

THE WEALTH MAKERS.

New Series of THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT. Consolidation of the Farmers Alliance and Neb. Independent. PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY The Wealth Makers Publishing Company, 1125 M Street, Nebraska.

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N. I. P. A.

"If any man must fall for me to rise, Then seek I not to climb. Another's pain I choose not for my good. A golden chain, A robe of honor, is too good a prize To tempt my hasty hand to do a wrong. Unto a fellow man. This life hath no Sufferer, wrought by man's estate for; And who that hath a heart would dare prolong Or add a sorrow to a stricken soul? That seeks a healing balm to make it whole? My bosom owns the brotherhood of man."

Publishers' Announcement. The subscription price of THE WEALTH MAKERS is \$1.00 per year, in advance. Agents in soliciting subscriptions should be very careful that all names are correctly spelled and proper postage given. Blanks for return subscriptions, return envelopes, etc., can be had on application to this office. ALWAYS sign your name. No matter how often you write us do not neglect this important matter. Every week we receive letters with incomplete addresses or without signatures and it is sometimes difficult to locate them. CHANGE OF ADDRESS. Subscribers wishing to change their postoffice address must always give their former as well as their present address when change will be promptly made.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. J. S. Hyatt, Business Manager of The Wealth Makers Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of THE WEALTH MAKERS printed during the six months ending October 31, 1894, was 211,200. Weekly average, 8,123. Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 11th day of October, 1894. E. J. BURKETT, Notary Public.

ADVERTISING RATES. \$1.12 per inch. 8 cents per Agram line. 14 lines to the inch. Liberal discount on large space or long time contracts. Address all advertising communications to WEALTH MAKERS PUBLISHING CO., J. S. HYATT, Bus. Mgr.

The blue shirt is played out at last. HYPOCRISY cannot always conceal the truth. Mrs. KELLIE has a letter on one of our inside pages.

SEE on page 8 the call of the annual meeting of the State Farmers' Alliance at Kearney, Dec. 19.

We are pleased to see that Col. Majors finds so much cause for rejoicing in the general victory that 'his own personal defeat seems a mere incident.' What a sublime spectacle of party worship and personal unselfishness he reveals in his final pose.

It is not about time that the people enjoined the autocratic judges for their contempt of the people's decrees? And if they persist in usurping power in the interest of highway robbers and manufacturers of watered stock, that we grab them by neck and heels and throw them from the seat of sovereignty?

"Mrs. ANNIE L. DIGGS of Kansas announces that she will turn her attention wholly to the co-operative colony which is to locate in the lower Potomac early next spring," says Freedland. She states that Hamlin Garland, the author, and Frank Doster of Kansas, are to join the colony.

One facetious Congressman from Missouri, overthrown in the late melee of politics, telegraphed in: "The cause of my defeat was the intelligence of the people."

There need be no facetiousness about it. If the people had been more intelligent scarcely a Congressman for re-election would have been returned.

"A SUBSCRIBER" wishes us to answer through THE WEALTH MAKERS' columns if the \$100,000,000 gold reserve fund at any time prior to the close of President Harrison's administration was reduced below that amount, and if an issue of bonds was talked of before Cleveland was inaugurated. We answer that the fund was encroached upon, and that bonds were much talked of. Plates for their issue were prepared, but Harrison was shrewd enough to oppose their issue while he was in office.

The full statistics of the 44 states in the matter of farm ownership and tenantry have just been given to the public, and show that during the ten years between 1880 and 1890 there was an increase of 120,957 in the number of farms worked by their owners; but in the same period there was a much greater increase in the number of tenant farmers. The increase of farm tenant families was 599,337. In New England there was a net decrease of 24,117 farm owners who occupied their farms and an increase of 7,246 in the number of tenant families, and in other states the figures show a like tendency. The rich want the earth, and they are gradually gaining it. Get off, or pay rent.

