

WEALTH MAKERS



IN THE SWEAT OF THY FACE THOU EAT BREAD IF ANY WILL NOT WORK NEITHER LET HIM EAT

VOL. VI.

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NO 32

IN THE LEGISLATURE.

Its Make Up and Doings Reported for The Wealth Makers.

THE B. & M. RUNNING THINGS.

Slim Chances for Direct Relief for Sufferers—An Oasis in the Desert—A Lot of Useless Employes.

The U. P. Gets the Senator.

The ratio existing in the present legislature is pretty nearly that of sixteen to one—sixteen Republicans to one of any other kind of people. To carry the figure a little farther, there are sixteen applicants to one job, sixteen people sore about patronage to one who is satisfied, sixteen lobbyists to one disinterested spectator and sixteen employes where one could do the work. Although Republican, this is a sort of a sixteen-to-one session. The exact party standing in the two houses is as follows: House, Republicans, 72; Populists, 22; Democrats, 6. All the Democrats but one caucus with the Populists. Senate, Republicans, 25; Populists 8; Democrats none.

THE POWER BEHIND THE THRONE.

So far the B. & M. has run things. It named the speaker of the house and appointed all the committees. It laid its finger upon the senate and said "do this," and it was done.

There seems to have been an agreement between the two railroads that the U. P. was to name the senator and the B. & M. everything else. So far the agreement has been adhered to—the B. & M. has named every thing else.

The Republicans are just now engaged in "cussing" their speaker and lieutenant governor. At one time there were nearly enough Republicans signed a paper that, with the aid of the Pops, they could have thrown the speaker out of office. But enough of them were whipped back into line to prevent that very desirable consummation. In the senate at one time ten disgruntled Republicans did join with the eight Populists and passed two or three motions, but the whipping in process got enough of them back into line to prevent anything farther of that kind.

As one anti-monopoly Republican expressed it, "the corporations are booted and spurred and are riding this legislature wherever it pleases them."

"A BUSINESS SESSION."

On assuming the gavel Speaker Richards said that this would be "a business session of the legislature." After two weeks of travail and labor a few bills have been introduced and the committees have been appointed.

Over in the senate most of the "business" done has been in the adjourning line. The first week they adjourned from Thursday till Monday afternoon, and would have made it Tuesday afternoon, but the house would not agree. Since that time these industrious senators have been meeting at about half past ten in the morning, working till noon and then adjourning over till the next day. They did that all week till last Friday noon and then adjourned over till Monday afternoon.

These two bodies have been fooling away their time and fiddling around about rules and committees and petty quarrels, while people in the western part of the state have been suffering, and, in some cases, actually dying, for lack of the necessities of life.

WHERE THE POPS COME IN.

It might as well be admitted at the outset that so far the Populists are not in it at this session. The "brutal" Republican majority seems to take particular delight in hammering the Pops into the earth on any and all occasions. Over in the senate there are no Populists at all on the most important committees and it is not much better in the house. The only chairmanship given to a Populist in either house is that of the committee on mines and minerals, and inasmuch as there are only one or two three-foot coal mines in the state, that doesn't cut much of a figure.

This treatment is in marked contrast to that accorded the Republicans by the Populist majority two years ago. They were courteously allowed a good minority representation on all committees and were allowed chairmanships on several of the more important. But it does not seem that the new railroad statesmen who are running this legislature imagine that courtesy pays.

AN OASIS IN THE DESERT.

Governor Holcomb is a Populist oasis in a desert of Republicanism. He is the Mecca toward which all of the faithful and many of the heathen are turning their feet. He is a garden in a wilderness, a rose amidst bramble bushes, a sound grain of wheat in a bushel of weavils and mice deposits. The Populist heart is not altogether weary and heavy laden for why have a governor. And such a governor! Why, most any republican of good sound sense will tell you he is the best the state ever had. His praises are on the lips of all, men, is a model executive—firm, cool, cautious, impartial. And withal he

is hard-working. His inaugural was a model of terseness and strong common sense. It was conservative and patriotic and went neither to one extreme nor the other. It advocated immediate action for the relief of the drought sufferers, state irrigation, railroad legislation and economy in state government.

