

WEALTH MAKERS



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

VOL. VII.

LINCOLN, NEB., THURSDAY, JULY 11, 1895.

NO. 5

SO MOVES THE WORLD.

"We sleep and wake and sleep, but all things move." The Sun flies forward to his brother Sun; The dark Earth follows, wheeled in her ellipse; And human things, returning on themselves, Move onward, leading up the golden year."

Prince Bismark is very seriously ill. Prof. Huxley is dead at the age of 70. The Rubber Trust is quoted as having cleared \$3,000,000 last year.

Two cyclones reported in Pennsylvania last week. Considerable damage was done.

The Indiana supply of natural gas is nearly exhausted. This is indicated by diminished pressure.

Vice President Stevenson and Governor McKinley were the Fourth of July orators in Chicago this year.

Chicago, thanks to her vigorous Civic Federation, has driven out at least half of her criminal element.

July 5th, a cyclone created fearful havoc at Baxter Springs, Kansas. Five people dead, twenty badly injured.

The Leader store in Chicago has failed and is in possession of creditors who hold \$230,000 chattel mortgages against the company.

The city council room at Jacksonville, Ill., was the scene of a free fight between the city officials July 5th. It was a general fist-cuff melee.

The entire state of Kansas was drenched with a three inch rainfall the night of July 4th. Great damage to railroad and other bridges is reported.

Members of the Chicago board of education, led by Mr. Rosenthal, are attacking the gigantic school book trust known as the American Book Company.

A. P. A. riot in Boston July 4th. The A. P. A. men engaged in it are to be arrested on the charge of murder. John W. Wills was the man murdered.

Frederic Hellman of Chicago killed his wife and four children on the night of July 4th, by turning on the gas. It was a deliberate act. Out of work.

John P. Young, editor of the San Francisco Chronicle, has published a ten page newspaper article in favor of bimetallism. The article would make a good sized volume.

There were many fatalities the 4th of July. One hundred or more people were seriously injured at La Salle, Ill., by a mine caused by rocket falling into and exploding a large lot of fireworks.

Rand McNally & Co., of Chicago, the biggest printing establishment in the world, which has been boycotted for a year, has become a union office and the boycott is declared off.

New York City had its first "dry" Sunday June 30. The police were easily victorious. The doors of a number of closed saloons were plundered thus: "We voted for reform, and this is what we got."

Since 1800 England has had fifty-four wars, France forty-two, Russia twenty-three, Austria fourteen, Prussia nine— one hundred and forty-two wars by five nations, with at least four of whom the gospel of Christ is a state religion.

There was a big riot at Siberia, Perry country, Ohio, July 4th. One thousand persons took part in it. Three men were killed, four fatally hurt and fifty seriously wounded. It was an anti-Catholic attack on peaceful Catholic picnickers.

Business failures for the first six months of 1895 numbered 5,391. For the same period in '93, 6,239; for '94, 4,528, and for '95, 6,597. This year's failures outnumber all previous years; but they are smaller failures. The big fish survives and swallows the little ones.

Winona, Mo., with a population of 600 was swept away by a flood July 5th. The home of nearly every resident was wrecked by the water which to a depth of several feet swept the streets. Eleven persons are known to have lost their lives and seven are missing.

The U. S. treasury deficit for the fiscal year ending June 30th was about \$43,250,000. Last year's deficit was \$70,000,000. The government expenditures for the last year were \$356,250,000, of which pensions took \$141,391,623. The postal service deficit was \$11,000,000. The gold reserve is now reported at \$107,000,000.

The Niagara Power Company now has ten dynamos of 5,000 horse power each—50,000 horse power—running, or ready to run, converting gravitation into electricity, which by copper wire can be conducted near or far, wherever power is wanted. This ought to have been a government enterprise, so that the working people would be benefited by the work of God.