A GAME OF ROBBERY

If anything were wanting to kill off the Democratic party, Cleveland and Carlisle are bound to fill that want. The issue and repeated issue of vast sums of bonds, \$100,000,000 already ordered, to draw gold into the Treasury, which self-same gold, before and after, they allow the bankers to pull out with silver or paper currency, and furnish them \$50,000,000 interest bearing ten or twenty year bonds and fasten them upon the backs of the people each time the trick is repeated, is the boldest and most damnable robbery, robbery of the whole people. It is a monstrous usurpation of power by the man most honored and trusted, the one placed in highest office and sworn to defend the sacred rights and liberties of the American people. He has made himself the Benedict Arnold of today, selling the already debt-ridden, percent plundered people into still heavier, deeper bondage to benefit a few bankers only. The people get absolutely no benefit whatever out of the game which Cleveland, Carlisle and the bankers are playing. The \$100,000,000 interest-bearing national debt is bargained for, and created and given the bankers by Cleveland, for simply putting back in the Treasury the day after what they draw out in demanding gold exchange the day before. The silver or paper lying idle in their vaults can be so used, and in a week or two weeks returned, the mere passing of it through the United States Treasury and back to them being the only thing done, and this is of no service to the people at all, yet each time it is done they demand for it that \$50,000,000 be added to the public debt and ten to twenty years interest must be paid to them.

The men who thus trick the people into bondage are ten thousand times worse robbers than the Cook gang of outlaws who robbed here and there an individual in the held-up trains. They are virtual traitors to their country who should be made to sink beneath the weight of their enormities.

The New York Tribune, itself the pliant tool of the Shylocks, slyly uncovers the game of the President by comparing it to draw-poker. He and the bankers in the game of pulling gold out of the Treasury one day and selling it back the next for bonds are not engaged in a productive industry any more than are poker players. But each time the cards or counters are dealt the people are drawn on for bonds which go into the "Kitty," in gamblers parlance, which pays for drinks and other luxuries for the players, and this is going steady on, with the prospect that soon the players and the country together will slide helpless under the table.

The Chicago Herald, itself a goldbug paper, thus comments on the matter:

Nothing could better illustrate the fact that some sort of currency reform is necessary than the possibility that the gold with which to take up the new issue of bonds might be drawn from the treasury itself. If this should be done the new loan would be a failure, so far as adding to the gold reserve is concerned. As a matter of fact, about one-fourth of the gold used in the purchase of the last \$50,000,000 issue of bonds came from the Treasury, and it is wholly impracticable for the banking-houses which are to tender this issue to amass enough legal tender for the purpose, go to the New York subtreasury for their gold, and thus simply transfer about \$53,000,000 of the yellow boys from one of Uncle Sam's pockets to another.

Another goldbug paper, the New York Herald, shows up the bankers trick in a very graphic manner as follows:

Our present method of replenishing the treasury with gold suggests the story of Davy Crockett's coonskin. Peltries were a circulating medium in the backwoods and Davy at the loghouse tavern paid for the drinks with the fur of a coon, which had been the sole reward of his prowess with a rifle that day. The bartender threw the peltry under the counter and Davy recovering it through an interstice in the logs tendered it in payment for another "round," and repeated the trick until he and his compotators had drained the barrel, and the puzzled proprietor discovered that as a result of the prosperous trade he had been driving he had nothing on hand but the same old coonskin.

Last February when the treasury reserve ran low it was replenished by the sale of \$50,000,000 of new government 5 per cent bonds for gold, the proceeds amounting to upward of \$58,000,000, as the bonds commanded a high premium. That was all very well so far as it went, but the people who had paid in the gold saw a hole which they could surreptitiously pull it out again. This was the obligation of the treasury and its branches to deliver gold in redemption of legal tenders when presented in sums of \$50 or more. Through this hole all the gold received for the bonds was soon drawn out of the treasury again, and its present owners stand ready to repeat the trick by paying it over the counter once more for the new issue of government bonds. Given a continuance of existing conditions and this same \$50,000,000 of gold could be used as often as David Crockett's peltry, and after the government had issued \$1,000,000,000 of bonds the treasury would have nothing but the same old gold reserve with which it started.

THE EXPRESS COMPANY'S SCHEME

A friend in the city has sent us a reprint of a State Journal article entitled, "For Postal Reform," which should receive at once the attention of anti-monopolists and the people generally who have a regard for their own rights and interests.

