

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, 1119 M St., Lincoln, Nebraska.



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 woe 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."

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The earth life is short. The future is long.

ENGLAND has \$5,000,000,000 invested in America, says Sir Moreton Frewer.

DAVE not to sit in judgment and condemn God because justice against evil doers is not being executed. He has eternal purposes of beneficence working out.

A TWO days convention of tramps of the southwest was held last week on the Arkansas river between Wellington and Winfield, and about 1,500 were present. What a pointer this news item is!

TWENTY-FOUR miners lost their lives in the Nelson mine near Dayton, Tenn., by an explosion of fire damp. All for wages. Died for the profit of their employers. Vicarious sacrifices, and no one saved by it.

In these times of strain and stress it requires great faith to hold firm. But how miserable must he be who lets his anchor drag, and sees nothing but pitiless forces and cruel selfishness upon the throne of things.

CONGRESSMAN MEIKLEJOHN has announced himself a candidate for governor of Nebraska next term. If anything is needed to arouse the Populists of Nebraska to greater action, Meiklejohn's candidacy will do it.

THERE is deep truth in this expression by the editor of the Twentieth Century: "After all there is only one being, man. He is not separated into tribes or species, adapted one to art, another to filth, and a third to virtue. No chain can be stronger than its weakest link, and no man is a god while his fellow-creature is a beast."

The crown of Portugal, now for sale, cost \$8,000,000, say the dispatches. That's nothing to what we have here, though. Rockefeller's cost \$200,000,000. The Astor dynasty's several hundred millions more. Ditto the Vanderbilt's. The Gould dynasty's crown, as first worn by Jay, cost us \$82,000,000. And these are only a few of our more costly crowns.

BOTH the Senate and the House, as well as the executive, are for war with England, if she crowds Venezuela. Sympathetic strikers for fellow workers are tetotally bad, you know; but sympathetic wars—to get rid of troublesome unemployed surplus men—are wise. Blood-letting promotes patriotism, booms business, and provides the bankers and the people with bonds.

PRESIDENT HARPER of Rockefeller's University is for blood. He states that Cleveland's message meets his earnest approval. Prof. Von Holst of the same, Standard Oil, faculty opposed war and Harper fears his expression will be taken as the attitude of the university. Most of the Chicago ministers set themselves strongly against war. This is true also of New York and London ministers reported.

REV. DR. RAINSFORD of New York; Episcopal, speaking before the Methodist Social Union in Brooklyn a few days ago said: "It is absolutely true that the church in New York is not holding its own. There are fewer people, relatively, who come to church now than there were ten years ago." Yes, but the common people heard Christ gladly. If the same love were now preached and practiced by his disciples the churches would be found not a tenth part large enough to hold the audiences that would press to hear. Words, professions of love, and dry life

SENATOR SHERMAN LIES

Yes, he does. And a polite softening of the word is not in his case justifiable. The New York Voice recently sent letters of inquiry to a large number of leading men asking them to explain what caused the hard times. Sherman replied as follows:

Editor The Voice: In response to your note of the 11th, I can not state what are the causes of the recent period of hard times. It is a mere matter of conjecture and opinion.

Two years ago the first of last month Senator Sherman in a speech in the Senate said: that if the bill to repeal the silver coinage act were passed in ten days the dark clouds would pass away and prosperity would return. Was Senator Sherman ignorant when he said that, or was he cruelly, heartlessly deceiving the people?

If our lawmakers are ignorant of the causes of the periodical hard times, it is criminal ignorance. If they cannot do more than conjecture as to what causes glutted markets, falling prices and a periodic stopping of the wheels of production it is a dangerous thing to place in their hands the power to blindly legislate. The most of them are not innocently ignorant. They are selfishly opposed to justice. They do not represent the poor and the oppressed, but the other sort, the rich oppressors. Let us see if it is not so.

If when selling goods or labor the wealth-producing class individually and collectively received equal value, power in money to buy back as much goods as they produced, demand would exactly equal supply and the markets could not become glutted. The people would individually produce until all their needs were met, and nothing could interfere with or prevent each and every worker continuing his labor as long as he had wants unsatisfied.