In the matter of appointments, Gov. Holcomb is proceeding with the same care and caution as in other matters. Outside of his office force he has as yet made but two appointments—Mr. J. H. Edmisten, chairman of state committee for chief oil inspector, and Capt. J. W. Wilson, the one-armed soldier of Ogalalla for commandant of the soldiers' home. Both are splendid appointments.

One matter which shows Governor Holcomb's caution: At eleven o'clock on the night after his inauguration he was given the bonds of the newly elected state officers with the hint that they must be approved by midnight. His reply in effect was that he would approve no bond until he satisfied himself that it was all right. And he did not. All the bonds have since been approved except that of the state treasurer, who has been required to get a new one.

RELIEF FOR THE WESTERN SUFFERERS.

Saturday was set aside for discussion of relief measures. The matter was discussed till noon, many Republicans opposing the bill under consideration and the House adjourned no nearer a solution than when they began. There seems to be a determination on the part of the Republican leaders to make no direct appropriation for the relief of the destitute, but to pass some sort of a bill to allow each county to bond itself for the care of its own poor. This is a very pretty theory, but there is just one objection to it. You cannot get it into operation until the people in need are all starved or frozen. An immediate appropriation is all that will relieve these people.

USELESS EMPLOYES.

The Republican legislature is not so slow about appropriating money for other purposes. There are a whole lot of useless employes drawing three dollars a day. For instance, over in the Senate every committee has a clerk. There are not over one-fourth of the committees need clerks and not over one-half the time of these is occupied.

If this session is anything like previous Republican legislatures, it will not be slow about making appropriations for other lines, especially where its pet bootlickers can get their fingers on the pay; but to appropriate money to relieve a starving woman or baby, that takes time.

J. A. EDGERTON.

Concerning a Sugar Bounty.

VERDON, NEB., Jan. 5, 1895.

Editor WEALTH MAKERS: Is it confiscation? The sugar bounty, I mean. There are some facts regarding this sugar bounty which I would like to present to the public through THE WEALTH MAKERS, if you will permit. I suppose it will not be denied that it is good for Nebraska to pay a subsidy of 2 cents or less per pound for the purpose of encouraging the sugar industry, then the more we produce the better; and to produce enough to supply the nation with sugar would be the desired goal to reach. We as a nation use about fifty pounds of sugar per capita annually, or three and one-half billion pounds. This at the old rate (2 cents per pound) would amount to \$70,000,000. Our assessed valuation is (state) \$185,000,000. In order to reach the most desirable results we would be taxed 40 per cent on our valuation. I lay this down as a cold fact that if this is not the end to be desired then we don't want the bounty. There are a few other things to be considered.

I see by the State Journal of December 21st, 1894, that a firm of nurserymen at Council Bluffs, Ia., raised forty-five acres of sugar beets last season at a cost of \$11 per acre. The same article states that German beets contain 12 per cent sugar, but Nebraska beets contain, with proper cultivation, 16 to 18 per cent sugar. With the above facts taken from a paper advocating the bounty we can deduct some very interesting facts. Strike a mean and we have Nebraska beets containing 17 per cent sugar, a ton has 340 pounds of sugar and an acre 7,140 pounds; or 500,000 acres of sugar beets will produce enough sugar to supply the nation. Cost of production the same as Council Bluffs, \$11 per acre, the total cost of raising the beets would be \$5,500,000, yet the state is to pay some one \$70,000,000 to stimulate an industry of this kind, one for which the two counties, Madison and Hall, can supply all the beets required.

I submit the above on what information I have at hand. If the Journal erred in its statement there may some other conclusion be reached. If not, the above is easily verified.

I advised your readers in my article of November 19th to procure a copy of the Abstract of the Eleventh Census. They are hard to get, but mighty interesting to any one who earnestly wants to know where we are drifting.