The national debts of European nations, "mainly incurred for war purposes, have reached the inconceivable total of twenty-three thousand millions of dollars." "One-third of all the revenues that are drained from labor is devoted to paying merely the interest on the cost of past wars, one-third for preparations for future wars, and the remaining third to all other objects whatsoever."

An author on the Pacific Coast, Fitzgerald Murphy, has written a social play in four acts, entitled "The Silver Lining." The chief characters are a banker and a farmer, representatives of the creditor classes and the debtor masses. The play

is said to possess intense human interest and vividly portrays the relationship of the West and South to the money lending interests of the bankers. The play, it is predicted, will create a sensation when put on the boards in Chicago next September.

The Omaha Platform Reviewed.

NO. 4. "Transportation being a means of exchange and a public necessity, the government should own and operate the railroads in the interest of the people."

A potent argument used by railroad attorneys and henchmen, in reply to complaints of railroad oppression, is that the people cannot get along without the railroads. That is in a measure true.

Without means of ready transportation for the products of their toil the people cannot prosper as they have the right to. But this is one of the strongest arguments for government ownership.

Anything which is necessary for the welfare of all the people should never be placed exclusively in the hands of a part of the people by the government. This abuse has led to most of the oppressive monopolies which exist among mankind.

But railroad building requires such a large outlay of money that no individual or company will undertake their building without such exclusive privilege. It is therefore necessary, to save the people from needless and grasping oppression, that the railroads should be owned and operated by the government only.

This, I believe, is now conceded by a large majority of the people. But it is objected that though possible in theory it is impracticable. It is claimed that however just and expedient government ownership might have been at the first, there is now such immense amounts of capital invested in the railroads that the government is unable to buy them even if the companies were willing to sell; that the government could not afford, anyway, to pay the prices which the companies would ask, and a sale forced by the government or at a price not voluntarily agreed upon by both parties, would be unconstitutional and therefore void, as well as unjust.

But these conclusions chiefly arise from the assumption that the railroad system is like the common business of the people and therefore subject to the same rules. This assumption is not true. They are authorized by special charters, issued on the expressed, or implied, conditions that the railroads should be built and operated in the interests of the people; and, like other conditioned privileges, when the conditions are broken the privileges should be forfeited.

The objection that the government is unable to buy the railroads on account of the vast investment of capital therein is based on a misconception of the facts in the case.

The estimated cost of the railroads in the United States is about \$30,000 per mile. The present estimated worth is considerably less.

The bonds issued ostensibly for building the roads average \$32,146 per mile. Aggregate about \$5,500,000,000. Now the very fact that the companies have issued stock to the amount of about the worth of the roads, that they have received grants of land and money from the people and the government sufficient to pay a large part of the value of the roads, in excess of the value of the roads, and now aim, in their charges for transportation, to collect from the people who patronize them a high rate of interest on the sum of the bonuses, stocks and bonds, proves that they are managing the roads for their own rapid emolument without any regard to the interests of the people or the principles of common business honesty.

This being the case and their charters having been thereby justly forfeited, the only question remaining to solve is this: How may the railroads be transferred from the present owners to the government without adding to the burdens of the people, and at the same time without violating the constitution of our country, or commonly accepted principles of statutory law?

In the first place the charters should be revoked by act of congress. Then the roads should be condemned for sale for the use of the people. They should then be appraised at their actual value. The government should buy them at their appraised value, and as in other similar cases the bonds should first be paid off. As these exceed the value of the roads, the legal obligations of the government would be fully discharged and the ownership revert to the government, to which it rightfully belongs. I know it will be objected by some that such a course would wrong the innocent stockholders. But we must remember that in ordinary business transactions that man would be considered unfit to transact business if he should buy property which was already bonded for more than it was worth, and if he purchased the stock before the bonds were given he would be a party to the same and could not claim the role of innocent purchaser.

In regard to the inability of the people to pay for the roads; the cost to the people for their use under the present system is sufficient to fully pay for them in less than 15 years with a reasonable rate of interest on the purchase money, while the payment in legal tender notes would create no burden for the people but the responsibility of supporting and protecting the government.

