

The Plattsmouth Journal
DAILY AND WEEKLY.
C. W. SHERMAN, Editor.

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FREE COINAGE RESOLUTIONS.

The following are the resolutions adopted at the free silver convention at Omaha:

"We send greetings to our fellow democrats of Nebraska and invite their earnest co-operation and aid in electing delegates from every county in the state to the democratic convention of 1894, pledged to vote for the insertion in the democratic state platform of the following plank:

"We favor the immediate restoration of the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver at the present ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation on earth.

"In the effort to obtain a fair expression of democratic sentiment we urge upon every democrat who believes in the principal herein enunciated to participate actively and vigorously in the selection of delegates to the state convention.

"We recommend that in every county of the state the democrats who oppose this proposed plank be invited to a thorough discussion of its merits, to the end that the democratic party may act intelligently and harmoniously upon this great question.

"We propose that this contest shall be fought out upon clean lines and with intelligent methods; but, confident in the correctness of our position, we also propose that this fight shall be vigorous and that no effort shall be spared to place in the platform of the democratic party the same emphasis, the same unmistakable utterance concerning the great question of finance, as has been lastingly imprinted upon our party platforms concerning the great question of tariff reform."

COST OF THE STRIKE.

Various estimates have been made showing approximately what has been the cost to the people, including the strikers, of the Debs boycott, says the Chicago Record. The highest estimate, and, perhaps, the most accurate, is made by Bradstreet, which puts the total loss at \$100,000,000, more than one half of which is charged to the employees of railroads and other wage-workers. This estimate fixes the sum of \$20,000,000 as the amount of wages lost by railroad employees and \$35,000,000 as the loss of other employees in the various branches of business which were closed, or partly so, by the strike. The rest is made up of losses suffered by railroads, the government, merchants and others.

As the strike was purely sympathetic and with no direct grievance back of it on the part of the American railway union it is apparent that it would have been vastly better for the strikers to have kept at work, earned the \$20,000,000 they have lost, and expended a fair share of it in assisting the real parties in interest in the strike at Pullman. Had the sympathy of the union shown itself in that direction there would be now neither appeals for food at Pullman nor petitions on the part of certain sympathizers for restoration of their old jobs. Mr. Debs would not be perplexed with legal proceedings, and the revival of business, which had begun when the strike broke out, would not be indefinitely postponed. Strikes have ceased to be valuable as remedies for wrongs. Yet who shall say that the great railway strike has not prepared the way, directly or indirectly, for a better understanding with one another on the part of the great forces of the country? National authority has been strengthened; the workmen are turning from the strike to the ballot box, and are vowing independent action in politics; the whole world has been profoundly stirred by the destructive warfare. The vast sums which it has cost will not have been wasted if the lessons of the strike are taken to heart by the public.

The public papers and speeches of the Hon. W. J. Bryan of Nebraska, says the Chicago Times, have been collected and published in a neat volume by F. Schwind of Lincoln, Neb. The publication is a timely one, coming as it does when Mr. Bryan is making so gallant an attempt to cement the liberal elements of his state into a harmonious whole and lead them on to victory. His speeches on such vital problems of the day as the free silver question and the tariff are invaluable documents, while his addresses on more abstract themes breathe the spirit of the truest patriotism and the widest liberality. The book is an excellent campaign document for progressive democracy.

CAPITAL CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 26, 1894.—Many scenes of great dramatic interest have been witnessed in congress during debates on the tariff question, but it is doubtful if the scene when Senator Gorman called Senators Harris, Jones, Vest and Voorhees to the witness stand to verify his statement in which he accused the president of perjury, was ever approached in dramatic power or intensity of interest. The galleries on all sides of the senate chamber were crowded to repletion, and from every entrance were long rows of people who could not get in and awaited their turn, whenever some one came out, to take his place. The seats in the rear and at the sides of the chamber were crowded with members of the house who had come over to witness the anticipated scene. As a consequence the house was without a quorum—in fact, it would be an exaggeration to say that less than fifty members of that body were in their seats; the balance were in the senate. Whatever I may hitherto have thought of Senator Gorman as a man of principle, or destitute of principle, I must admit that he won my admiration by yesterday's masterly and manly effort at self-vindication. Without a note or memorandum to refer to, he held the senate floor for two and a half hours, and during all that time every eye in that vast throng was upon him and every ear was open to hear every syllable and word that he uttered. Every word seemed to quiver upon the air with the intensest interest, and when he referred to the campaign of 1884, when, with Cleveland as the candidate, he had been compelled to walk through "slime and filth," a shudder as of terror ran through that audience. The vigor, the earnestness, the deep and profound sincerity of his every utterance soon won the sympathy of his hearers, and it was very difficult for the presiding officer to prevent frequent outbursts of applause. His gestures were few, but appropriate. Most of the time he stood with his back resting against the desk behind him and supported by his left elbow, thus nearly facing his democratic associates, and without any apparent attempt at oratory, but with the magnetic ardor of a man thoroughly in earnest and feeling the justice of his cause, he talked quietly but thrillingly to his democratic colleagues. His voice, without being loud, was full, round and resonant. There was no evidence of canting hypocrisy behind it, as one feeble whenever Senator Hill is talking. He alluded to the recently published letter of the president to Chairman Wilson, of the house ways and means committee, as "the most extraordinary, the most uncalculated and the most unwise communication that was ever penned by a president," and that it placed the senate "in a position where its members must see to it that the dignity and honor of this chamber shall be preserved," by disclosing secrets of the caucus which are rarely revealed. And then he rapidly sketched matters leading up to the final denouncement, which was the crowning act in the drama, and proving that the president had been false to himself as well as to the senators who had been taken into his confidence.