I saw in last week's WEALTH MAKERS an Associated Press dispatch stating that on Thanksgiving day the sugar fac-

50,000 hands. This abstract gives the average number of hands employed in all the sugar factories in the United States at less than 8,000, so it is easily seen that the Associated Press dispatches are not always correct. I also see by the Abstract of the Eleventh Census that all the acres used to produce sugar in the year 1890 (not including maple) were 74,985. Whether the beets will produce more sugar per acre than cane is something I know nothing about, but suppose they do by the Journal's article referred to.

Wishing THE WEALTH MAKERS abundant success, I am very truly yours,
GEO. WATKINS.

What Might Be.

[CONCLUDED.]

Editor WEALTH MAKERS:

Forty years ago men called me bad names for warning them thus about slavery. Today it is a far more powerful and dangerous enemy than slavery. Will men call me a fool now just as they did then? Many may, but I hope others will give heed and act in time. There may be postponement of the evil day for some years to come, and benevolent hearts may perhaps rejoice in that much hope. The People's party may get the votes and be allowed to take the government in peace, coin silver, ease up the pressure now on us, and save us awhile longer. But that can never reach the seat of the matter. The men who now aspire to lead us to a single silver plank are rendering yeoman service to the wealth takers, and prolonging the day of misery for the wealth makers. Plutocracy owes these gentlemen a vote of thanks. Monopoly may get a new lease of life for several years if these schemes succeed.

So long as land monopoly and corporation monopoly remain, so long our trouble will stay with us. Nothing short of homes for freemen can ever save freedom. Homes can never be secure while land is sold like hogs and bees in the market. The law must devote the land to homes, then secure it there by destroying the mortgage and sale of it. Until this is done the strong will always devour the weak, the cunning and shrewd overreach and devour the dull. The weak can be made much stronger than they are now, or ever have been, by just saving them from the danger of being devoured by the strong.

Steam and electricity are the gifts of God and must be so regarded by the state, but experience may show more safety in allowing latitude in their use. Now it may be that the American people may be saved from ruin for a season by "works meet for repentance," so we hope and ardently pray that it may be. A merciful Providence may lead us out of the labyrinth of debt and special legislation in the interest of greed, into which we have been drifting for thirty years.

However, the fact that our struggle with the slave power did not destroy us, does not make it certain that the money power will not destroy us. The noble fathers who gave us the constitution in 1787 made the fatal mistake of compromising with slavery. We now know that their mistake cost us a bitter and bloody war of four years, billions of money and many precious lives. What the result would have been had they refused to compromise and left the Carolinas and Georgia out of the Union we do not know. It is just possible that the final result is best as it is, and South Carolina which led secession might even now be a leading party in a new regeneration. The men who legislated under the dominion of the money power were, no doubt, lovers of their country. They were patriots at heart, but like the fathers they were human. It is easy enough now to see how they erred, but it is not certain

that we should have done better, or have been wiser had we been in their places. The thing we now know is the difficulty which is on us. It is not certain yet that these mistakes will not finally ruin our country. The man who writes history in the future can tell it all, but we cannot do so now. Many believe we shall overcome this slavery (ever increasing, too) by correcting the wrongs on the money question. The possibility of such a result I do not deny, but the probability of it is very doubtful. Altogether we owe a debt of over \$30,000,000,000, and increasing every day. Labor alone can pay the debt. It is more than \$460 to every man, woman and child in the United States. Can 65,000,000 earn and pay that much money at 6 per cent interest? If they can it will be a new fact in human history so far as I know. Possibly a healthy system of money and financial legislation, funding the debt at reduced rates of interest, and delay of payment may get us out after several generations have been worn out under the load. No man now knows or can know the end. History alone can tell that. But the danger is very great. If there is a parallel case on earth, or if there ever was one, the writer is confessing his ignorance of the fact.