AN UNCORRUPTED JUDGE

The Nation Hears What It Should Hear From Justice Brown

NATURAL MONOPOLY CONSIDERED

His Remarkable Address to The Law Graduates at Yale College in Which He Describes Our Situation

He Talks as a Populist Would

Associate Justice Henry B. Brown, of the United States Supreme Court, addressed the graduating law class of Yale College week before last, and spoke so plainly and forcibly that good citizens must needs be moved by what he said. His support of the Populist demands, viz. government ownership of natural monopolies, is a most complete answer to those who are afraid of anything socialistic. The one way out of our difficulties is to gradually enlarge the sphere of government services until it shall have control of all natural monopolies and perfectly organized industries.

"While the signs of the material development and prosperity of the country were never more auspicious than at the present, it is not to be denied that the tendencies of the past thirty years have produced a state of social unrest which augurs ill for the future tranquility. The processes of combination have resulted not only in putting practically the entire manufacturing industry of the country in the hands of corporations, but have enabled the latter to put an end to competition among themselves by the creation of trusts to monopolize the production of a particular article. Upon the other hand, labor, taking its cue from capital, though more slowly, because less intelligent and alert to its own interests, is gradually consolidating its various trade unions, with the avowed object of dictating the terms upon which the productive and transportation industry of the country shall be carried on. The reconciliation of this strife, if reconciliation be possible, is the great social problem which will confront you as you enter upon the stage of professional life.

"While I feel assured that the social disquietude does not point to the destruction of private property, it is not improbable that it will result in the gradual enlargement of the functions of government and to the ultimate control of natural monopolies. If the government may be safely entrusted with the transmission of our letters and papers, I see no reason why it may not also with our telegrams and parcels, as is almost universally the case in England, or with our passengers and freight, a state ownership of railways, as in Germany, France, Austria, Sweden and Norway. If the state owns its highways, why may it not also own its railways? If a municipality owns its streets and keeps them paved, sewered and cleansed, why may it not also light them, water them and transport its citizens over them?"

"Such at least is the tendency of modern civilization in nearly every highly civilized state but our own, whose great corporate interests, by parading the bugbears of 'paternalism' and 'socialism,' have succeeded in securing franchises which properly belong to the public. The fear, too, that these monopolies might be used for political purposes has hitherto proved an insuperable objection to their exercise by the state, but the development of civil service reform has of late been a rapid and satisfactory that its introduction into this new field of usefulness would follow as a matter of course and would obviate the most formidable difficulty in the way of the proposed change.

"Universal suffrage, which it was confidently supposed would inure to the benefit of the poor man, is so skillfully manipulated as to rivet his chains and to secure to the rich a predominance in politics never enjoyed under a restricted system. Probably in no country in the world is the influence of wealth more potent than in this, and in no period of our history has it been more powerful than now. So far as such influence is based upon superior intelligence and is exerted for the public good, it is doubtless legitimate; so far as it is used to secure to wealth exceptional privileges, to trample upon the rights of the public, to stifle free discussion, or to purchase public opinion by a subsidy of the press, it invites measures of retaliation which can scarcely fail to be disastrous."

After referring to the manner in which corporate powers are secured and used for dishonest purposes, Justice Brown said:

"Worse than this, however, is the combination of corporations in so-called trusts to limit production, stifle competition and monopolize the necessities of life. The extent to which this has already been carried is alarming—the extent to which it may hereafter be carried is revolutionary. Indeed, the evils of aggregated wealth are nowhere seen in more odious forms. If no student can light his lamp without paying tribute to one company; if no house-keeper can buy a pound of meat or of sugar without swelling the receipts of two or three all-pervading trusts, what is to prevent the entire productive industry of the country becoming ultimately absorbed by a hundred gigantic corporations?"

