

THE WEALTH MAKERS.

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THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT.
Consolidation of the
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GEORGE HOWARD GIMON, Editor
J. S. HYATT, Business Manager



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 too
Sufficient, wrought by man's satanic foe;
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 the 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.
CHANGES 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.

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NOTICE.

All delinquent subscribers to **THE WEALTH MAKERS** are asked to pay their subscription immediately. **DON'T** be negligent about this matter, friends. We know that times are hard and it is not **EASY** to get money; but you must make **SOME EFFORT** to pay us. Remember the responsibility that rests upon you. It is the **ONE DOLLAR** that we get from each one of our subscribers that makes it possible for us to keep up and make valuable this paper. We are wholly in your power, and we want you to realize it. Again we say, **DON'T** be thoughtless--negligent. If you care anything at all for the success of the Populist party and this paper, **RIGHT NOW** is the time to "show your faith by your works."

For the past two years we have battled against fearful odds. We have had to fight enemies without and foes within. Designing men, selfish men, unprincipled men, in and out of the party, have done everything they could to destroy us; but we are here yet, and how well we have "kept the faith"--the "middle of the road"--you yourself know. Is the paper worthy your support? Then let us have it **NOW WHEN WE NEED IT.** All through the panic of '93 and the crop failure of '94 we have fought a battle royal; but our hardest time is yet to come before this year's crop is harvested. Friends, we depend on you. Let every man who owes us a dollar on back subscription pay up now and renew for another year. Let every man who is able, pay for a few copies of **THE WEALTH MAKERS** to be sent to doubtful voters during the campaign. There ought to be five hundred men in Nebraska who would give \$5.00 each to pay for campaign subscriptions to this paper. How many will do this and do it **NOW?**

Address,
THE WEALTH MAKERS,
J. S. HYATT, Bus. Mgr.
LINCOLN, NEB.

WORSE THAN CHATTEL SLAVERY

A few days ago the columns of the daily papers contained a telegram dated at Spring Valley, Ill., which stated that several hundred miners of that town had offered to enter a state of slavery, by permanently signing away their liberty to the mine owners, if they would guarantee them the necessities of life. It was a startling revelation of what so-called freedom amounts to for the landless, wage-earning class, the class which now includes a majority of our population. People who read the telegram did not wish to believe it, and communicated with Mayor Delmagro of Spring Valley to see if it were true. His reply was:

"I am unable to say whether or not our miners would accept such an offer as was described in the telegram. I firmly believe, however, that one-half would be willing to sign such an ironclad contract."

Now bear in mind that the conditions at Spring Valley are not worse than for the coal diggers in all other coal mining regions of the country; and that one industry does not offer workers better reward than another; we are therefore forced to the conclusion that common laborers of all kinds in the United States are on or below the level of slaves, many of them being so much worse off that they are willing to contract away once for all their sinews and brains, their bodies and wills, their almighty priceless boon of liberty for a taskmaster's agreement to keep them in the bare necessities of life, such as slaves must have to enable them to work.

Here is another revelation of the conditions of human life in the United States, taken from the columns of the San Francisco Examiner. It reads:

State Labor Commissioner Fitzgerald went to the dumps yesterday for labor statistics. He got them. He found from 200 to 300 men who sleep on the dumps and eat of the refuse food thrown there by the scavengers.

Did you ever hear of slaves being refused work and obliged to fight like dogs over the filthy stinking bones and rotten vegetable leavings of a city's garbage heap? Do you people in the country get any idea of the sort of place a city garbage dump is? Why, the scavengers who empty the garbage barrels and boxes of the alleys carry so much rotten vegetable and animal effluvia in their clothes that their presence within a few feet is scarcely endurable.

The blacks before the war were as well cared for as a man's horses. They were provided healthful huts and whitewashed cabins to live in, and enough clothing and palatable nutritious food to keep them strong and well. If they were sick they were anxiously doctored, and nursed back to health. But now, as a result of so-called freedom, through the greed of the strong and cunning, we have a great class unemployed who must live upon garbage, beg or steal, and another class, vast in numbers, intermittently employed, whose poverty is so great and their condition so hopeless that they beg for the old time chattel slavery and are worse off than chattels because they cannot find a permanent master who will provide them a slave's necessities.

Something over a year ago a young man twenty-five years of age, strong and healthy, put an advertisement in a New York paper to the effect that he would sell himself, soul and body, to any man to be his slave to do anything, if his master would provide him and his aged mother food, clothing and shelter. He could get no employment, could find no master, could not even sell himself into slavery, but must remain a beggar.

