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CURRENCY REFORM

Free Literature From the Indianapolis Monetary Executive Committee.

FOR AGRICULTURAL PAPERS.

An Effort to be Made to "Push" the Committee's Bill Through Congress.

Men Who Compose the Committee.

It is a very easy matter for the publishers of gold standard papers to get plenty of plate matter and original copy for their publications. It is furnished them free of charge. Occasionally the Mark Hanna syndicate editors make a mistake and send their literature and free editorials to a paper that will not use the matter even on terms as liberal as they propose. Instead of being classed as "literature" and "editorials" it should be classed as "advertising matter." Last week we received a copy of such an article. The letter accompanying the article says: "It is prepared for a few of the leading agricultural journals of the country, and I enclose one to you. It is written especially for your paper and is not duplicated to any other publication. * * * I shall of course expect no compensation for this article. On the contrary the executive committee will feel under great obligations if you can find space for it."

The article explains how the self-appointed currency reform commission, (self appointed because the United States Senate refused to allow the president to appoint such a commission) expect to secure gold standard legislation. They will draft a bill agreeable to the millionaire bankers and money lenders of the country and then will unite in forcing it through Congress. Those members of Congress that cannot be frightened will be bought. Every pressure known in politics will be used. Patronage will be withheld from Congressmen and Senators who do not bow to the dictates of this self-appointed gold commission. From the article sent out it is learned that every member of the commission is in sympathy with the aristocracy of the east. Of the eleven members of the commission, three are railroad presidents, three are bankers, three are large manufacturers, two are lawyers. Several of them are presidents of several banks security companies, railroads etc. This is the committee that is expected to reform the currency in the interests of the farmers of the country.

The following is the "free article."

The currency question will probably occupy the attention of congress at the coming session to a considerable extent. A year ago this question was occupying the thoughts of every man in the United States, and its interest has not died by any means. The abundant crops and their high prices, and the more settled condition of the industrial world has brought about a period of prosperity which has a tendency to make us forget the weak points in our currency system, but the conditions that occasioned our difficulties during the past few years still exist, and should there be a shortage of crops, and a consequent heavy balance of trade against us, which would cause a demand for the export of gold, the treasury raiders would get in their work as easily as they did during the years of 1893 and 1894. Congress will be urged by the representatives of the monetary convention, held in Indianapolis last January, to take up this question. The Indianapolis convention contained three hundred delegates, representing twenty-eight states, and the currency and banking system was discussed and deliberated upon for two days at the end of which time the following platform was adopted: "That the present gold standard should be maintained; that steps should be taken to insure the retirement of all classes of United States notes by gradual and steady process, and so as to avoid injurious contraction of the currency or disturbance of the business interests of the country, and that until such retirement provision should be made for a separation of the revenue and note issues departments of the treasury; and that a banking system be provided which should furnish credit facilities to every portion of the country, and a safe and elastic circulation, and especially with a view to securing such a distribution of the loanable capital of the country as will tend to equalize the rates of interest in all parts thereof."

In order to carry on the work an executive committee of fifteen, Hugh Hanna of Indianapolis being chosen chairman, was selected and instructed to ask congress to authorize the appointment of a commission which should investigate thoroughly the whole question of currency and prepare a bill for presentation to congress at the next session. The executive committee was instructed to select a commission itself in case congress failed to do so and proceed with the work. The appointment of such a commission was strongly advised by the president, and a bill for this purpose was passed by the House but was not taken up by the Senate. Following the instructions given by the convention, shortly after the adjournment of the special session of congress the executive commit-

tee was called together and a commission of eleven men was selected, which held its first meeting at the Arlington hotel in Washington on September 22, for the purpose of organizing. At this meeting Senator Edmunds of Vermont was elected chairman of the commission. The work is now begun in earnest and a thorough investigation of the whole question will be made. The commission is composed of the following men: Ex-Senator George F. Edmunds of Vermont, Charles S. Fairchild of New York, C. Stewart Patterson, of Philadelphia, J. W. Fries of Salem, N. C., T. G. Bush of Anniston, Alabama, George F. Leighton of St. Louis, W. A. Dean of St. Paul, R. S. Taylor of Ft. Wayne, Louis A. Garnett, of San Francisco, Prof. J. L. Laughlin of Chicago, and Stuyvesant Fish of New York.