ENDING TRUSTS, what is to prevent the entire productive industry of the country becoming ultimately absorbed by a hundred gigantic corporations?"

ENDORSED OMAHA PLATFORM

Kentucky Populists in State Convention Demand Free Silver Coinage

LOUISVILLE, July 5.—The state convention of Kentucky Populists met in its second day's session today and adopted a platform reaffirming the Omaha platform. It also demands as follows:

"A demand for free and unlimited coinage of silver on a 16 to 1 ratio without asking the assistance of Great Britain.

"A demand that national banks be abolished and the national government issue legal tender notes for silver.

"A demand that the addition to the national debt by interest bearing bonds be stopped.

"The recent Democratic issue of bonds which were sold to the Rothschilds is declared an infamy.

"A demand that the parity of legal tender money be maintained.

"A demand that it be unlawful for congress to stipulate any kind of money in payment of debts.

"A demand for an amendment to the United States constitution to provide for an income tax. It declares that they view with alarm the recent acts of congress in regard to the bank tax, and trusts that the will of the people will be sustained by a reversal of these decisions.

"A demand that the trusts be crushed. "Demands retrenchment in every part of the government."

After listening to the women and debating the question at length, the woman's rights planks were overwhelmingly rejected by the convention.

"THERE IS NO LAW"

So Says an Eminent Lawyer and Governor

"There is no such thing as law," was the surprising and comforting piece of information given by Governor Clark of Arkansas to the graduates of the law department of the Arkansas University last week. The governor had just presented diplomas to the young men, which the recipients might naturally suppose were evidence that they knew some law, as a result of several years of study. Governor Clark explained that there were some rules accepted as law, but these were so complex in principle as to render the law a myth. Ninety per cent of appealed cases could be decided either way, he averred, and lawyers on the bench were frequently divided on the question of what is the law.

Every merchant, manufacturer, workman and farmer in the land ought to read Mr. Clark's statement until he has committed it to memory.

It is their misfortune that they believe that there is such a thing as law. It is only a hoodoo interpreted by judges to suit themselves or the men that hired them. The great monopolies have understood this for years and it has always been their aim to secure the election and appointment of judges favorable to their interests.

There is no law that cannot be driven through with coach and four provided a venal judge can be secured. Amid the Woods, Ricks, and Jenkinsons with Fuller, Shiras and their outfit at Washington have demonstrated this.

What under heaven is the country coming to, if we have no law and venal judges can make law as they or their masters see fit?

Talk about anarchy! We have it now in its worst form. This paper has always maintained that, but it was necessary that some eminent lawyer prove it before the people generally would believe it.

Now we have the proof.—Labor Advocate.

Solid Eastern Ignorance

KANE, Pa., June 29, 1895. EDITOR WEALTH MAKERS:

I am now traveling in Pennsylvania, and wish that you had the opportunity of seeing eastern ignorance and eastern prejudice on economic questions, that I have. People here seem to think that the Rocky Mountains are mountains of silver and that it can be mined by the carload as coal is mined here.

I find a few here who have allowed the truth to enter, and dare to stand up for suffering humanity. These are called cranks, fanatics, fools, anarchists, etc., and it takes a brave man to stand up against the persecution of paid hirelings of the money power. Our cause is gaining here; but we will be a long time getting relief if western and southern voters continue to support nominees of the Demo-Republican party of goldism. The reform elements of the west must unite.

W. P. HATLEN of Fullerton, Neb.

"Standing Like a Stone Wall" BAYETT, TEXAS, June, 1895. EDITOR WEALTH MAKERS:

Please stop my subscription to THE WEALTH MAKERS. It is a splendid Populist paper. I am not able to take it now, but will give you a lift next year during the big campaign of '96. Texas Populists are "standing like a stone wall" for the Omaha platform. We are 200,000 strong in Texas, and will carry Texas in '96. Populists, stand to your guns!

D. C. GIMSON.

Land and Money.