Are not these facts enough to arouse the people of this country to a realization that our laws do not prevent conditions worse than chattel slavery? The concentration of capital, the control of machinery, of exchange, and largely that of production, and the reduction of the people to the proletariat (landless) class is in rapid process now. We ought to be alarmed even if we have not yet as individuals felt the pressure. The power of monopoly and greed must be broken, or all liberty will be lost and plutocracy, the meanest, cruelest despotism that ever cursed mankind, will shortly make renters, wage-slaves and beggars of us all, and our children after us. If we have not manhood enough to defend the people's inalienable right to land, and to demand equal benefits from government and law, the landlords and capitalists will go on sweating the life out of us, and at last nine-tenths of the workers will live below the chattel slave standard of animal existence. To reach that condition quickly all we have got to do is to keep out of politics, keep voting old party tickets, be selfish with the rest and work hard to make other people rich.

ORGANIZE, OR BE ENSLAVED

Let us repeat it, the truth you do not like, the truth which must be accepted, that want, anxiety, dependence, virtual slavery to monopoly power, are conditions that the great majority of individuals can no longer escape from single-handed. They cannot be independent and stand alone. Combination gives advantage, increases power; and it is reaching out to grasp the earth and all the men, women and children on it who can be exploited. Combine or be slaves, is the decree of fate. The managers of the great corporations get together and decree what they will charge for carrying freight and passengers and what wages they will give employers. The coal monopolists meet in the parlor of a New York hotel and agree as to how much coal shall be mined, what the price shall be to us all, and how much work

and wages shall be allowed the half-starved miners. Rockefeller the oil king has so monopolized the oil business as to force us to pay him in twenty-five years about \$200,000,000 more than the oil cost him,--and others associated with him have robbed labor of many additional scores of millions. The Astors and other great and lesser landlords are taking from a third to one-half of all the products of the labor of about seven million families, or 35,000,000 people. We are forced to raise or manufacture and sell each year labor products to meet an interest demand amounting to about \$2,000,000,000, and if we fail to do our individual part as contracted, the interest is added to the principal for a short time, and all we have is then sold or taken to pay the debt.

Do not doubt it friends, with all free arable land taken, conditions are getting worse in America. With manufacturing in the hands of capitalists who own the labor-saving machines, there is each decade coming to be less and less demand for labor and a corresponding reduction in the working time and earnings of the people. The wealth produced is being concentrated into few hands. The people who once had homes are losing them. The landless, homeless ones are now in the majority, and the censuses of each decade prove that the per cent of landless people is steadily increasing.

Organization must meet organization or the present organizations of capitalists will gradually gather up everything in sight.

The farmer whose land is mortgaged would better sell a part of his land and get from under the cancerous incubance. But he cannot escape large tribute even when out of debt. Every trust in the country is preying upon him directly or indirectly. The railroads stand between him and his market and compel him to sweat for them. The wage earners in the city are in even worse fix. Few of them own their homes, and those who have to rent both land and capital are as bad off as the mortgaged farmers. Organization at the ballot box would be the first, most sensible thing for the workers, but they do not know their common interest well enough to get together. Here in Nebraska every farmer and city worker should unite to send to the legislature and to congress honest representatives of their class. Instead, they vote in three or four parties, so neutralizing their political power, and send corporation lawyers to the halls of legislation who serve their clients at the expense of the liberties of the people.

If the people will not unite at the ballot box there is still one way for them to unite in helplessness and defense. That way is business co-operation. If they will drop their selfishness they can organize industry, economize expense and make their labor much more effective. They must unite at the ballot box, they must co-operate in business, in production and distribution, or they will, the great mass of them, be forced lower and lower under the power of monopoly. There is no other alternative. Unite politically, unite industrially and commercially, unite as equals; or be slaves and your children after you. Cease to be selfish, or be ground to powder by the wheels of selfishness. Love your neighbor as yourself, or be unloved and miserable, anxious and burdened, so long as you continue to exist. The law of God is the one practicable law of the universe. So long as men throw themselves against it they will be broken. It must be obeyed, or we cannot be saved from the consequences of transgression.

THE GOVERNOR'S APPEAL

Governor Holcomb July 27th addressed a letter to Attorney-General Churchill and Land Commissioner Russell, calling their attention to the danger of a dual government being forced upon the people of Omaha under the law passed at the last legislature, the A. P. A. partisan measure which was carried over the governor's veto; and urged them to unite with him to secure an early decision from the Supreme court touching the validity of the law, known as House Roll No. 139. There is a contest pending as to the legality of the law, and eminent lawyers have declared the statute in question invalid. The court sooner or later must pronounce upon it, and the governor is anxious to avoid threatened conflict of authority, with possible riot and bloodshed, by obtaining the decision speedily. But it can hardly be expected that Republican officials will respond to his most reasonable and courteous appeal.