The article begins by saying: The national postage association is doing a good work in agitating for important and much-needed changes in the postoffice regulations. The association is a voluntary organization of prominent business men in the principal cities of the nation. They seek to secure changes in

the postal laws at the coming session of congress, and to reach this end have a number of agents out promoting interest and reaching the lawmaking power through the business men, to whom the postoffice department must always look for a large share of its patronage.

One O. G. Leslie is now in Lincoln, the Journal goes on to say, "and will spend several days acquainting the business men with the leading features of the proposed reform." It is, in brief, to lower the rates on first class mail matter (letters), and raise it on second class, books, papers and magazines, or on all but about 20 percent of the matter which now goes through at a one cent per pound rate. The article proceeds to say, "It was never intended that books should be sent through the mails at this rate, as there is no particular need of speed in their transmission and they can be distributed cheaply enough by other methods."

Just here in this last sentence is the hoof-print of monopoly. The "voluntary association of prominent business men in the principal cities," is an organization of the stockholders of the consolidated express companies, and the scheme they craftily call "postal reform" is a scheme to get the postage on books raised so that they can force higher prices for the transmission of books and take to themselves the whole book-carrying business. The Journal, informed of course by Mr. Leslie, tells the public that books constitute 80 per cent of the second class mail matter, and says: "The business men of the country are entitled to be heard" in their protest and request that the law be amended, and urges that it be done without delay. Notice the last sentence of the preceding paragraph where it says that "they (the books) can be distributed cheaply enough by other methods"—that is, by express companies.

The workings of the great monopolies and the use they make of the daily papers which for a financial consideration are nearly always ready to mislead and betray the people, is well illustrated in the above scheme and the assistance of the Journal. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." Much more is at stake in this movement than may at first appear. The books that go through the mails at pound rates are to a large extent reform books, such as the Arena Publishing company and many others publish. The necessary enlightenment of the people depends on such books, and if the cost of transmitting them is increased to provide dividends for greedy express monopolies many less will be published and purchased.

We call the attention of publishers and our Populist representatives and senators to this "business men's" movement to reduce the service of the government and rob the people of the benefits of books carried at cost.

THE MEN WHO RULE US

We elect legislatures, or try to, to represent us and to enact our will into law. Occasionally the legislature of a state is not first nominated and afterwards elected by the railroads. We have succeeded in Nebraska just twice in its history in electing a majority of the members of our state law-making body. Once the railroads defeated our legislation by a governor's veto. The other time by having Judge Dundy grant an injunction forbidding the enforcement of the law while the case to test the constitutionality of the law for fifteen months was allowed to drag along. Then another Judge, Brewer, serves them by deciding without calling for the evidence, without knowledge of the legitimate transportation cost, that the law would reduce rates below what would be just, a purely autocratic decree of a man who sits enthroned above the people. Here is the gist of his judgment in his own language, as follows:

While the Union Pacific was given \$16,000 a mile subsidy and can be replaced for \$20,000 a mile, it is bonded for \$70,000 a mile. It would not be just to make rates on a basis of \$20,000 a mile and deprive the lienholders of their interests. In other words the people may not recover their stolen property, but must go on paying interest on \$70,000 a mile of railroad bonds when the roads could be replaced for \$20,000 a mile. Where is the equity in this? Where is even the legal precedent, which in case of determined injustice, lawyers always appeal to?

But our judges, chosen by the railroads to serve them, no longer need to regard either equity or precedents. It is their business to override the will of the people, to make and unmake laws in the interest of the corporations. It has perhaps been forgotten that this same Judge Brewer made a speech before the New York Bar Association more than a year ago, in which he said:

"There are today \$11,000,000,000 invested in railroad property, whose owners in this country number less than two million persons. [Yes, a good many less.]—EDITOR WEALTH MAKERS. Can it be that that immense sum shall earn a dollar or bring the slightest recompense to those who have invested perhaps their all in that business, and are thus aiding in the development of the country, depends wholly upon the whim and greed of that great majority of sixty millions of people who do not own a capital? It may be said that that majority will not be so foolish, selfish and cruel as to strip that property of its earning capacity. I say that so long as constitutional guarantees lift on American soil their buttresses and bulwarks against wrong, and so long as the American judiciary breathes the free air of courage, it cannot."