The profit, so-called, which is strictly the result of effort, physical or mental, is obviously subject to world-wide competition, and must therefore conform to the general living standard prevailing in the trade or profession concerned. It is wrong, therefore, and misleading, to speak of such increase as profit, for an equivalent must have been rendered, approximately at least, in each case. But a consideration of rent and interest brings us face to face with an entirely different problem.

These two leading factors of the industrial situation (land and money), one the seat of all production, the other the chief instrument of exchange, not being the product of, or producible by individuals, it follows that any increase derived from the mere possession, or loaning of them, is pure gain, and the loaner being still in full possession of all his natural ability to produce, or distribute, retaining still his full power to compete, is clearly occupying a position of advantage. On the other hand it is obvious that the borrower is reversely, in exact proportion, at a disadvantage.

So long as the mere possession of an article enables the possessor to acquire a clear gain, a gain not subject to redistribution in any degree through living or other expenses, so long must wealth continue to accumulate, with almost mathematical precision, in the hands of a constantly diminishing number.

I may be over sanguine, but I believe the general recognition of these facts will far transcend, in human benefit, the discoveries and uses of steam and electricity.

Given perfect freedom to produce and distribute, on equitable terms, with the advantage of modern invention in addition, who can predict the result, and its significance, physically or spiritually?

Stand Pat

Said a good Populist brother, who had read our editorial "Hold Your Ground," in last issue, "don't you want the help of the silver men?"

"To what silver men do you refer?" we ask.

"To Sibley, Warner, Morgan, Jones of Arkansas, Turpie, Teller, Bryan, Bland, et al."

Yes, we would like to have their help, but we will not get a bit of it. These men are not trying to save a principle but a party.

The educational work of the Populists has created a sentiment for currency reform. In many states it is overwhelming. These party leaders do not want real currency reform, but they must do something or lose the support of their adherents. So they take a small part of the question of finance; a part which if granted would work no harm to plutocracy, and by a big hullabaloo try to magnify that in the eyes of the rank and file of their party and if possible keep them from joining a party that demands something thorough in reform.

Our work is not with the leaders, but with the rank and file. Our help will not come from the leaders but from the rank and file. The leaders are sharp enough to know what the country needs, and to that free silver is but a small part of what it needs. When education has done its perfect work and Populism has become a powerful through accessions from the rank and file of the old parties, then these leaders will be inside our lines, grasping for the loaves and fishes and swearing that they are original reformers. But not till then.—New Charter.

The Effect of Fusion.

ARBORVILLE, York Co., Neb., 1895. EDITOR WEALTH MAKERS:

In regard to my paper, I cannot pay for my subscription until I harvest a crop. I have had two failures of crops, one following another. If you care to send the paper until then, all right. A dollar is as scarce as hens' teeth up here.

I wish to tell you a thing or two about our party up here. When our tickets came out on election day all our converts from the Republican party which we had labored for the last two or three years, bolted, saying: "I am not going to vote a Democrat ticket." So we got left when we might have been solid Independent. There are a great many Republicans here that acknowledge the Republican party is not what it ought to be, but will not come over to the Independents for the reason of the ballots being marked fusion. If this cannot be stopped any other way, why can't the Independents have their caucuses and conventions after the Democrats, so they can't endorse the candidates of our party? Why can't the Independent party send a committee on the day the ballots are printed and see that our party is not imposed on?

Yours truly, H. K. BALLARD.

Rail and Steamship Ticket Agency.

For rail and steamship tickets at lowest rates to any part of the world call on A. S. Fielding, City Ticket Agent Northwestern Line, 117 S. 10th St. 494

America's Uncrowned King.

The uncrowned king of America has returned from his trip across the sea. Parnell used to be called an "uncrowned king," but he held his place on sufferance of popular approval, and so was no true king. President Cleveland is at times referred to by his enemies as a "cesar," but the duration of his powers is fixed, and he is no true king. The real uncrowned king of America is one who is not dependent upon popular approval, the duration of whose powers is not fixed, who is obliged to account to no one for his movements, and who dictates not only to politicians but to railroad magnates, bankers, and trusts, and who by a nod of his head and a turn of his wrist decrees the rise or fall of values, the ebb or flow of prosperity. There is but one such man, and his name is J. Pierpont Morgan.