The executive committee intend to bring before the commission the most prominent experts in the world, in matters of finance, and to furnish it with data of a historical and statistical nature, from every source possible. The committee also desires that the people generally who have any suggestions to make on this subject mail them at once to the monetary commission at Washington. They will be given full and careful consideration, as the commission desires to represent the whole people in its report. It is hoped, the commission succeeds in drawing a bill that is considered worthy of consideration an effort will be made to enlist the whole country in its support, for the purpose of pushing it through congress.

The patriotism and integrity of the men composing the commission are unquestioned, and they are regarded as thoroughly competent to fulfill the important task entrusted to them. Ex-Senator George F. Edmunds, of Vermont, is the most prominent man on the list. He is an able politician, a practical statesman and a man of unusual legal ability. Completing his education in the common schools of Vermont, he began the study of law, and at an early age began a successful practice. He was a member of the Vermont legislature for a number of years, being chosen speaker of the House three times, and was also president pro tempore of the Senate. In 1866 he was appointed to the United States Senate by the governor of Vermont, to fill a vacancy made by the death of one of the Vermont members. He was re-elected three times. He was prominently identified with a number of the most important committees, and was five times chosen chairman of the judiciary committee.

Charles S. Fairchild, of New York, is next in prominence on the commission. He received his early education in the common schools and finished at Harvard where he took his degree. He was one of the most successful lawyers of New York, being a member of Hand, Hale & Swartz. He was elected auditor general of the state on the democratic ticket in 1885. He spent two years in Europe. He was appointed secretary of the treasury by President Cleveland in 1887, and served through the rest of that administration. He is now president of the Security and Trust company, which position he has held since 1889.

Charles Stewart Patterson is one of the leading men of Philadelphia, though not a public man. He is a lawyer of marked ability, but is also a broad, successful business man. He is now sixty years of age and is a director in the Pennsylvania railroad company, vice president of the Western Savings Fund, director in the Pennsylvania Steel company, professor of Constitutional Law in the University of Pennsylvania, and at the head of the Board of Trade. He was chosen president of the Monetary convention which was held in Indianapolis in January last.

J. W. Fries was born in Salem, N. C., and is a descendant of the early German settlers in that section. He is the manager of the well known firm of T. & H. Fries, cotton and woolen manufacturers. He has always been a careful reader, an earnest thinker and a persistent student. He is considered authority in matters of finance in which he is deeply interested, and to which he has given much study and thought.

T. G. Bush is a native of Alabama, and is one of the successful business men of that state. After leaving school he went into the cotton commission business, but after four years abandoned this for the wholesale grocery business. He has held many positions of trust and is at present president of the Mobile & Birmingham Railroad, president of the Clifton Iron company at Ironton, Ala., and of the Shelby Iron company, Shelby, Ala. He was a member of the state legislature in 1886-87 and served as the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. He is also a farmer and stock raiser on a rather large scale.

W. B. Dean, of St. Paul, who is the head of the great wholesale hardware business of that city, is one of the most prominent business men in that section of the country. He has served as president of the board of trade, and held other positions of prominence in St. Paul.

Judge R. S. Taylor, of Indiana, is one of the prominent lawyers of that state. He is also a politician of importance. He was sent to the legislature in 1871, and is the only republican ever sent from his county. In 1881 he succeeded General Harrison on the Mississippi river commission, which position he has since held.

Louis A. Garnett, of San Francisco, is a man of more than ordinary ability and prominence. He is a man of authority in matters of finance and currency, on the Pacific coast, and is considered at the head in matters of this kind. He organized the San Francisco Mint and has devoted many years to its service. He was abroad for several years traveling and studying financial and economic questions. After his return to San Francisco he organized what is known as the Sully Smelter, and is still con-

(Continued on Eighth Page.)