Exactly a year ago we quoted in this paper the above paragraph from Justice Brewer's Albany speech, and commented on it. But we did not then think the people of Nebraska would so soon feel the power of this corporation defender and

judicial despot. It should make even the Republicans pause, for with such judges lawmaking in the interest of the people is a waste of taxes, and the lawmaking serio-comic farce. Since the Granger cases were decided in favor of the people in 1876 the railroads have used their corrupting political power to get their attorneys placed in power on the supreme bench in the states and United States courts. And they have succeeded in wonderful degree.

Judge Brewer in his Albany speech and in his last decision, wiping out the sovereign will and power of the people of Nebraska, boldly defends the watering of stock and decrees that the people must pay usury forever on such water. Any amount that fools are willing to pay for watered railway stocks, or that knaves will swear they did, the people must allow to fasten fixed interest charges upon them, it matters not if those charges would keep them slaves and burden bearers forever.

Judge Brewer is a conscienceless defender of highway robbery of the modern sort, a sort in no wise better than the Cook-James-Younger variety. He is also a destroyer of popular government and a corporation supported despot of the boldest kind.

SELF OR SOCIETY, WHICH?

It has been the custom generation after generation for parents and teachers to set the examples and by word as well to incite the young to selfishly struggle for gain and place and power. He who has acquired the most money has been counted the most successful, all services being measured in their value by money. And they who can command labor service without giving labor, or without giving its labor equivalent, it is generally believed were born to rule. The people of this country do not yet believe in a real democracy. Our laws do not permit the people to be born free and equal. Over half the families even in this new world are now paying rent for land, have no legal power to live independently, and they and their children are allowed to live only as they divide their labor product with those (not the meek) who inherit the earth. The laws do not recognize the principle of equal, inalienable birthright to land and all that is in the earth, to all natural resources. Uncommon natural abilities, talents, gifts, are believed (perhaps unconsciously), to be evidences of the special favor of the Creator to persons possessing them, or are considered a family inheritance to be proud of, which it is right to use selfishly, that is, to demand as much pay for the use of such gifts as rarity makes possible.

Education is sought to sharpen the selfish wits and increase the power to command the service of others less intelligent. To rise in life over the rest, to acquire power to extort labor service from those that one's climbing up has trampled down, is called success. The more men one can command and force them to accept less wages or prices than the market value of their labor product, the more such man is enriched and generally honored. The man who can foresee what the needs of the people will be for land, or corn, or wheat, or meat, or money, and seeing buys and corners such necessities of life, is called successful. The men who get laws passed which give them monopoly privileges by which they rob the people and amass great wealth, are called the solid business men of the country. In short success in life is not measured, as a rule, by the amount of labor one performs for society, but by the service he can force men to perform for him.

The prospect for the average man is growing darker and darker. Conditions in the last generation have greatly changed. So long as so vast a region as this western country remained unoccupied and free, there could not be very great injustice practiced against those who lived within reach of homestead lands. Hence, to better their condition a great stream of immigrants for many years moved westward. But about five years ago that stream was stopped. The last land that the poor could homestead and raise a crop on has been taken. As a consequence, with the number of the landless and homeless increasing, competition has been growing and must continue to grow fiercer. A steadily increasing percentage of workers have no chance to rise; an increasing percentage of them are being forced to accept a lower scale of living and are being crowded down into the beggar, tramp and criminal ranks of society.

Look about you. About half the farms in the west are mortgaged. Ask the farmers if they are prospering, and living in luxury. Ask the mechanics and day laborers if they have plenty to do, and by their labor can acquire a competence. Ask the lawyers and doctors and teachers and ministers if their professions do not seem to be crowded. There seems to be but one class who are prospering, and that is the lending class—those who lend land and money and capital. It is not possible now for many to succeed in the selfish strife of life. Is it not then cruel to raise the hopes of the young when, with the large percentage, they must be blasted? Is it not possible to show that the selfish brutalizing strife of business is unnecessary, and that the unhappiness of the rich and the misery of the poor which come from it may be avoided?

We wish to place the real conditions before the young. Two methods of living are before you to choose from, viz.,

single handed competition and many handed co-operation. We will divide you into three classes, viz: those who inherit wealth; those who have been born with rare talents or abilities; and common people.