To him the president appealed when this nation of seventy-five millions was floundering on the verge of bankruptcy. He heard the appeal, set his own price on his services, and extended the costly protection of his kingly arm. He went to England, and let those who had been selling out American securities begin to buy. He spoke and the gold ceased to leave the country. He returned and when he set foot upon the western hemisphere the planet tipped. The stock exchange almost ceased to do business until he was heard from in a public statement. The railroad presidents hastened to him in a body, prostrated themselves and cried, "Help us or we perish." Trust magnates came and cried unto him, "Unless you reorganize us, we are lost." Nothing like this man's apparent power has been seen since the republic was born. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that the nation's prosperity depends as much upon what J. Pierpont Morgan says and does as upon the condition of the crops or the decrees of congress. The fact may not be creditable to him. On the contrary, it is due to undoubted financial genius, which has been exerted for the most part, not as Jay Gould's was exerted, in wrecking great enterprises, but in sustaining and developing them. He was not responsible that the government got into a bog and had to call for help. He was not responsible that the railroads were unable to adjust their differences and had to appeal to him. Scanning his conspicuous record for the last few years, we do not see what there is to reproach him for. But, all the same, there is no more alarming symptom of industrial, economical, and financial disease than the tremendous powers that have become vested in this man. What system is this that concentrates in the hands of a single individual the power of life and death at will upon a nation's industries? We have done away with crowned monarchs, and, politically, we have a republic. What, in all soberness, we ask, is this fact to avail us if we retain an industrial system that gives to us in place of a political monarch or a political oligarchy a financial monarch or a financial oligarchy of more unbounded sway over the destinies of the people than emperors and kings ever expect to wield? It is time to do some thinking!—Voice.

It is quickening and pervading the great movement for the social change which is manifesting itself every where among the common people. It inspires the people with courage and cheer in fellowship in the great struggle that is before them."

Prof. W. M. Ross of Indiana, the great solo user of "The Yaw Bennett National Tea," says: "Have taken pains to run collection of cards and a high order of music."

The Farm Field and Fireside says: "It has an air to Mr. George Howard Gibbons to introduce a new tone into the songs of the party, and write a series of patriotic songs which are truly surpassed by any in our literature for fitness of motive and real merit from a literary point of view, while at the same time they are not lacking in the musical quality which must necessarily be present before any song touches the popular imagination."

Up to Date

Foot Covering at 20 per cent discount. Foot-Form Store 1218 O St.

Whittaker's Wichita Plant Mortgaged. WICHITA, Kan., July 11.—Francis Whittaker & Sons have given a mortgage of \$300,000 on their packing plant here in favor of Benjamin F. Edwards of St. Louis. W. H. Thompson of St. Louis released a \$50,000 mortgage on the plant. The establishment will soon be in full operation.

Blew Open the Safe. HOPS, Kan., July 11.—The safe in the Santa Fe depot at this point was blown open by professional burglars and about \$30 in cash secured. No clue was found, except a necktie (four-in-hand), which was used to tie a sack on a sledge-hammer and which had on it the stamp of the Economy Clothing house of Carthage, Mo.

Governor Culberson for Silver. AUSTIN, Texas, July 11.—Governor Culberson, in a letter to Hon. John Bookboul of Dallas, comes out for the free and unlimited coinage of silver at 16 to 1.

Knights Templar Boston Excursion. For the above occasion on dates August 19th to 24th inclusive, the Northwestern line will sell tickets at one fare for the round trip. Choice of routes from Chicago. Make your plans to go by this short line east. City office 117 So. 10th St. Depot Cor. 8th and S. 516