But we have here described an ideally just system of exchange; but with present laws and a long continued selfish scramble for the possession and monopolization of the natural resources and artificial means of production and exchange, the masses, the majority, are born dependent, landless, without capital, or money. To the landlords they must pay rent, to the capitalists they must earn profits, to the moneylenders they must pay usury. By these means, money is taken from those who produce the wealth and remain in want, and given to a wealth accumulating class. And in the degree that the rich accumulate money by these means, goods accumulate in the markets, prices begin to fall in consequence, and panics or periods of commercial paralysis are with a certain measure of regularity precipitated.

There are several classes who cause panics and periodic hard times, viz., the rich landlords, the money lenders, the railroad magnates, the mine monopolists and the men who destroy competition by means of trusts. For some of these we have data to estimate their power to reduce the demand for goods and injure trade. Mr. J. M. L. Babeok, writing in Donohue's Magazine gives, as an under rather than an overstatement that the interest paid to non-producing money lenders each year amounts to \$500,000,000. It is a low estimate also which figures the net annual "profit" of railroad stockholders \$350,000,000. And the banks, reckoned as a distinct special class of non-producing money absorbers, take \$145,000,000 interest each year. Here are figures footing up \$995,000,000 which these three classes alone draw out of circulation each year, returning nothing for it. It would be the same thing to the human body if three or more veins were to be opened and allowed to run off fine streams of blood, the life current, and expect the digestive organs to supply the unnatural loss. Or it would be like starting the solar system and, instead of balancing the centripetal and centrifugal forces, requiring the earth and other planets to drop with each revolution one tenth of their substance into the sun as a matter of tribute, in which case we could not fail to have every ten years or oftener "a wreck of matter and a crash of worlds."

Natural systems, economic systems, moral systems, are not run as we are trying to run our commercial and industrial system. Rent, interest, and capitalist profits will play eternal smash with civilization, if allowed to go on.

PEACE ON EARTH

Nineteen hundred years have passed away since the herald angels sang, "On earth peace, good will toward men." And the two foremost nations of the world, nations called Christian, are today talking war. All the nations of Europe are armed to the teeth and watching and fearing each other. Forts and arsenals are in every land. The weapons of war are costly and terrible in their destructive power. When Christ came bows and arrows, swords and spears and catapults were the death dealing weapons. Now we have machine guns that shoot 1,200 times a minute and cannons that belch forth death and desolation, at each discharge throwing great projectiles with invisible velocity across leagues of space. But this is not all. Nor is it the worst that can be told; for "business is war." It is an each for himself struggle for gain, for power one over another. "The rich rule over the poor; the borrowers are the slaves of the lenders." Society is stratified; the rich, who find all things vanity, at the top; the poor, who want all things

There is no peace, no union of interests, no bond of love in the business or commercial world, binding man and man together.

Peace! O, that it might come! Our hearts are sick of the selfish strife. We are so hungry for love. Let us have peace. Let us honor Christ with deeds, not with mere words. Let us love one another. See the suffering masses, and the selfish classes. Millions are starving, the image of God crushed out of them, debased, desperate. Little children are being trodden down, morally distorted, dwarfed, dehumanized in the awful struggle for life. There are few people who are not more or less anxious and miserable, because of the each for himself business strife.

If we would but make Jesus king indeed, and refuse to believe that gain is godliness, that strife is for Christ!

Christmas carols are not sweet to the ear of Christ when sung by those who strive. Gifts obtained in commercial struggle do not please Him. The angels who sang his praise were ministering spirits, not grasping spirits. His kingdom will not come to earth until we make love the law of business, and believe it is more blessed to serve than to be served. His wisdom appears to be foolishness to all who seek good bargains, service, power to command, tribute; but He alone is wise, nevertheless. The whole creation is groaning and travailling in pain together, waiting for Christ to be socially born, waiting for the manifestation of the sons of God. When will they, when will the Christian society, appear? Who is ready to be unselfish? Who has in him Christ's spirit, faith in sacrifice, a love of love? Who will help to organize industrial society on the principle of love, service, individual sacrifice, that all may be saved from selfishness?