The law in question was one of the most barefacedly partisan and contemptibly mean measures that spoliars have ever had brass to carry through. Other measures of the kind passed by the same body are the only acts known with which to compare it. The law which it repealed was a Republican measure, a law of their own party's making. It was all right until the old Rep. machine was knocked out and the people elected a governor to do the selecting and appointing of the members of the fire and police board of the metropolis. Then, to save the party the needed fat fryings and the political pull and power of the police force of Omaha, a political power on which party success would largely depend, the party, the gang known as the Republican legislature, without demand from the people, without precedent, without reason, without decency, dropped their own legal child and enacted as law a measure taking from the first Populist governor the

power entrusted to him by the people. The passing of House Roll No. 139 exposed the nakedness and shamelessness of the Republican party leaders. It made them visibly vile and destitute of any lingering sense of decency and self-respect.

THE GOVERNOR DENIES IT

Governor Holcomb, in the following letter, flatly denies the statement of Land Commissioner Russell that the penitentiary appraisal was satisfactory to him, or that he had so expressed himself. The whole matter is shown by the Governor's letter to be a Republican job, or a Republican and Mosher-Dorgan job. The Republican board of public lands and buildings named one of the appraisers, Dorgan the other, and Governor Holcomb appointed Hon. J. N. Gaffin umpire to pass upon differences of judgment on the part of the appraisers. They agreed all too well, however. And now Russell, speaking for the board, is trying to involve the Governor in the game, or make him appear as sanctioning it, by declaring that he was satisfied with the appraisal. The following public letter addressed to Mr. Russell by the Governor gives flat contradiction to the Commissioner's published statement:

LINCOLN, July 25, 1895.--Hon. H. C. Russell, Secretary Board of Public Lands and Buildings, Lincoln, Neb.--Dear Sir: My attention has just been called to a pamphlet purporting to be issued by the board of public lands and buildings, entitled: "Report of Appraisers for the Purchase Prison Contract, 1895," in which I notice that the statement is made that at a meeting of the board I expressed myself as "well pleased" as to the report and findings of the appraisers. I was present at the meeting of the board mentioned in this pamphlet upon the invitation of the members of the board and listened to the informal talk concerning the appraisal which was submitted. This meeting lasted for a period of about thirty minutes. I glanced hastily over the voluminous typewritten report of the appraisers and was asked by Treasurer Bartley, a member of the board, for my opinion concerning the findings. I replied to him, in substance, that it would require considerable time to examine the report carefully and, as I was not at all conversant with the appraisal by information from any other source, I would be unable to give an intelligent opinion. I did not at that time nor have I at any time since expressed myself as being "well pleased" with the appraisal, but on the contrary, I declined to give an opinion at that time and having since personally examined into the matter more thoroughly, I am constrained to say that I do not approve of a number of items of appraisal as reported by the appraisers.

I have at all times been strongly in favor of terminating the contract between the state and the prison contractor by which the convict labor was farmed out to an individual for personal gain and what I conceive to be against the welfare of the prison management, and approved the bill looking to this end, believing that this could be done with credit to the state and without doing an injustice to the contractor.

I took no part in the appraisal of this property and, as I am informed, the umpire appointed by me was in no instance called in to arbitrate any differences as to values between the two appraisers selected respectively by the board of public lands and buildings and the contractor.

In this alleged report of the proceedings of the board of public lands and buildings at the special meeting held June 8, 1895, and published in the pamphlet, the title of which is given above, I am done a great injustice by the board, and would respectfully request that the records of the board be so altered as to conform to the facts in the case and that before these pamphlets are distributed that the correction be made. I am very truly yours,

SILAS A. HOLCOMB.

OOAOING THE PARTY LEADERS

The Chicago Dispatch of July 27th, quotes in its "Politics of the Day" columns, paragraph by paragraph, commenting on each, our editorial of two weeks ago on "The Coming Convention," and introducing the matter says: "The Populists of Nebraska are to meet in their state convention on Aug. 28, at Lincoln under very favorable conditions. The chief organ of the party, **THE WEALTH MAKERS**, published at Lincoln, points out that the rapid march of events has prepared the way for a national movement to command the attention and inspire the hope of the people."

