demand, by actual needs. The currency will enter circulation where it is called for with good security, and be withdrawn from circulation (deposited with the government) where it cannot be advantageously used. Its unit of value measure, so regulated cannot fluctuate, or vary.

Our system calls for government banking, and we demand in our national platform, "that postal savings banks be established by the government for the safe deposit of the earnings of the people and to facilitate exchange." Through these banks and sub-treasuries we propose that money shall be loaned on real estate, and on warehoused non-perishable products of a market value

furnishing ample security. In addition to the real estate or warehouse security considered ample by the bank directors, under fixed rules and limitations, the tax-paying property of each county where the loans are made should be obliged to make good to the government any possible loss which inadequate security in rare instances might entail. The element of risk can be entirely, or almost entirely, eliminated. But if some slight risk in security values is unavoidable, a small fraction of risk per cent would naturally be added to the labor cost of loaning to cover it, to prevent taxation. A fourth of 1 per cent charge on all loans would doubtless more than indemnify the counties for all inadequate security losses.

This, in brief, is our plan; and there is nothing impracticable in it. Austria has for eleven years, had in most successful operation a postal savings bank system, with a regular check and clearing system as one of its features, providing every convenience of our ordinary private and national banks. We can find plenty of qualified and most reputable bankers and other citizens whom we can elect to locally conduct our deposit, loaning and exchange business at an immense saving of labor and interest charges. With the government postal savings and loan banks established we shall have a place of absolute security in which to deposit surplus earnings, a universal need and demand, and money in unflinching reach to keep every one at work on terms which secure to the workers the full product of their labor. With this financial system introduced the vast wealth-concentrating drain of interest would be stopped; all the wealth produced in a community would be retained in that community, and the people would be kept free and independent. On the one item of \$132,000,000 of farm mortgage indebtedness Nebraska would save for local trade and improvements about \$10,000,000 each year, which we now contribute mostly to eastern loan and trust companies.

Under the monetary system we propose the currency can neither be inflated nor contracted; the dollar can neither appreciate nor depreciate; the volume will increase only as labor is employed and wealth produced. And because government loans can be secured at cost money cannot be loaned by private parties for interest. It is a system which will release more gold for foreign exchanges, if it is wanted, than we now have. And it is a monetary system which no outside financial disturbances can affect. Within our own domain panics and the present recurring periods of business depression would by it be rendered impossible. It would set all at work and insure perpetual opportunities. It is the Copernican system of finance, simple, equitable perfect. GEORGE HOWARD GIBSON.

THE PEOPLE MUST MAKE AND UN-MAKE THE LAWS.

Hitherto we have not in this paper expressed any views regarding the Initiative and Referendum; but we are convinced that it is an important reform. Representative government, so-called, has been with us, in the matter of securing justice to the common people, a huge failure. The professional politicians, the treacherous demagogues, the swarm of spoils seeking hypocrites, have been too many for us. We have believed their smooth words and entrusted them with law making powers, and in return they have bartered away our liberties, they have sold us into slavery by means of class legislation. If we would retain our rights and liberties, we must retain in our hands the law-making and veto power.

The principle of direct legislation, doing away with the corrupt and corruptible lawmakers, should be in great favor with all lovers of justice and good government. And in the short time which the Initiative and Referendum has been agitated it has drawn to itself a vast number of advocates. The American Federation of Labor, nearly a million strong, has just resolved to stand on it; the Knights of Labor demand it; and we believe the Republican party in Massachusetts has hitched it to its platform to catch the laboring vote. It is one of the doubtful adjuncts to our platform, which party ignorance made us somewhat afraid of when it was proposed and voted on. But in the next platform we make it should be given prominence and honorable place. Intelligent men of all parties, politicians and monopolists excepted, will be driven to support it.

Our readers are aware, we suppose, that the Initiative and Referendum plan is in very successful and in perfectly satisfactory operation in the Swiss Republic.

J. V. Wolfe's big sale "ad" came in too late for this issue, but look out for it next week. Don't forget the time, January 11th. Make preparations to attend this sale as it will be the best offering of Poland-China hogs ever sold in the west and as good as any offered anywhere. Mr. Wolfe buys the best, regardless of price, and puts all his season's crop of young sows and about twenty old ones in his sale. For the breeding of his herd send to him for his catalogue. Address box 325, Lincoln, Neb.

To Florida take the Missouri Pacific route. City Ticket office 1201 O street, P. Daniels.