PETERS' VERY GOOD IDEA

Rev. Dr. Madison K. Peters of the Bloomingdale Reformed church, New York City, last Sunday, speaking on Civilization's Debt to Christianity, took occasion to say:

"War is cruel, hateful, wrong. War is hell. The political demagogues who at this Christmastide are shouting for war will be branded by the sober second thought of the American people as the criminals of the nineteenth century. When these men had an opportunity to fight for their own land, when the stars and stripes were trailed in the dust, they sent substitutes. A war between England and America could never be terminated until one or the other went into bankruptcy or had no more men to fill the ranks. When the time comes that we are encroached upon or attacked, then there will be a prompt response from the American people to defend the flag. What sane man believes that such a necessity exists at the present time? If we are to have war, let it be on one condition, that the men who are now shouting for it be the first ones compelled to go to the front."

Rev. Washington Gladden, D. D., preached the same day a strong sermon against the war spirit as shown by President Cleveland and Congress in the discussion of the Venezuelan question. The peace statement of the pastor was enthusiastically received, say the press dispatches, and the following resolutions, presented by (our) President Canfield of the Ohio University, were unanimously adopted by the congregation.

"Resolved, That as Christian citizens of a Christian nation at the close of a century filled to overflowing with the magnificent results of greater and more settled peace than the world has ever known before, a century in which men have come nearer than ever before to realizing in daily life the blessed teachings of the Divine Master, the prince of peace, with all loyalty to our own republic and with all regret that the universe and the tardy justice of England should furnish even a pretext for hostile feeling, we desire to most solemnly and earnestly declare for arbitration as the only wise and just and civilized method of adjusting international misunderstandings. We refer our English brethren to the declaration of their own 'Iron Duke' that 'nothing except a battle lost can be half so melancholy as a battle won.' We call upon our president and our members of congress to remember that a resort to force is generally a confession of weakness, that a great nation like our own can compel peace without material strife, and that there is no question that can possibly arise between our own and other great nations that cannot be adjusted by a high court of inquiry and arbitration. We earnestly pray that the better second thought of the nation may prevail and that there may be no discordant notes in the message of 'peace on earth and good will toward men' that should come from all hearts at this blessed Christmastide.

Resolved, That we request that the strong and stirring words of the sermon produced in this place this morning be printed in order that it may have the widest possible reading and the largest possible influence. President Canfield, William G. Deshler, and Judge W. T. Spear were appointed to forward the resolutions and Dr. Gladden's sermon to Congressman D. K. Watson, Senators Sherman and Bruce, President Cleveland and the British embassy.

THE FEDERATION OF LABOR

The American Federation of Labor, the greatest industrial organization in the nation, has, after being retired for one term, returned Samuel Gompers to the place of president. The platform adopted this year reads as follows:

- 1. Compulsory education. 2. Direct legislation, through the initiative and referendum. 3. A legal work-day of not more than eight hours. 4. Sanitary inspection of workshop, mine and home. 5. Liability of employers for injury to health, body or life. 6. The abolition of the contract system in all public work. 7. The abolition of the sweating system.

8. The municipal ownership of street cars, water works and gas and electric plants for public distribution of light, heat and power.

9. The nationalization of telegraphs, telephone, railroads and mines.

10. The abolition of the monopoly system of land holding, and substituting therefor a title of occupancy and use only.

11. Repeal all conspiracy and penal laws affecting seamen and other workmen incorporated in the federal and State laws of the United States.

12. The abolition of the monopoly privilege of issuing money and substituting therefor a system of direct issuance to and by the people. This is a very practical excellent platform, but the seven or eight hundred thousand voters in the A. F. of L. cannot be depended on to vote for the candidates of the party whose platform embraces the greatest number or most important of their demands. However, it is worth a great deal as an educational force to have such a platform enunciated. The truth is spreading, slowly, surely. "The night is far spent the day is at hand."

The million of dollars given by Miss Helen Culver to the Standard Oil University of Chicago was taken from labor by real estate speculations. It will henceforth be cornered capital for which the workers must pay usury each year forever (or until the industrial revolution comes), to support professors who uphold the rich and teach the false economy of unlimited greed and power. Rockefeller has matched the Culver million with another, obtained by means of "the smokeless rebate," which enabled him to ruin his competitors and gave him power to help himself to the people's earnings without restraint, save what candies and poverty might furnish.