THE LINCOLN ASYLUM

What was Seen by a Party of Visitors to the Institution.

A MODEL IN CLEANLINESS.

Labor Performed by Inmates Under the Direction of Attendants.

Credit to Dr. Abbott.

During the last month a party of Fremonters were camping near Lincoln. Dr. Abbott, of the Lincoln insane asylum, who had been a resident of Fremont for many years, learning that they were there, extended them an invitation to visit the Lincoln asylum. The party accepted the invitation, and Mrs. Sisson, wife of Rev. Sisson, Methodist minister in Fremont, has written an interesting letter describing what they saw. In her letter published in the World-Herald she says:

"The building is indeed an architectural triumph. It is built of sandstone, 600 feet in length, 44 in width and is five stories high, including the basement. It is approached by picturesque drives through a widespread and well kept lawn, in which luxuriant beds of geraniums, wealths of pansies, stately canna and hosts of other flowers, beguile the passerby into the belief that the world knows no sorrows, but that all is as it seems, a veritable bed of roses."

The party was met in the reception room by the superintendent who paused a moment before the tour began, to briefly give a few facts concerning the dread disease insanity. A word concerning Dr. Abbott may not be out of place. He is an old and perhaps of the best known citizens of Nebraska; has been a practicing physician for many years; has throughout his professional life made a special study of nervous diseases in general and of insanity in particular. It is indeed gratifying to know that in these days of political preferment, when special fitness for a position is not always the moving power, that in this case the "man" and "position" seem a perfect fit.

Insanity, we were told, had five general divisions, the first being melancholia, delusional and epileptic insanity were spoken of more at length. The last mentioned class contains the largest percentage of incurables, and is, therefore, the most hopeless. In melancholia the tendency is often toward suicide and requires the most careful guarding upon the part of the attendant. There has been but one suicide under the present regime, and that within two weeks, after assuming the management. The victims of delusional insanity afford the most interesting field for amateur investigation. The patient is prone to imagine himself a personage of great distinction, or of wealth, from this the French call the disease "Manie des grandeurs."

With such explanations on our minds we entered the wards, first the women's afterwards the men's. In each was a long hall way. These show no resemblance in their coats of polish that a housekeeper was moved to inquire the process. Once or twice a year they are oiled, and at more frequent intervals are gone over with paraffin and the daily work is to rub them with a huge woolen roller. One was exhibited. Its appearance suggested a lawn mower done up in flannels.

On either side of the halls were the bed rooms—single beds—all in white. A chair or two and perhaps a table, comprised the furniture. Outside the door are permanent seats, where at night the clothing is deposited—to prevent means of suicide, we were told.

The appearance of the dining rooms in each ward called forth much praise from the visiting group. The cloth was immaculately clean. The dishes and glassware "shone," napkins were artistically placed at each place. Even a specialist could readily guess how much power this orderly quiet and daily routine would have in soothing a frazzled and overwrought brain. Indeed with every step that carried us farther into the hospital, it became more apparent that the whole management of the hospital is based upon three central ideas. First, quiet and rest; second, discipline, and, third, employment (which includes amusement.) The first we were observing, the second we were told might not be inappreciated with that of the public schools; the third, we were yet to see. In one of the halls we were shown the different restraints that were used. We noticed a kind of jacket, fastening behind with sleeves that tapered to a closed point over the hands. There was also a kind of glove, that the base ball of the hand was declared just the thing for a "catching glove." Sometimes it becomes necessary to "strap" a patient to a seat. Instance was given of a patient lying in the hospital who constantly walks, but who will sit quietly—if tied by the most thread. Such must be tied for rest. As these simple instruments were examined all but a confirmed pessimist must rejoice in the assured fact that the world is after all growing better—better in a thousand ways—but infinitely better from a human standpoint. We turn with a shudder from the gruesome past when the

insane were the subjects of the most inhuman treatment, which ignorance could invent. We rejoice that the first ray of light thrown upon this dismal picture was cast by our own statesman and philanthropist, Benjamin Franklin, in 1750.

