

Farmers Rights and the Railroads.

Being the owner of a farm in Wayne county Nebraska, on which was raised this past year three car loads of corn, and having no stock there to feed the corn to; and having a farm in this place on which little corn was raised, and stock on it to which I desired to feed grain, I determined to bring one car at least of my corn here for my own use.

But under present legislation the state will not commence and prosecute the necessary proceedings; but will leave the trouble and expense of such proceedings to the individual whose rights have been invaded. And few individuals have enough at stake to authorize them to measure arms with one of these corporations.

The policy of all railroad companies is to fight every thing, believing that by so doing they will so intimidate many of those having claims against them, that they will make no efforts to enforce their claims. They charge all costs arising out of the needless litigation to expenses. And when laws are proposed, regulating their compensation for carrying passengers and freight they insist that their expenses shall be taken into account in determining the amount they shall be permitted to charge, thereby subjecting the public to the payment of costs on both sides of all litigation.

Private individuals are therefore not competent to cope in litigation with these corporations, and should not be required to in matters relating to the misuse of corporate franchises.

These corporations are the creatures of the sovereign power of the state. They are children of the states begetting; and when its contemptible, knavish brats need chastisement the state should administer it, and not throw the burden on individuals.

If a thief steals a horse, or breaks into a house and steals goods, or a swindler under false pretenses defrauds a person of a few dollars, the state does not ask the owner to prosecute the criminal.

The state prosecutes at its own expense, and by its own officers on the ground that bringing criminals to punishment is a matter which concerns the public.

The refusal to perform legal obligations, which are conditions upon which a corporation received its franchise and privileges, is a matter which concerns the public, and the state should see that these obligations are performed, or that the corporation shall cease to enjoy the franchise and privileges.

The superintendent of the road must be ignorant of the fact that by refusing to furnish cars and transporting the grain of farmers he is putting at defiance the laws of the state, is violating one of the conditions upon which his corporation came into existence; and is trampling upon the rights of a portion of the public. For otherwise the only explanation I am able to give for his conduct is that it arises from innate cussedness, or a combination with the elevator owners along the line of the road for gain, coupled with the Calvinistic doctrine of total depravity, which I am not willing to suppose.

Farmers of Nebraska, you need a statute which shall in substance provide that every railroad company owning a railroad in the state, shall, at all stations build a siding sufficient to stand upon it at least three cars, with such grading and filling as will enable wagons to drive to the cars, and conveniently unload into the cars; and that when any person shall notify the agent at a station that a car or cars are wanted to load with grain or other freight, it shall be the duty of the company, within thirty-six hours after such notice to furnish a car or cars suitable for the freight to be transported, and place the same on the siding, and when loaded that the company shall without delay transport said freight to its place of destination, if such place is on the line of its road; and if beyond to the next carrier toward the place of destination. And that for so transferring no man shall be charged more than is legal. And further provide that in case any railroad shall refuse or neglect to perform these duties such refusal or neglect shall be absolutely a forfeiture of its franchise, and that when the Attorney General shall be notified of such refusal or neglect, it shall be his duty at once to commence proceedings in quo warranto to enforce the forfeiture.

Hang the beheading sword over the unscrupulous, soulless knaves by a single thread. When the corporations are made to understand that their life depends upon their faithfully performing their duties to the public, that they cannot disregard the conditions upon which they obtained existence, and live, their superintendents will no longer trample upon the rights of the public.

Farmers, it is high time for you to throw party to the dogs; and to stand united as one man, until you secure those rights that are now withheld from you. The power is in your hands. See that men are sent to the legislature and congress, who can devise measures and put them in the form of bills, and who can champion those bills through to enactments.

The legislator who can only vote right will be of no use to you unless salutary measures are submitted for him to vote upon. H. H. NOSES. Rock Creek, Okla., Jan. 1894.

To Florida January 18th, where the climate cannot be excelled in the wide world. Call on Phil Daniels, 1201 O street.

court should not decree its franchise forfeited, and its ouster of the right to be a corporation, or operate its railroad unless the court should exercise a discretion unwarranted by the circumstances.

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OFFICERS STATE ALLIANCE.