AMBASSADOR BAYARD in his Glasgow speech declared against protection and socialism. Dec. 18th at a banquet, when war was in the air, in response to a toast proposed by Lord Kimberly, "Our Kingsfolk Across the Sea," he said: "I thank God there are some things which cannot be divided, and that men must hold in common." The applause was tumultuous over this and related sentiments. He is, it seems, something of a communist. The more people hold in common the better it is for them and the more Christian they are.

The papers report with headlines the Rich and Striking Costumes Worn by Graceful Women and the names of those who attended the "greatest of its kind," the Hebrew charity ball in Chicago. How we have improved on the wisdom of Jehovah and Christ! Thousands of the rich, sparkling with jewels, attended this ball, and it was called by the press "a pretty parable." The parable of the rich man and Lazarus was not at all pretty or pleasing. We have "pretty" parables now.

SENATOR ALLEN in a sarcastic speech in the Senate in support of his resolution urged the free coinage of silver and the issue of treasury notes to provide money for the contemplated war with England. But neither for war or peace will such wise legislation be possible with Congress and the executive what they are. We are scarcely wiser than our fathers in politics. There, as in business, it is each-for-himself or for his class, and the corporations are the great ruling power.

BOOKS RECEIVED FOR REVIEW

From the Arena Pub. Co., Boston. Beauty for Ashes, by Kate Clark Brown. In paper 25 cents.

The Land of Nada, by Bonnie Scotland. Paper, 25 cents.

Politics and Patriotism, by Frederick W. Schultz, Pages 496. In paper 50 cts.

From Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston. The Whittier Year Book. Price \$1.00. Ruling Ideas of the Present Age, by Rev. Washington Gladden, D. D. Price \$1.25.

A Singular Life, by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps. Price \$1.25.

From C. H. Kerr & Co., Chicago. A Breed of Barren Metal, by J. W. Bennett. In paper, 25 cents.

THE WHITTIER YEAR BOOK, "containing passages from the verse and prose of John Greenleaf Whittier, chosen for the daily food of the lover of thought and beauty," published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston, is a dainty volume that will delight the eye and be a joy forever to the minds of those who are so fortunate as to be able to possess it. It is a charming book for a New Year's gift. Whittier's poetry is remarkably rich in thought gems and spiritual truths. Much of it will live always, because it voices the longings and aspirations of the purest and highest natures. Whittier felt for the poor and the oppressed. His heart beat for humanity. He was a true friend of man, and his words will be ever fresh, perennial, suited to all times. He was one of the few who could say: "I feel the earth move onward, I join the great march onward."

15th Annual Meeting

Nebraska Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union will meet at Grand Island, Tuesday, Dec. 31, at 10 o'clock a. m., and hold in session two or more days. An open meeting will be held the evening of Dec. 31st, at which the citizens of Grand Island are cordially invited to be present. The Alliance principles will be discussed by prominent members. All friendly papers please copy. W. L. DALE, LUNE E. KELLIE, President, Secretary.

Wherever there is a sin, it is sure to be followed by a sorrow, unless it is at

The Battle Hymn of Freedom

(The following song is in Armageddon, set to the music of the world famous Marsellaises. It is a good sample of the quality of the songs of the book. Price 50 cents.)

Ye sons of liberty, defenders Of Freedom, and of deathless Right, Again the Lord of Sabaoth tenses "A sword," a sword, and bids you fight! Behold the poor and hear their cries! Behold the poor and hear their cries! Shall tyrants drag them bound in fetters Of cursed law which keeps them slaves, And even grudge them land for graves? Shall workers be perpetual debtors?

Unite, unite, ye just, The sword of truth draw forth! Advance, advance with mighty tread, From west and south and north! Advance, advance with mighty tread, From west and south and north.

Here, here where Liberty first lightened, And freedom spoken shook the world, Where hope for all the humble brightened, And mightiest kings were backward hurried, Lo here, where equal rights are pledged, Lo here, where equal rights are pledged, Are kings with all their blood of curses! In this broad land by blood made free, Independent millions bent the knee And pled with tears for sov'reign mercies! Unite, unite, etc.