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INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

[Under this head, short articles of general interest on the subject of mutual insurance will be published free of charge, and in the name of the writer, whose name must always accompany the letter, and who will alone be responsible for the views expressed. Any communication in the nature of an advertisement, or calculated to benefit any particular company will be charged for at our regular rate for reading notices.]

ANNUAL MEETINGS.

LANCASTER COUNTY.
The annual meeting of the Lancaster County Farmers Mutual Insurance Co. will be held in the office of the secretary, room 328 McMurry block, near corner of 11th and M streets, Lincoln, Neb., at 10 o'clock a. m., on Jan. 11, 1894. Every member is urged to attend and bring a farmer neighbor with you. We will have a good report and want every member to hear it and know just how your officers are carrying on your business.
J. Y. M. SWIGART, Sec'y.

CYCLONE.

The annual meeting of the Cyclone Co. will be held in the parlors of the Windsor hotel, Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 17, 1894, at 7 p. m.
If you can not attend this meeting in person you should send a substitute by helping to defray the expense of some of your neighbor members, that he may report back the progress of the company.
By all means every member should be represented in this very important meeting as there are some changes needed in our by-laws.
J. Y. M. SWIGART, Sec'y.

HORRIBLE CRUELTY.

Details of an Attack by Cossacks Upon a Church at Krosche.
COLOGNE, Jan. 2.—The Cologne Zeitung publishes full details of the attack upon the Catholic church at Krosche, by Cossacks last month. This account of the massacre fully confirms the report originally sent out and which afterward was officially denied. The correspondent of the Zeitung adds that the Cossacks were guilty of incredible barbarity and cruelty.

They lanced and knouted the defenseless people whom they drove from the churches. Women, as well as men, were included among their victims. The dead and mutilated were thrown into a lime pit near the church. The sacred ornaments were taken from the edifice, broken into pieces and thrown into a cess-pool. The Cossacks, after this, were allowed to plunder the village.

Forged Secretary Herbert's Name.
SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 2.—The Call announces what purports to be a decision in the court marshal at Mare Island in the case of Richard Ashbridge, past assistant surgeon, United States navy. Ashbridge comes from a prominent Philadelphia family. It was charged before the court marshal that the young surgeon had forged the signature of Secretary of the Navy Herbert to a telegraphic message of instruction to Captain Howison at Mare Island. It is said the court marshal sustains the charges and recommends the dismissal of Ashbridge from the service.

William A. Bennett, one of the best known bank tellers in Providence, R. I., is a defaulter for \$20,000.

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ALLIANCE LOCATING AGENCY.
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Capital, \$250,000.

First National Bank,
LINCOLN, NEB.
Capital, - - - \$400,000.
Surplus \$100,000.

N. S. HARWOOD, President. F. M. COOK, Cashier. C. S. LIPPINCOTT, Asst. Cashier. C. A. HANNA, Vice-President. H. S. FREEMAN, Asst. Cashier.

FRANK IAMS,
Importer and Breeder
100 Black Percheron, French Brait, Clydes and Shires.
IAMS' "Horse Show" at the great St. Louis, Kansas and Nebraska State Fairs of 1893, & other his competitors.
They won the grand \$200 herd prize "For Best lot of Draft Horses" and over every Nebraska draft horse or mare shown at the World's Fair.
1. M. V. Stallions, harness and colts won the prizes at Nebraska State Fair over Nebraska World's Fair winners in past five years.
They Were Winners of 527 Prizes.
IAMS is the only importer in Nebraska that imported his Percherons in the past three years from France and the largest importer of Clydes and Shires. ALL BLACKS. IAMS' horses won six sweepstakes prizes at Nebraska State Fair of 1893, and IAMS is the only man of Nebraska that is entitled to the name of
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IAMS GUARANTEES to show you the largest collection of BIG FLASHY DRAFT HORSES of the various breeds of the BEST INDIVIDUAL, MERE AND BROYAL BREEDING, 2 to 5 years old 16 to 2000 weight and at ALLIANCE PRICES AND TERMS, one, two and three years time at 5 per cent interest, or cheaper than any live importer, or pay full fare to see them, and IAMS pays the freight. **More State Prize Winners Than All Nebraska Importers.**
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Wanted, Liberal Salary Paid, All Home or Travel. Team furnished free. F. O. YICKEL, Agency, Mo.
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For the Midwinter Fair, California, take the Missouri Pacific route. City ticket office 1201 O St.
The cheapest place for monuments is at Geo. Natterman's, 213 South Ninth St., Lincoln.
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John F. Mefferd has withdrawn from the management of the subscription department of this paper, to go into other business. His advertisement may found in another column.
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