President, W. L. Dale, Atlanta. Vice-Pres., Prof. W. A. Jones, Hastings. Secretary, Mrs. J. T. Kelle, Hartwell. Treasurer, James Cameron, Beaver City. W. F. Wright, State Organizer Alliance Aid, Bethany, Neb. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Chairman, L. N. Leonard, Lincoln. E. Soderman, Bertrand. L. W. Young, Wilsonville. C. M. Lemar, Mead. J. M. Dimmick, Macon.

Letter From the Alliance Secretary. HARTWELL, Neb. Jan. 22, '94. Editor ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT:—

The first of Hon. John H. Power's meetings was held at Minden yesterday and was a great success both in numbers and enthusiasm. If the same interest is manifested all along the line it will be only a short time until the Alliance will be restored to its old time vigor and usefulness.

President Dale met with us, and his remarks, although few, were earnest and full of timely advice. I believe Bro. Powers never did better, and that is saying a great deal, but it is impossible that anyone could have heard and not been benefited thereby. Everyone that hears him is impressed with his earnest and honest purpose to make the lot of the toiler better and happier, and to make the title American citizen more to be desired than a monarch's crown.

The speeches of these visiting brothers took up so much time of the county Alliance that there was no time for the election of officers, and a recess was taken for one week, when the county officers will be elected, and a good turn out is expected. The following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That we heartily congratulate our senator, Hon. Wm. V. Allen and his co-workers in their efforts before the supreme court of our nation to stop the issue of government bonds by the secretary of the treasury.

I believe the Alliance must soon arouse to more decided action, or our children will not be free even in name. There never was a time when "eternal vigilance" seemed as necessary to me as it does now.

The worst enemies of the Alliance are its proffered friends who would have us think our work was accomplished, whereas it is only begun. We must educate and agitate until every demand for right and justice is enacted into law. Yours for industrial freedom. MRS. J. T. KELLIE.

Meeting of the National Farmers Alliance.

TOPEKA, Kas., Jan. 19, 1893. DEAR SIR:—The National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union will hold its annual session in Topeka, February 6th. The rate of one and one-third fare on the certificate plan has been granted from all points in Nebraska, Colorado, Indian Territory, Oklahoma and Kansas.

Among the prominent people who will be present are H. L. Loucks, South Dakota; I. E. Dean, New York; H. C. Deering, Pennsylvania; Manna Page, of Virginia; L. Leonard, of Missouri; and Ben Terrell of Texas. We also expect Gen. J. B. Weaver, H. E. Taubeneck, Cyclone Davis of Texas and other distinguished reformers.

Yours very Resp. J. B. FRENCH, Secretary, N. F. A. & I. U.

The Good Work Going Grandly On.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 22, '94. Editor ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT:— With the assistance of Geo. G. A. Felton, have established two "Aid degrees" in Nuckols county. One at Highland Alliance, Bro. Rouse scribe, and Bro. Haman, guardian; also at Beach Alliance, 717. Bro. Beach as guardian, and Miss Carrie C. Beach, scribe. Bro. Felton will continue the work and Nuckols county will soon be organized for various lines of work. Co-operative stores and shipping companies are being formed at Nelson and Oak. The Alliance members are getting on the war path and something will "drap" before they yield an inch of ground already won.

W. F. WRIGHT, State Organizer.

A Letter From President Dale.

EDITOR ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT: The State Executive Committee of the Farmers' Alliance outlined the following work for the president, covering a period of five weeks, points to be arranged by the State secretary in correspondence with each county secretary and other parties interested in said counties. I hope every friend of our order will not only help in advertising these meetings but will try and have them well attended.

Table with columns for names and dates: Thayer, " 27 to 30. Jefferson, " 31 to Feb. 3. Saine, " Feb. 5 to 8. Fillmore, " 9 to 13. Clay, " 14 to 17. Hamilton, " 18 to 22. Adams, " 23 to 24.

Very Truly Yours, W. F. DALE, Pres.

The selection of Senator Dale as president of the Farmers Alliance is an exceptionally good one. The Herald believes he is the right man in the right place and predicts that he will make an energetic, efficient and able officer. No better choice could have been made.—Perkins Co. Herald.