It then prints what we had to say about the 51 per cent of landless people, the evidence in the railroad strike a year ago that the railroads run the government as well as rob the people, and by owning the courts of justice, so-called, a new use of injunctions gives them power to imprison strike leaders and destroy the power of labor organizations; also that the bankers' panic and hard times had awakened millions to realize that something must be done to deliver the industries of the nation from the money loaners' power.

lesser trusts and combines of corporate power. It then says, by way of Democratic comment: "The Dispatch cannot too strongly urge upon the Democratic party the necessity of incorporating the doctrine of governmental control of the quasi-public service."

Continuing it adopts the following language of **THE WEALTH MAKERS** as its own, not using quotation marks:

"The Populist party has gained strength from the utterances of such men as Lyman Trumbull, Judge Gaynor and Justice Harlan and Brown of the Supreme court of the nation. The words of the latter especially are of great weight in advertising the necessity of swift action to secure public ownership and operation of public utilities, such as railroads, telegraphs, telephones, express business, street railways, water works, city lighting, etc., etc."

And the Dispatch after using these sentences of ours as its own, winds up the paragraph with the following significant original remark:

"This public control of natural monopolies is a very important part of the true Democratic creed."

We have taken the liberty to italicize this remarkable sentence, and call attention of the National Watchman, Gen. Weaver, Mr. Taubeneck and other silver single plank advocates, to the force of its source being considered. Why, the whole country is fast coming to see the strength of the great Populist demands. The man who proposes to yield any one of them has either taken little note of the lessons of recent events, or he is not true to the cause of the people. We have but to hold firm to our party principles and demands to force the other parties to adopt them in self defense, and when they do we shall easily win. The Dispatch in closing said:

"The great growth of the Populist party is proof that the Democratic party has departed from the people. The Republican party stands for monopoly and the money power. Democracy must get back into line with the masses and with Jeffersonian principles or it will perish. Its platform in 1896 must be broad enough to include all wholesome Populist doctrines. Upon this the Dispatch will insist."

There are lots of preachers who fancy they "know nothing but to preach Christ and him crucified" who do not even know that Christ is not dead but living, and to know Christ we must know the present forms under which he suffers. The preachers of forty and fifty years ago thought they were preaching "Christ and him crucified," while unmoved by and unmindful of the stripes he was receiving from the whips of brutal slave drivers. To preach Christ we must bring good tidings to the oppressed,--not of love that shall promise to deliver and "it up after death, but love that shall tarow off every yoke now, and save in a substantial, tangible, unmistakably real way. Christ was anointed "to preach the gospel to the poor," and he did not do it by telling them about heaven. He came to love and serve them now and here. He came to tell men in power, and tell them to their face, that they were extortioners, that they were devouring the substance of the poor. He came to introduce brotherhood and industrial equality. He who preaches Christ today must preach these doctrines.

The Democrats of Lancaster county would better drop their party if they must needs go outside of their ranks to find men to represent them in office. **THE WEALTH MAKERS** is free to say that it is disgusted with the tactics of the Democratic leaders in Tuesday's convention. It was an effort to force fusion upon us. It puts us in the box of having to endorse men whom they seem to claim as Democrats, men who, if they do not refuse to run on the Democratic ticket, will be known as Democrats on the ballots,--we must endorse these Democratic candidates, I say, if one or more of them are men we desired to nominate as Populists, or we must refuse to run them because they permit themselves to be called Democrats. Before this reaches the public the Lancaster county Populist convention will have done its work, and we will not anticipate it.

We are all born in debt to society. He who has received most of talent, strength capacity of mind or power or body, owes most to society. Each one owes all he has and is, and to pay the debt must give all. This doctrine is fundamental. A theory of social justice which disregards this foundation and builds on the false conception that a man has a right to himself and what he can compel society or other men to give him, is building on what cannot stand. There is a storm approaching which will sweep away what now seems the strongest thing on earth.

CHAUNCEY DEPEW is hobnobbing with the lords and ladies of London, the papers say that he "has renewed his annual social success in London. The lord mayor gave him a luncheon on Wednesday and he has taken part in all the great social functions of the week. But what is the real difference between an American lord (railroad or other monopoly ruler) and an English lord? Neither is better nor worse than the other, and there is no reason why they should not associate as equals, as lords and masters of the common people.