After this mental dip into the past, the halls and rooms we are examining seem even more bright and cheery.

Not every cook in the midst of her dinner getting would enjoy an inroad from a band of sightseers. But if we had missed the dinner getting we had missed the most interesting sight of all. There are in the building as patients, attendants, officers and their families about 450 persons. These must eat, and the preparation of sufficient food becomes a live question—right well it is answered. In the kitchen department there are but three persons under pay, the work being largely done by patients. Dear me, such an air of bustle, yet of method, and of order, and such plenty. Unwittingly we had stumbled upon the whole bill of fare. An attendant skillfully lifted the lid of a great iron cauldron before us. My! what an appetizing whiff! And still another, as the great door of the oven swung open. Surely, we saw meat enough to feed a small army—say the Cuban army, for instance. Women were busy about the great kitchen table. Quantities of potatoes were ready for the cooking. We saw platters of tempting food, but the feature that caught the eye of the artist of the party was a large dishpan—bright as a silver dollar, and full of sliced cucumbers—no, not full, for tilted into them was a chunk of ice that would put to shame its diminutive cousin which the ice man on his daily rounds leaves at our home back door. Then, with the air of connoisseur, we critically sniffed at the bread, and each woman awarded it the highest award of merit, "as good as our own baking."

This happened to be "preserving day," and we were shown the shelves of jelly and of other fruit. A white-capped chef took down a glass for our inspection. It was clear, rich and firm.

"Cherry jelly," said he as he replaced it.

"Cherry jelly," echoed a housekeeper, why, cherry juice won't jelly."

A pitying am-sorry-for-you look was the only response.

"But," persisted the woman who would, "I only obtain syrup for my pains, and I have read in household columns that this is one juice that refuses to jelly."

"Well"—and the chef beamed kindly—next time add the juice of one lemon to a half gallon of juice," and he tapped the quivering jelly significantly.

Space fails us to tell of the busy laundry, where hundreds of pieces daily pass through the cleansing and come out in a state of purity. Here, too, the work is largely done by patients. A rather intelligent looking man paused to explain some of the processes, and very gravely assured a few of us who loitered in the rear that the whole establishment belonged to him, and that all of those other fellows, including the superintendent with the wave of his hand, were merely in his employ. "Delusional insanity," certainly.

A glance into the sewing room showed another group of women, busy with the institute's sewing and mending. Another into the bakery showed the place and the process by which nine sacks of flour are used daily.

Interesting, all this, but we have only time for a hurried survey of that which Dr. Abbott is pleased to call the "heart" of the whole matter, namely, the battery of steam boilers, five in number. Not all are in use in warm weather. These engines generate the steam which does all the heating, cooking and running the electric light plant—in fact, all the motors. The annual cost to the state for fuel is \$5,500—one of the largest items in the bill of expenses.

Passing through the grounds at the rear of the buildings, around to the conservatory in front, we saw acres of ripening tomatoes—but one of the great variety of vegetables and farm products, for the hospital management includes the management of a farm—and from these acres come loads of every kind of vegetable and farm product necessary for the sustenance of the great family.

The conservatory, like others of its kind, is a thing of beauty. It was blown down in May, 1896, by a wind storm, and has been rebuilt along more modern lines—here, again, the work was largely done by the patients. The bids from the outside for repairing it ranged from \$1,600 to \$15,000. The actual cost to the state, including a few additions to the steam pipes, was only \$375. In making this tour one could not but be struck with the absolute cleanliness, both within and without. This result must hinge upon two causes, method and work. For the first the state is indebted to the management, for the work, in a great measure to the inmates.

While at first glance much seems to be accomplished, owing to the division of labor the burden does not fall heavily upon anyone, four hours being considered a day's work, even this being lessened during the extreme hot weather. Science joins hands with philanthropy in declaring a reasonable amount of work mankind's best friend. No greater cruelty can be devised than to huddle human beings together in any institution, whether penal or reformatory, and deny them work. This has been tried in the past, is being tried now in the state prison of New York. There is always one result, namely, insanity. It follows, therefore, that one of the first ones in the treatment of the insane is to provide for them such work as is suited to their strength, in which they can take an interest and pride, and right well has the state of Nebraska done this for the most unfortunate and, alas, too numerous class of her citizens.