From the standpoint of the senate combine it was a peerless effort, and in impressiveness was perhaps the greatest speech of Mr. Gorman's senatorial life. The effect of it was quite visible in the formation of public opinion here in the direction of an agreement with the senatorial compromise—as the only thing that is possible at present, and that is much better than a continuation of the McKinley act—much on the principle of the man who submits to be robbed by the highwayman at the point of a pistol. There is a general feeling among the members of the house that they will surrender their contention for free coal and iron ore, and a lower tax on sugar, and that a compromise will be made with the senate on the best terms possible—rather than defeat the bill entirely. It is as well to recognize the fact that Senators Smith and Murphy are tied up by promises to particular manufacturers and will not recede at any cost, while the Louisiana senators are tied up to the sugar interest of that state to such an extent that they had much rather have the McKinley differential rate on refined sugar than the senate bill, even as it is, because the planters are all refiners also, and any rate which benefits the sugar trust gives them an equal benefit, so that their interest is co-equal with that of the trust—so far as their business extends. It is a bad condition for the fruition of democratic hopes in the carrying out of the democratic policy; but the

man who finds himself suddenly confronted by a highwayman will sometimes do very ridiculous and unseemly things—and this protected interest is and always was of that character, and it is not surprising that in its thirty years of power it has been able to gain a foothold outside the ranks of the party which has been its founder and benefactor. The history of the world is full of instances of like treachery and betrayal. The apostles of Christ had their Judas Iscariot, Cesar had his Brutus and the American revolution its Arnold; it is not surprising, therefore, that tariff reform should have its Murphys, its Smiths, McPhersons, Brices, Blanchards and Cafferys. The friends of those men may not be delighted with this simile, but they will be forever compelled to bear the odium which it implies.

Senator Hill has figured on the surface of this senatorial controversy, but all of his talk has been as foam on the crest of the wave. He has kept up a good deal of barking, but Grey, Gorman and Vest on one side and Vilas on the other have done the fighting. Hill's opposition to the bill has been of the spectacular sort, based, he says, on the fact of its containing the income tax provision; and I see no reason for changing my guess that in this he is acting for the great New York life insurance companies—whose wealth is only equal to their greed.

I notice that Mr. Annin, of the Lincoln Journal, has ceased to detail accounts of Senator Allen's alleged intemperance, and from what facts I have been able to gather it is just as well that he did, for his alleged facts were so egregiously, not to say maliciously, false that their repetition would only show up his own bad part in the affair. In the same connection an inference was conveyed that Mr. McKieghan had also been remiss in his personal conduct. I don't know that I am called upon to say anything in defense of either of these men, from assaults from that source, yet a simple sense of justice requires me to say I do not believe there is the least foundation for even the innuendo which Mr. Annin was so eager to send broadcast over the state, and to my observation and belief no man in congress has all winter and summer, since I came here, been more exemplary in his personal conduct than Mr. McKieghan. I have seen him a hundred times, and never was he under influence of liquor. Besides that, he is an able and intelligent representative, and honestly carries out the wishes of the people as he understands them to be. I consider McKieghan the most conservative as well as the ablest member of the populist party in congress—not even excepting Jerry Simpson, of sockless fame. It may be the part of good politics for a correspondent to try to break down the character and reputation of senators by rushing into print with stories, which, upon full investigation, prove to be untrue, and largely the effort of imagination, but I don't believe it. I think very poorly of the politics of Senator Manderson and Representatives Hainer, Mercer and Micklejohn, but I would not attack them in that way, and Bro. Annin will find he made a serious mistake in attempting it. Senator Allen has my unbounded respect, and as to his personal habits I have never seen or known anything wrong. He is a hard worker, is honest, and is the soul of good fellowship. He has not spoken to me in his own defense, and he does not need to. I think all the more of him since this effort to break him down.

My idea now is that congress will be able to adjourn about the 10th of August—or sooner.

The other day Champ Clark, who possesses as droll a wit as any member of the house, was entertaining some Missouri friends in the gallery of the house. Talking of his duties as a member of the committee on claims, he said people in general had no conception of the multiplicity of claims, and of the foolish character of many of them, which came before the committee for adjudication. "Why," said he, "some people seem to think it no harm to swindle the government if they can. And the committee is obliged to critically examine every one of these claims—just as if they were not honest and true, and I tell you honestly, that I know of only one thing that gives me more trouble than the worry and anxiety I have over these claims." "And what is that?" queried one of his auditors. "And that is," said he with a drawl that is peculiar to him, "trying to get offices for democrats, under this democratic administration." C. W. S.

In his speech in the senate Monday Senator Gorman said that in "New York, New Jersey, Louisiana and Maryland there is more manufacturing done than in all the states which demand this radical change." That is it exactly. The proposition which Senator Gorman defends means that these four states shall continue to have this

monopoly, whereas "all the other states" want it so that they may do some manufacturing themselves. Only a few states have raw material, and if there be a tariff on raw material it can readily be seen that it would be a discrimination in favor of the state with raw material and against the state without it. Gorman is a local protectionist and his views are limited to local interests entirely. He would be willing to handicap every state in the union to develop manufacture in his own state, Maryland. A statesman must take a broader stand. This country is a country of states, and laws should be general as regards restraint and benefit, not shaped in favor of one or several states. In legislating we must legislate for all the states and make all laws so that one state shall not be compelled to pay tribute to another.

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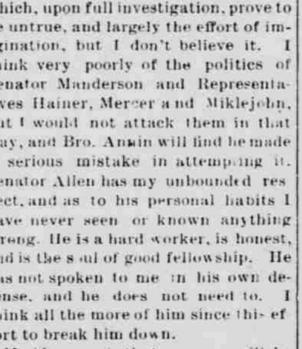
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