This issue of **THE WEALTH MAKERS** gives the closing part of Mr. Thompson's speech before the recent state convention of the Prohibitionists. It is a very remarkable address, crammed full of fact and truth, and makes the best kind

of Populist literature. Mr. Thompson makes it very plain that the money question, the railroad question, and every other form of monopoly oppression are moral questions, aye, and questions of life and death to the masses.

THE WEALTH MAKERS desires to hear from every county in the state regarding the corn crop situation and the crop of small grain harvested. Will our readers take pains to give us a reliable, conservative statement of the harvest gathered and the corn prospects, each in his locality?

The Nebraska congressional delegation sitting at Pender, has wired Secretary Smith urging him to suspend further evictions of settlers on Winnebago lands, because it will result in tremendous loss of crops to innocent settlers.

ARTHUR KITSON of Philadelphia, author of a recent notable work on money, has challenged Mr. Horr to debate with him the question, "Can gold or silver, singly or conjointly, perform the function of a standard or measure of value?"

If "the love of money is a root of all evil," would we get rid of the evil by abolishing money? We might, if we organized to serve one another and made all service free. So only could money be dispensed with.

SEND TO THE KINGDOM, 1106 Lumber Exchange, Minneapolis, Minn., for a copy of Prof. Herron's last book, "The Christian State." The price in cloth is 75 cents, in paper 40 cents.

The farmers of the province of Ontario Canada, are in a condition of destitution. The ruin of the hay crop is forcing them to shoot their cows and appeal to the government for aid.

The treatment that Editor Raker has received from the high and mighty Omaha judge, is receiving severe condemnation from the Nebraska press.

The Ram's Horn says: "The man who believes better than he tries to do, is as mean a hypocrite as the man who tries to appear better than he is."

We are indebted to Mr. White and others of Omaha for communications received.

SENATOR ALLEN will speak in O'Neill August 26th, the day of the judicial convention.

"He prayeth best who loveth best all things both great and small."

BROKEN BOW has a Populist club

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES

PSYCHOLOGY; Descriptive and Explanatory, by George Trumbull Ladd.

This is the second in the series of psychological works by Dr. Ladd and is a work of especial value. It is largely used as a text book in colleges and universities, having been adopted by the Nebraska State University.

It will be found of especial value to advanced students and teachers and is highly recommended to them. Published by Scribner's, New York. Price \$4.50.

Show This to Your Minister

Bearing in mind that what is meant by usury in the Bible is the taking of increase for the loan of money, read the following texts and ask your pastor to preach on the Bible doctrine of usury:

If thou lend money to any of my people that is poor by thee, thou shalt not be to him a usurer, neither shalt thou lay upon him usury. [Exodus xxiii: 25-26.]

And if thy brother be waxen poor, and fallen in decay with thee; then thou shalt relieve him; yea, though he be a stranger or a sojourner, that he may live with thee. Take thou no usury of him, or increase; but fear thy God; that thy brother may live with thee. Thou shalt not give him thy money upon usury, nor lend him thy victuals for increase. [Leviticus xxv; 35-37.]

Thou shalt not lend upon usury to thy brother; usury of money, usury of victuals, usury of anything that is lent upon usury. [Deuteronomy xxiii: 19.]

And there was a great cry of the people and of their wives against their brethren the Jews. For there were that said: we, our sons and our daughters are many; therefore we take up corn for them that we may eat and live. Some also there were that said, we have mortgaged our land, vineyards and houses, that we might buy corn because of the dearth. There were also that said, we have borrowed money for the king's tribute, and that upon our lands and vineyards. Yet now our flesh is as the flesh of our brethren, our children as their children: and lo, we bring into bondage our sons and our daughters to be servants, and some of our daughters are brought into bondage already; neither is it in our power to redeem them; for other men have our lands and vineyards. And I was very angry when I learned their cry and these words. Then I consulted with myself and rebuked the rulers and the nobles and said unto them, Ye exact usury, every one of his brother. And I set a great assembly against them. And I said unto them, we after our ability have redeemed our brethren the Jews, which were sold unto the heathen; and will ye sell even your brethren? or shall they be sold unto us? Then held they their peace and found nothing to answer. And I said, It is not good that ye do; ought ye not to walk in the fear of our God, because of the reproach of the heathen, our enemies? I likewise, and my brethren and my servants, might exact of their money and corn. I pray you let us leave of this usury. Restore, I pray you, to them, even this day, their land, their vineyards, their olivegroves and their houses, also the hundredth part of the money [this looks as if the usury was only one per cent interest] of the corn, the wine, the oil, that ye exact of them. Then they said, We will restore them.

And the people did according to their promise. [Nehemiah vi: 1-13.]