The common people we perhaps are wasting time to address; because, where are the young people who think they belong in this class? But as it is nevertheless a fact that the great bulk of humanity is made up of common people it forces us to say that the competitive system offers you no chance to succeed or to acquire independence and a competence. Remaining in it you will have to labor as hard as whipped slaves to produce great incomes for the rich who own the earth and have a fence around it. If you would be free and live comfortably and happily, join a safe, permanent, i. e. a Christian, co-operative society. It is your only way of escape from virtual slavery.

The number who possess rare talent or superior business judgment and foresight, in reality is small. But the great majority of young people are led to think they have gifts to command "success," or prizes for their services which will amount to wealth. Let those who so think and those who really possess rare talents pause, before entering the market place to sell themselves (their labor) for gold. They who sell themselves for money cannot with it buy love. Believe, if you can, that you are the favorites of heaven, that your special commanding gifts were bestowed to enrich you alone, as individuals, and that you have a right to all you can command in the market; but remember, those whom you expect to sell your services to will not pay you both money and love. You can only hire servants who in turn will work not for love but for money. You may command wealth and hire many to luxuriously serve you, but you cannot command love or purchase happiness. And without the love of our fellowmen there is no real success or satisfaction.

We have shown that the common people cannot escape from grinding slavery, and the people with unusual gifts cannot attain real success in life, by struggling in the market place for gain. It remains for us to inquire, What of the rich, those who inherit the land titles, stocks and bonds which enslave the others?

The rich are not happy, because happiness does not inhere in things purchasable. They must either be morally dead, ignorant or miserable where they see others suffering while they are surfeited, or rich beyond their needs. The rich rarely are loved deeply and truly by their own immediate flesh and blood, even, because they deny themselves nothing for wife or children's sake. Their wealth encases their souls or affections in a thickening, hardening wall, which none can break through, and which leaves them in selfish, solitary confinement, where they come to be as miserable as the isolated felon in his cell.

Living in the competitive system, or as self-centered individuals, all are unsatisfied. Heart hunger is universal, the victors suffering from it even more than the vanquished. It is a state of perpetual war, which carries with it its own pestilences and famine. Who, comprehending what it all means, would care to succeed in forcing man to serve him?

Must the strife continue, and must we engage in it? No. It is our duty to "by love serve one another." It is sin to by greed gain from one another. Led by the law of God we are here combining for mutual help. We are to labor as we have ability and divide as brothers, or as each may have need. We consider one kind of necessary labor worth as much as another kind. The goal of our individual ambition is, to be of the utmost possible service to our brethren and fellowmen,—and right here we ask our young readers to give careful consideration to our plan of life before you choose which you shall fall in with, peace or war, competition or co-operation. If you wish success which harms none and brings happiness to all, join us. What, ever you do do, whether it be simple, common service, or the toil of rare wisdom which succeeds in solving economic problems in a way to greatly economize labor, the labor of all, the love of all will be your rich reward. The young delight to exercise their powers of body and mind. With us the most ambitious and inventive will have scope for all their powers, with many to help and none to hinder. The problems for us to solve are the problems of most economic application of labor in producing and supplying ourselves with all the things we need. The competitive system is wasteful, fails to provide work for all, and because it is wasteful it has no plan. The confusion and uncertainty of the competitive system is a leading and contenting and working at cross purposes we are to avoid. In the work of planning for and organizing labor we have need of the wisest, the most talented, the most studious and original. The great problems of society are yet to solve, and they who grapple with them may win undying fame and the love of millions who through their unselfish wisdom shall yet be blessed. You can succeed with us; you can rise, in the hearts of your fellowmen, for service rendered, to the greatest heights of bliss. Working in the common interest you can safely cultivate all kind and generous impulses; you can escape from the present seeming necessity to be selfish, mean, hard of heart, brutal. Come with us into the divine kingdom and organization of love and help us to bring "peace on earth and good will to men." Come and help us

to organize industry so that all may have regular work, present abundance, perfect insurance against future need, health and happiness.

START SINGING CLUBS NOW

The following sample notices given Armageddon show how it is appreciated: ARMAGEDDON, or the final battle between the wealth-makers and the wealth-takers.