With titles flaunted in our faces They trample down the people's will! They crowd the millions from their places, And call on hounding hordes to kill! Above the earth they sit enthron'd! Above the earth they sit enthron'd! And sweep their realm with hanger scourged! They drive the poor from nature's stores, For greater gain they lock the doors, And dare the crowd that round them surges! Unite, unite, etc.

They claim the ways which commerce uses, As bold highway men robbing all! They hold exchange, and each refuses Its use till all before them fall! The people now are ruled by gold! The people now are ruled by gold! But shall we here be made the minions Of kings, on freedom's sacred soil, And yield them wealth by slavish toil, Content to wear their galling pinions? Unite, unite, etc.

—George Howard Gibson.

Are You a Real Reformer?

My dear sir, where are you at? Do you know what you believe, or are you just guessing at it? We heard you say you were a reformer—a Populist—yet when we incidentally mentioned the co-operative commonwealth favorably your brow knitted into lines and cross-lines, and you seemed much vexed. In what you said we learned that, like many others who are prancing around on the surface of things, all you want or expect along reform lines, is a reform of the present system. It seems never to have occurred to you that the evils that afflict the nation are the product of a system itself basically wrong. The fact is, my dear sir, you are not much of a reformer. If in the game of grab in which, under the competitive system, we are all necessarily engaged, you had gathered to yourself a little more "filthy lucre," you would not be a "reformer" at all. You haven't risen yet above the plaster and poultice methods of correcting evils. I fear there is a lingering hope in your mind that a turn in the wheel of fortune will land you amongst the well to do. Then how conservative you would be! Now, fair warning! This reform movement has but one ultimate, viz: the co-operative commonwealth. Thirty years ago chattel slavery was wiped out in this country, and thirty years from now the people will be pointing back to the time when wage slavery was wiped out. If you are not going that way, get out of the road and let the procession pass. Don't stand around in the way, with your little plasters and poultices, shouting, "I am a reformer," but make room for those who have the moral courage to do thorough work.—New Charter.

FACTS AND FALLACIES.

Money Does Not Measure Values but Simply Expresses Them in Monetary Terms. Mr. Thomas Hitchcock the financial editor of the Sun, has as many financial fallacies sticking to him as there are cockleburrs in a sheep's tail. He says, for instance, that money is the measure of value, though it is doubtful if he could tell us what value is. It is a quality so subtle and elusive, appearing and disappearing, that a satisfactory definition of it has never been made. It is as hard to catch and hold as the vagaries of the human mind.

We can send a little child to the store across a street for a pint of molasses, and have the means of finding out if the transaction has been a fair one, for there is the pint cup at hand. If money were the measure of value, we could give the same child \$50 or \$100 to buy a horse, with the same certainty that we would get value received. Anybody would be willing to send a child for a pint of molasses, but who would be willing to send a child to buy a \$50 or \$100 horse? And yet, if money were the measure of value, one transaction would be as safe and as simple as the other.

Modern economists have entirely discarded the fallacy that Mr. Hitchcock brings to the front again. Money is not the measure of value, but the expression of value. Value cannot be measured, but it can be and is expressed in terms. We should have value if money were abolished to-morrow, but the terms of expression would change. We should have value, but prices would disappear.

As all fallacies are futile in their very nature, it is hardly worth while dealing seriously with this belated one that Mr. Hitchcock thrusts into the discussion. Like "intrinsic" value, the moment the mind is focused on it, that moment it resolves itself into its original vapor.

But the financial editor of the Sun is not wrong in all his conclusions. He deals somewhat sarcastically with the idea that, because the government is

is engaged in the banking business. We often hear it said by some banker, who is not any too well versed in economics, that the treasury notes should be retired so that the government may "get out of the banking business." How few bankers there are who are ignorant of the fact that the issue of notes is, properly speaking, no part of the banking business! It is a function that has been grafted upon the banks, but it does not properly belong to them. It is the business of banks to receive money for deposit, to loan money and to discount notes.