In the midst of this wilderness of doubtful conditions it is the part of wisdom and patriotism, and perhaps Christian duty, to prepare for the worst that may come. The men at the helm prom-

ise to save us, and perhaps they may postpone a final crash for many years. But it is cold comfort to think of a final crash even one hundred years further on. Our children and liberty for men will be in the wreck. Rome lasted twelve hundred years before the last vestige of the Byzantine court disappeared. But the last half of the twelve was little better than a living death. An ocean of blood and cruelties that shame human nature make up the facts for volumes of history. Such a state of things would be worse than death to Americans. There is no fatal necessity binding us to a like fate. Nor is there a necessity to sit still and wait for some military dictator in the future. Already we have much written about government on horseback. Of course that is the intention, but let God from Sodom and was saved. We can get together in one place and save a flag for freedom. God only knows the extent and depth of our danger, but the danger is no trifle—it is real. We may escape it, and God grant that we may; but if the government must go into fragments, or be governed by a Caesar, and then go to pieces further on, we need not lose all our fathers fought to win. The Rocky mountains differ widely from the Alps, and the Mississippi is not the Tiber. The geography is not the same, but waiting, want of action until we are bound hand and foot, may and will forfeit every natural advantage. What is here proposed can never injure any one, and may bless millions not yet born. It cannot injure the country, nor any part of it, and may prolong the life of liberty for a thousand years. The history of these states from Jamestown and Plymouth Rock to this day is a chapter in history all by itself. It has no parallel, and every American can well afford to be proud of it. To save such a country would be glory enough to any set of men who accomplished it. Can Alliance men and other reformers save us from the danger of the hour? If they cannot, then who can? Escape from all the consequences of bad legislation and \$30,000,000,000 piled up during the last thirty years would be too much to expect, but a home for liberty can be secured, and national regeneration may be possible.

We can form settlements around one or more deep water harbors, thereby securing ocean communication. Texas, California, Oregon and Washington are all good points. Here we can acquire land until a county, then two, then ten, then a state comes under our control, and still extends. At first we cannot legislate, but we can incorporate the law of nature and God in all titles for land, limiting the land to homes, placing it beyond sale or mortgage, and by covenant at first, and by law further on limit the amount each may hold. The credit system, interest taking, and force bill collection of debts find no support in reason, nature or the Bible. Hence the abolishment of forcible collection of debts, destroying interest and the credit system. If any exceptions can be named it would be a fine for breaking the law, tax and pay for labor. This done, and honor would be all the stock in trade for the credit system.

Honor at a premium ennobles man, purifies elections, corrects a thousand evils, and gives us a safe society. Heaped up and entailed estates can be limited to one million, or what you please, in your law of inheritance. Such a community would control transportation at the earliest possible date. Co-operation would come easily, almost naturally. Forest laws and irrigation would get due attention. All minerals would be owned by the state and delivered to the consumer at cost. Schools for all and all at school would abolish illiteracy. All possible manufactures would be maintained and all domestic demands met by home production as far as possible. Deeds in fee simple might be allowed in all incorporated cities, as they were allowed in walled cities among the Jews, limiting title to say half a block. Those who are shy of all community of goods can see ample opportunity here for individual efforts, and competition in every fair field. You can not overreach your neighbor, and you ought not to if you could. You do not have to do your neighbors work, nor supply his lack of work if he refuses to work for himself. You must allow him a full and fair chance, and see to it that no one gets it away from him. Men who wish to remove might sell, to anyone who had no home, such improvements as they had, but not the land in fee. You can take your quarter section, improve it to your taste, however grand that may be, lay up your money if you wish and take your children to other quarters not yet occupied, invest in city property, and thus find ample room for all the energies of a life term. No reckless bargains of yours, no speculation, no mortgage can drive your wife and children from their home. It is yours and theirs against the world for all time if you occupy it. Such a community would be strong as Spartans in war, wise as Romans in council and law, and tenacious as Jews to their convictions. If a small colony of outlaws and refugees could build Rome and maintain the state twelve hundred years, who could guess what we might do for America by infusing such a heaven of righteousness into the law and public sentiment? What greater thing have men ever done? What better thing could human nature do?