Take THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT

DATES OF ALLIANCE LECTURES.

A New Vigorous Start in Alliance Work.

HARTWELL, Neb., Jan. 3, 1893. Editor ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT:— At the meeting of the executive committee in Hastings today the following appointments were made for John H. Powers:

STATE LECTURE. Franklin county, Riverton, Jan. 30. Harlan county, Alma, Feb. 3. Fergus county, Beaver City, Feb. 8. Red Willow county, Bartley, Feb. 13. Dundy county, Benkeman, Feb. 19. Chase county, Imperial, Feb. 23. Hayes county, Galena, Feb. 28.

Four days will be spent by him in each county and the other appointments will be made later. These are the dates of his entrance into each county. President W. F. Dale will also spend four days in each of the following counties, beginning on dates as follows:

Thayer county, Jan. 26. Jefferson county, Jan. 31. Saline county, Feb. 5. Fillmore county, Feb. 9. Clay county, Feb. 14. Hamilton county, Feb. 19. Adams county, two days, Feb. 23 and 24th.

The places for his meetings have not been decided on, but will be sent you later. The state secretary desires to correspond with one or more earnest Alliance workers in each county named who will do all in their power to make these meetings profitable. Alliance papers in each of the named counties please copy. MRS. J. T. KELLIE, Sec'y State Alliance.

Brother Wasmund's Plan is a Good One.

RUSHVILLE, Neb., Dec. 24, 1893. Editor ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT:—

What I think should be done to carry the state for our party next year. Organize at once all along the line first by organizing People's Party clubs in every town, and where we have county officers of our party at the county seats. Let them take hold and get up evening discussions at least once a week at stated times and places free to all, under such rules as will best promote good order.

We must carry this discussion on in our towns, as they are where we always get our defeat, and the reason is, our principles are not understood near as well in towns as in the country on account of the towns getting their information from the daily press, a monopoly tool. The country gets most of the reform papers, and therefore its readers are better informed on the issue of the times.

Let the Omaha platform be our basis for discussion. If our people will take hold and work faithfully through the winter for our cause and meet all opposition so, we shall sweep this state next fall. But we must be in earnest and the reform press must be united as one man (and not fight our own men). Respectfully Yours, N. F. WASMUND.

Central Committeemen, Sheridan Co. Neb.

The Users of Norway.

EDITOR ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT:— In your issue of July 6th, 1893, you have an article on the financial condition of Norway. The constitution of that country was adopted in 1814 or 15, it prohibited the Jews from entering that country, but in 1848 the prohibition was repealed.

No doubt the authorities were taught to understand how the people could be set to work and bring debt upon themselves by labor. One of their national songs begins: "Sons of Nore that very old country." Then it proclaims: "Liberty to think, liberty to talk, liberty to work for the good of the country"—making bonds for the Jews.

After they had here inflated the currency to their satisfaction they changed the coin from dollar to crown—no doubt, "strengthened the public credit," by making the people pay two dollars instead of one. Then they demonetized the crown, except in payment for labor—showing that "it shall be the policy of King Voorhees to use both gold and silver as money. Yours Resp. H. O. OLSEN.

One of the Beginnings of Evil.

EDITOR ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT: Dear brother in the new movement which is needed very much. President Grant refused to give '61 soldiers two hundred dollars bounty to be paid by the government and turned right about and signed a bill to raise the president of the United States salary from \$25,000 to \$50,000 per year, and also signed bills to raise members of congress, and senators, salaries. Right there and then monopoly was inaugurated, right in the halls of congress. They claimed that the House of Lords and the Queen of England said it was a shame that the president and congressmen and senators ought to have more salary.

Yes, brothers and sisters of the Independent party, my sympathy is with you. I have been an independent ever since the monopoly above mentioned was perpetrated. I lost confidence in the so-called Republicans, and not the Abraham Lincoln Republican platform. JULIA A. JACOBY, Bloomington, Ill., Dec 1893.

Florida via the Missouri Pacific route Jan. 16th. Call on Phil Daniels, 1201 O street.

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