This is a splendid collection of stirring and patriotic songs with music. It contains 140 pages and over 60 songs set to music besides a dozen not set. A number of these same songs have been sold by us at 20 cents each. These songs are George Howard Gibson's best. Price, post paid 35 cents, or \$3.60 a dozen.—American Nonconformist.

ARMAGEDDON is the name of a new song book published by "The Wealth Makers Publishing Company," of Lincoln, Neb., at 35 cents a copy. Armageddon is by far the best book of its kind it has ever been our pleasure to examine. The book contains 70 songs, 57 of which are set to music, and every one is a gem. There is no chaff in the whole book. The songs are strong and ably written, while the music is of the very best. George Howard Gibson, editor of The Wealth Makers, is the author. His name is never attached to any second class literary production. There is ever an elevated tone to his writings. His newspaper is one of the very best reform papers in existence and Armageddon is, we think, decidedly the best book of songs any Alliance or labor organization can possibly find.—The Sledge Hammer, Meadville Pa.

Now is the time to make good use of Armageddon. It ought to be in every Populist's home. If our songs are everywhere sung, made popular, our cause will speedily succeed. Let singing clubs be formed to master the music of this book. None finer or more effective has ever been written. "God Save the People" is a mighty stirring piece in both music and words. "Our Line of Defense" is another thrilling song set to the finest patriotic air of Germany, "Die Wacht Am Rhein." But we have not space to tell of the merits of each one of the 70 songs which the book contains. Humorous, pathetic, thrilling, awakening, en thusing, calling forth all that is manly and noble, all love of right and justice, and marshalling the hosts to battle,—it should be sent for and made use of by all earnest men and women now. Get ready this winter to sing these industrial gospel songs everywhere.

BOOK REVIEW.

THE UNITED STATES, SUPPLEMENT 1.—POPULATION, IMMIGRATION, IRRIGATION by J. D. Whitney.

This book is a continuation of the Article in the Cyclopaedia Britannica on the United States, and deals with Facts and Figures Illustrating the Physical Geography of the Country and its Material Resources. It is an exceedingly valuable book and ought to be in every public library of the state, and in the hands of every man interested in irrigation. Irrigation is a most important subject and there ought to be no false notions about it, but the most sober kind of judgment, after acquiring all the facts obtainable upon which a conclusion may be founded.

The writer makes a statement that many of us would be slow to accept as final, though it must be admitted it is backed up by a strong array of facts and figures. It is this: "Never by any possibility can the region of small rainfall and in large part of rugged mountains, extending from the first belt of states beyond the Mississippi to the belt lying directly on the Pacific coast, become a densely populated portion of the country." P. 10.—Also, "It is impossible that people never seeing a river or a lake or water running except from the spout of a pump, never seeing a mountain or a ledge of solid rock, never seeing what with any propriety may be called a forest, can ever rise to even a moderately high plane of civilization."

The book calls attention to one very important point which seems to escape all over enthusiastic promoters of irrigation and it is that long continued irrigation almost inevitably leads to the formation of alkaline and earthy salts on the surface of the ground. These deposits at first act as fertilizers and produce immense crops, but soon become so great in quantity that the fertilizing power is lost and the crops grow less and less abundant. These deposits result not only from the water carried up on the ground by irrigation, but by capillary attraction from the over-moistened subsoil beneath. Heavy rainfalls wash off this alkaline matter and restore the land, but when the rainfall is uncertain or small nothing but an expensive system of deep drainage will keep the land fertile.

Nebraska comes in for a long discussion and a very critical review is made of the report of Prof. L. E. Hicks, formerly of the State University, on "The Underflow and Sheetwaters, Irrigable Lands and Geological Structure of Nebraska, with its effect upon the water supply."

The writer also discusses thoroughly the subject of Artesian Wells, Underflow, Reservoirs, etc., and altogether makes a book very valuable to this region.

The chapters on Population and Irrigation are also very suggestive.

Published by Little, Brown & Co., Boston. Price \$2.00.

THE ASCENT OF MAN, by Henry Drummond, F. R. S. E., F. G. S. Professor Drummond has long been a popular writer and it may safely be said that he has increased his reputation by this book. He is one of the most advanced of evolutionists, and writes with a strong grasp of his subject, and