It lacks twenty-six years of three centuries since the Mayflower anchored off New England's coast. The wildest dream then could not have imagined a title of what has taken place since. Under present circumstances with present advantages, the Farmers Alliance alone ought to be able to occupy the whole

field in fifty years. This is not intended to say that we could pay that \$30,000,000,000 all off. I do not know that we could do that, but I think we could extract many of its fangs. All fear of a military dictator would be gone—would be impossible. The centralized millions now in the hands of a few would melt away and disappear. Will it ever be done? Possibly it may, but the grounds for hope are not large or assuring. The danger resides in the indifference, the doubt that there is danger. Another Fort Sumter may be needed to reveal to all our danger. Then no one can forecast the result. So here, as I near my seventieth birthday, after more than forty years of faithful labor for my country, I lay down my pen with a prayer for my father land.
J. M. SKYDER,
Verdurette, Neb., Dec. 1894.

Living Off One's Debts.

"Living on the interest of what one owes" sounds like a joke, but it isn't. That is exactly what the banks of the United States are asking the people to give them that very privilege. If the present currency scheme gets through Congress it will give the banks the right to issue their notes (promises to pay) and lend them out at interest to the people to do business with. If that isn't "living off one's debts," reduced to a science, what is it? First boy to give correct answer goes to the head of the class.—Chadron Signal.

"Serve Me, Serve My Pup."

New York, Dec. 4.—Mrs. Drinkwater gave a poodle dog tea party yesterday afternoon at her palatial residence in this city. It was in honor of the birthday of her favorite poodle dog. Her dog wore for the occasion an elegant diamond necklace costing several hundred dollars. Very ornately printed invitations were displayed to the poodle dogs and pugs in good society. When the hour for the party arrived the street in the vicinity of the receiving residence was thronged with grand equipages, in which the lucky canines rode in state, warmly wrapped in silk and satin blankets, richly embroidered with lace and gold, with a coat of arms appearing on most of them. Each dog was accompanied by a liveried colored attendant and all the paraphernalia of aristocratic ranks. The poodles and pugs sipped milk from golden saucers. The subject of founding a dog hospital was discussed.

GOULD LEAD THE CHASE

Affairs at Hill Top Conducted Just as They do in England

New York, Jan. 2.—The Monmouth stag hounds met at Hill Top yesterday. An imported red stag, thoroughly warmed for the sport, was held for the occasion. There were gathered to the lawn over a hundred huntsmen and women. George Gould had a scent laid through the pines. A run of almost eight miles was made through the woods, finishing near the Lakewood hotel, where the hounds were regaled with a quarter of beef. Mr. Gould led the chase. He intends having a pack of hounds of his own and establishing a hunt at Lakewood. Jumping powder and sandwiches were served on the lawn at Hill Top previous to the start, just as they do abroad. Prominent among those in the chase were: Count Castellan, P. F. Collier, Jas. W. Mackay, Jr., Harry Chase, Charles Baldwin, R. Duval, R. W. Ellis, Miss Cameron, Miss Pomeroy, and Miss Anna Gould, who, by the way, is reputed to be one of the most fearless riders in the country. Miss Marshall Smith, on the imported thoroughbred Rejected, was also well to the fore. Mr. Claffin of New York, with a party of friends, had out a four-in-hand, with which he intersected the run at points, as also did Mrs. Bradbury with a drag. Mrs. George Gould "tooled" her own four in graceful and effective manner. Another hunt will be arranged as soon as the ground softens. The pink coats looked very pretty at the evening dance, which was almost a hunt dance.

Dam up the Gulches.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—To the Editor of The Bee: Having a large interest in Nebraska and its future success, I would like to state what I am doing in Boone county, which, I think, if followed by others, would be a great advantage to the state. About three years ago I constructed a large dirt dam across one of the gulches on my place which has furnished water for my own and my neighbors' cattle for two years. The water seems to keep pure and good. I believe that if the farmers all over the state would dam up their gulches with the dirt dam higher than the sides of the gulch, the water, when reaching the top of the gulch, would overflow on the land. In this way a vast amount of water would be confined within the state, making thousands of little lakes. All this can be done very cheaply with horses and scrapers, requiring no material except the dirt, no expense outside of the labor.
Yours truly,
SAMUEL W. ALLERTON.