J. ELIZABETH SISSON.

Just try a 10c box of Cascara, the best liver and bowel regulator ever made.

RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

Something of the Purposes of the Burlington Voluntary Relief Association.

AN INTERESTING CASE.

A Judgment for \$5,000 Against the C. B. & Q. Railroad Reversed.

A Widow's Claim Defeated.

The Burlington railroad operates an organization known as the Burlington Voluntary Relief Association, to protect itself from loss in the event of the killing or maiming of employes. Something of its manner of operation can be learned by a review of a case decided in the supreme court. The company must have control of the court in order to make the scheme work successfully. That they have control at the present time is well illustrated by the decision in the case of the C. B. & Q. vs Wymore 58 N. W., 1120. Action was brought by a widow to recover for the killing of her husband. Deceased was a section boss at Mullen, a small station on the B. & M. The case was tried in Custer county before Judge Hainer and resulted in a verdict of \$5000 for the widow. Company appealed to the supreme court and had the case reversed by Norval and Post. The facts are as follows: A young lady named Wilgus had gone to Mullen that day to take the train east. The train was due at about half past three A. M. She came to the station to have been no hotel at the place the section boss permitted her to go to his house, some ten or more rods from the station, and remain there with his family until a few minutes before the train was due, when he started with the young lady, who was a stranger, to accompany her to the station. They passed along a traveled way between the tracks, which were from 15 to 25 feet apart, at a safe distance from either; a train was on the side track near which they were passing, when in consequence of a collision with the train on the side track, they were both killed.

A few days after the death of her husband the widow was waited upon by an agent of the B. & M. Railroad, who assured her that as her husband was a member of the Burlington Voluntary Relief Association, she was entitled to a certain sum from that association. As she well knew that her husband had been a member of that association for some time, and that a certain sum had been retained each month from his wages to pay dues, she unhesitatingly supposed that the small pittance of \$500 was from the relief fund and not for the loss of her husband. It is stated in the opinion that at the time she received the money she was required to execute a receipt in "full satisfaction and discharge of all claims and demands on account of the causing the death of said deceased, which now have, or can hereafter have, whether against the said relief fund, the said Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad company or any other association associated therewith in administration of the relief department."

The reply is not set out in the opinion, but what purports to be the substance of it. She pleaded therein "that the release had been obtained from her by threats on the part of the company, that she, and her children would be turned out of the section house unless she executed it."

The supreme court refused to consider this issue upon the alleged ground that the evidence of such threats had been excluded, but the questions excluded are there presented, and sufficient is shown to show the nature of the evidence offered and excluded, and it was the duty of the court to say whether those were proper inquiries. It is a well known rule of law that any instrument obtained under duress is void and the duress may be shown whether action is brought on the instrument, or it is set up as a defense and such is the rule of the supreme court as but lately announced. Here was a widow suddenly bereft of her husband and means of support confronted with an agent of the company who in tones of sympathy and friendship pays her \$500 from the relief department, the funds of which the deceased himself had contributed to create. She knew that she as the beneficiary was entitled to whatever was due from it. Had the same dues been paid to almost any of the beneficial orders, like the A. O. U. W., the Modern Woodmen, Odd Fellows, and like societies, she would have been entitled upon the husband's death to two thousand dollars. But in this case having accepted the \$500, for which the company had been paid four times the usual rate of insurance for that amount, she is also confronted with a receipt to be signed accepting this pittance to discharge the company from the payment of \$5,000. In other words the company had been paid for insurance and was liable to the heirs of the deceased the same as any other insurance company, and upon the payment of the just debt of insurance seeks to force the signing of a receipt releasing the company from its other liability due to the negligence of its employes. The company owed the widow the insurance money regardless of how her husband came to his death. He had paid for the insurance and she was entitled to it. If her husband came to his death through the negligence of employes of the company, the company

would also owe her for damages for his death. But the court (Norval and Post) held that by accepting the \$500 she had not only released the company from its liability for insurance, but also had released it from liability for its negligence and therefore reversed the verdict for \$5,000 secured before a jury in the district court.