When the government issues its treasury notes, it is no more engaged in the banking business than when it is borrowing money by issuing bonds. In one case it borrows money and pays no interest on it, and in the other it borrows money and pays interest. How can these transactions be called "banking"? Only men who are decidedly ignorant could confuse the banking business with the issue of notes.

All this talk about the government going out of the banking business is indulged in by men who have purely selfish ends in view. They want the government notes retired so that the banks may issue the notes instead and thus have an opportunity of manipulating the currency to suit their own purposes. But even as it is, they want the government to retain supervision of the banks and to lend them its credit.

It is a beautiful scheme altogether, and Mr. Hitchcock touches it up with the proper amount of ridicule. We may add that there is no banker now living who will see the greenbacks and treasury notes retired.—Atlanta Constitution.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

It Is Dominated by the Money Power and Its Reports Are Garbled and Misleading.

The shameful manner in which the Associated press reported at Atlanta, Ga., misrepresented the action of the Farmers' National congress on the silver question, is enough to cause thoughtful people to accept with a degree of allowance any statement the Associated press may send out concerning the financial question, or any other subject in which plutocracy is deeply interested.

The editor of the Journal of Agriculture was a delegate to the Farmers' National congress, and a member of the committee on resolutions, and is, therefore, in a position to know what action the congress took upon this question.

The committee on resolutions reported, for the consideration of the congress, three separate propositions on the silver question. They were all read before any were acted upon, so that members could vote down what did not suit them, and reserve their vote for what each considered the best proposition. The following was presented first:

Resolved, That the Farmers' National congress is in favor of the equal use of both gold and silver coin as money and equally as standards of value, and to secure this object we favor:

- 1. A conference to be called by the United States of those nations ready to accept bimetalism with the unlimited coinage of both gold and silver on a ratio to be agreed upon. 2. A law requiring duties on commodities the product of, or imported from, mono-gold nations, to be paid in foreign gold coin. 3. A law requiring duties on silver imported from gold nations, and denying it coinage privileges at our mints.

Several amendments were offered, but all were voted down. Among them was one to strike out the words "to be agreed upon," and insert the words, "not higher than 16 to 1." By common consent of the silver men this was voted down to clear the way for the second resolution which contained an unequivocal 16-to-1 declaration. The Associated press reporter garbled the report by sending broadcast to the world the statement that "a sensation was sprung in the form of a fight on free silver, which resulted in the complete defeat of the 16-to-1 forces. By a vote of 251 9-14 to 104 5-14, the congress refused to insert the words 'at a ratio not to exceed 16 to 1' in a resolution asking congress to use both gold and silver on a parity, and calling for an international conference on the monetary question."

The congress then took up the second proposition and adopted it with an almost unanimous vote. It was as follows:

Resolved, That we favor the free and unlimited coinage of both silver and gold at the present ratio of 16 to 1, guarded by an import duty upon foreign bullion, and foreign coin equal to the difference between the bullion value and coinage value of the metal at the date of importation, whenever the bullion value of the metal is less than its coin value.

Concerning this action the Associated press reporter was silent as the grave. The third proposition, though it contained a 16-to-1 clause, was voted down, because the ground had already been covered.

The Atlanta Constitution next morning, under the head of "Farmers Misrepresented," said, editorially: "The Farmers' National congress adopted resolutions declaring emphatically for the free and unlimited coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1, foreign bullion to pay a duty which will bring it up to the coinage value of domestic bullion. Not satisfied with this, apparently, the congress further strengthened its declaration by a resolution in favor of a double standard at the existing ratio."

The Associated press reporter, in his zeal to carry out the instructions of his plutocratic bosses gave temporary comfort to the gold standard press, but the truth, though crushed to earth, has so risen again that the Wall street organs are very glad to remain silent concerning the action of the Farmers' National congress on the silver question.—St. Louis Journal of Agriculture.

Their Prayers Answered.

According to the Examiner, George Muller of England, the founder of the famous orphanages, has received for all purposes since the beginning his work just \$6,869,130. He has not told a soul of his needs, either of his own personal needs or of his need for benevolent work. He and his wife rather have simply laid the needs