Notice.

Taken up Dec. 16, '94, one spotted pig, four miles east of Crete.
O. E. HARRIS, Crete, Neb.

PAID FOR IT

The Journal Gets Big Money for Its Political Services.

What is the fact about every other Republican paper in the state, and to what extent have they been subsidized? Take, for instance, the Lincoln Journal, which owes its existence almost entirely to political patronage and levies upon candidates. I have taken the trouble recently to ascertain to what extent that sheet has levied upon Republicans and upon the people of the state of Nebraska. I find that between the years 1871, when the Bee was started, and the present time that paper has drawn out of the state treasury \$446,466.42, as follows:

1871.....	\$ 1,525.83
1872.....	75.50
1873.....	30,156.64
1874.....	4,076.93
1875.....	20,608.58
1876.....	8,309.73
1877.....	8,909.21
1878.....	7,722.95
1879.....	24,443.71
1880.....	3,580.81
1881.....	21,338.29
1882.....	3,086.20
1883.....	26,752.08
1884.....	13,707.63
1885.....	47,981.12
1886.....	23,137.31
1887.....	27,880.63
1888.....	22,960.17
1889.....	32,639.50
1890.....	25,780.15
1891.....	36,425.78
1892.....	29,036.40
1893.....	16,938.28
1894—11-12 of year.....	14,255.38

Grand total.....\$446,466.42

Or \$18,602.77 per year on the average. Aside from this, Charles H. Gere, editor of the State Journal, served two years as secretary of the State Board of Transportation at \$2,000 per year, making \$4,000, and four years as a United States postmaster at about \$4,000 per annum, or a total for postmaster of \$16,000. This, added to his salary received as secretary of the State Board of Transportation, would give him \$20,000 as the total amount received by him on the side during his connection with the Journal.

In the very near future I propose to publish every voucher drawn by the Burlington organ to show the people of Nebraska where their money has been going and where the people are paying their taxes. (Great applause.) Four hundred and forty-six thousand dollars, and that does not represent one dime of salaries and perquisites; that does not represent a tithe of the steals at the state capitol, the drippings out of the various state institutions, that found their way into the pockets of those publishers and their relatives. There might have been \$500,000 figured out of that concern during the period while the Bee has been running; and yet they modestly tell us that they are doing this all for their love and devotion to the Republican party. (Laughter.) I venture to assert that \$15,000 is a small consideration of what they have got in this last campaign for fighting the battle of the Republican party at 5 cents per copy. It was a veritable golden harvest for them that the Bee did not support the candidate for governor. What would have become of them if the Bee had supported him? You can now understand why they are so anxious to know whether I still am a Republican. (Laughter.) If I should stay out of the Republican party there might be \$15,000 contributed every season, so Santa Claus would have to fill their stockings with loads of silver dollars, and gold dollars, and greenbacks, every time Christmas came around, to save the Republican party! (Laughter.)—Edward Rosewater.

A citizen of Buffalo rolled a peanut a mile with a toothpick in that city in payment of an election wager. In Washington, the other day, two policemen were fined \$20 each by the commissioners for going into a bakery while on duty and each drinking a cup of coffee.

A comrade of Edwin Libby post, G. A. R., of Rockland, Me., has made with his knife 100,000 toothpicks within the last three years, and sold them for the benefit of the post.

Some time ago a woman was appointed as a tax collector in a London district, and now it is said she has been a remarkable success. Fifty per cent of outstanding debts have been accounted for.

A Sidney, N. Y., woman threw a worn-out satchel into the fire the other day. It contained a \$500 note and a roll of bills amounting to several hundred dollars more. Her husband had placed them there for safe keeping.

There are two fish packing establishments in Bristol, Me., and the process that the same variety of fish passes through in these two factories produces very different results. From one of the factories the fish come forth neatly canned and labeled "Brook Trout." From the other the same variety of fish come forth a "golden brown color" and are packed in wooden boxes and marked "Smoked Herring."