Thus the widow and children of a faithful servant of the company, who lost his life in the company's service, without fault on his part, is complacently robbed of her means of support from the money to which she was entitled under the statutes from the death, by negligence of the company, of her husband. In other words the heirs and descendants of the deceased man could not have what he had laid away for them during his lifetime in the shape of life insurance, until they should sign an article forever releasing a grinding corporation from its legal duties. Judge Post was a member of the court and as is his custom is recorded on the side of the corporation. Will the people return him to make more decisions of this character?

TOWNE FAVORS THE POPULIST

Would Work and Vote for the Populist

Nominee for Judge in Colorado.

A peculiar political situation exists in Colorado. Early in the campaign the silver republican party named Judge Hayt as their candidate for supreme judge. Hayt has a record of always favoring bimetalism, is at present a member of the supreme court where he has given good satisfaction. Shortly after the nomination by the silver republicans the Wolcott or gold standard republicans met in convention and named him as their candidate. Judge Hayt accepted the nomination regardless of the protests of the silver republicans who had nominated him and the populists who were in favor of his nomination.

He persistently refused to decline the nomination made by the gold standard republicans, and the populists met and named a populist, Judge Gabbert, as their candidate. The democrats named a Cleveland man as their candidate. The contest is between Hayt, nominated by both branches of the republican party and Gabbert, the populist nominee. The populists are all loyal to their nominee. The silver democrats as a rule will support the populist candidate. The Rocky Mountain News, at first friendly to the republican nominee, has refused to support him longer since he refused to decline the gold standard nomination. The News is therefore supporting the populist candidate. Many of the silver republicans will vote for the populist candidate. In an interview recently published in the Rocky Mountain News, ex-Congressman Towne, national chairman of the silver republican party, advises silver republicans to support Judge Gabbert, the populist nominee. Senator Teller is about the only prominent republican who is supporting Judge Hayt since his refusal to decline the gold standard nomination. At first Senator Teller would not support him unless he declined the gold standard nomination, but later he changed front and is now supporting him. In his interview concerning the situation, Ex-Congressman Towne says:

"The national committee of the silver republican party urges upon the silver republicans of every state that no alliance or co-operation of any sort whatever be made with the gold republican party, but that, with an eye single to the success of the cause, every effort be consistently made to co-operate with all the other forces of bimetalism."

Then Mr. Towne makes a bold and unmistakable declaration. It comes, be it remembered, from the national chairman of the silver republican party. It is this:

"While I believe that Judge Hayt was not conscious of any but the best of motives in accepting that nomination, I have not the slightest hesitation in saying that, from my standpoint, he made a most grave mistake in judgment, and that, were I a citizen of Colorado, responding to an obligation in the presence of which all personal friendships are relatively insignificant, I should feel it my duty to vote and work for the populist nominee, He stands, and is the only candidate who does stand squarely committed to the bimetallic proposition without any entanglements that obscure the principle. Of course, as the democrats have nominated a Cleveland democrat, as I am informed, that wholly precludes his consideration."

When everything is considered the indications are that the populist nominee will be elected.

GIRLS MUST GO TO SCHOOL.

Troops to Enforce Federal Orders at Ft. Hall Indian Agency.

POCAHELLO, Idaho, Sept. 27.—Two companies of United States cavalry from the Boise barracks passed through this city this morning en route for the Ft. Hall Indian agency at Ross Fork, to quell the anti-school riots there. About a hundred young bucks have determined that the girls shall not go to school, and in this they are backed up by the old squaws, who are also hostile to the idea of having their children placed in school. Agent Irwin, finding his police powerless, has called on the troops for aid, and has declared that the girls shall go to school if it takes the whole United States army to send them there.

State Treasurer Meserve has called 29,000 of state general fund warrants for October.