

\$1.00
PER YEAR
IN ADVANCE.

THE ALLIANCE.

OFFICIAL ORGAN
NEBRASKA
STATE FARMERS' ALLIANCE

VOL. I.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 4, 1889.

NO. 12.

Editorial Notes and Clippings.

THIS TIME IT IS YOU.

Your subscription has expired, and unless renewed within the next fifteen days, your name will be removed from the list. We trust you will feel it your duty to send us the amount of your subscription with us. Should the amount be marked with a blue cross it means you.

The demands of organized labor are just and equitable and will harm no one.

Take courage farmer friends and push forward the good work. The future of our cause was never brighter.

The only sure way to educate the masses is to circulate the Alliance literature and lots of it. We have it at this office, fifty-two doses one dollar.

The population increases steadily, and as steadily the volume of currency decreases. A fool ought to comprehend the consequences.—National Economist.

The people will not believe a self-interested paper that is the acknowledged organ of the organized bull-dozers and murderous mobs of this state. They are getting weary of their silly prattle.

Call the attention of some good Alliance man in your neighborhood, who is possessing a threshing machine, to this paper and suggest to him that it will be an easy matter for him to obtain several subscribers at almost every place the machine is set.

The contraction of the currency last year was \$1,300,000,000, but this was offset by the coinage of about \$33,000,000 of silver and an equal amount of gold, leaving the net contraction \$67,000,000.—Wheel.

The government has been pursuing the policy of taking care of the rich and letting the rich care for the poor long enough. The fact is the rich do not take care of the poor. We want to stop this state of affairs and give the poor a chance to take care of themselves. This is the aim of the Alliance, farmer friends.

The contest of today is not a contest between parties, but a contest between the people and the moneyed oligarchy that controls all departments of government, finance and transportation, and seeks to control even the private interests of the individual. It is the people against the power of concentrated wealth.—National Economist.

The Georgia State Alliance which met at Macon, August 20, had a most successful meeting. Delegates were present from 2,040 Alliances representing a membership of \$5,000. This is a grand showing for Georgia, and at the rate Nebraska is forging ahead the time is near at hand when the old grasshopper state of Nebraska will be walking hand in hand with her sister Gulf state in Alliance membership. "Hail mighty day!"

Charles Dickens, who visited this country in 1842, wrote from Boston to a friend in London. "There is not a man in this town, nor in this state, who has not a blazing fire, and meat every day for dinner, nor would a flaming sword in the air attract more attention than a beggar in the streets." This was before the days of legalized brigandage, when congress and state legislatures legislated for the whole people. Millionaires were a marvel to the country then.

In a letter to the Dakota Ruralist, written by A. Wardall, of Dakota, during a visit to this state a fortnight or so ago, he says: Nebraska has a strong Alliance organization, and it is growing rapidly, and hopes to be able soon to grapple successfully with the crushing monopolies that have so far held them helpless in their rapacious grasp. He further says, they have started an active and aggressive paper at Lincoln called THE ALLIANCE, and the Alliance state secretary has established an office at Lincoln, and are pushing the work rapidly.

There is a strong talk among the farmers of this county about organizing themselves into clubs or Alliances. In reality there is scarcely a dissenting sentiment in opposition to such an organization and all that is lacking is for some one to take the lead and make the initiatory move.

The Alliance like all other organizations that have the general good for the basis of their operation, is as valuable to its members as they have the intelligence and honesty to make it. The organization is conducive of exciting the noblest of purposes, and is well adapted to develop the mental and moral endowments of all its members and as a consequence of this development, their financial condition will be greatly improved, but after all, the success and benefit to be derived therefrom cannot be attained except through the vigilance and combined efforts of the members themselves.—Thayer County Herald.

President Powers of the State Farmers' Alliance, will visit Thayer county some time during the present month with the view of organizing that county. As the movement is rapidly spreading we trust that the county of Thayer will fall into line and assist the already vast throng in the accomplishment of this the noblest work ever prepared for man.

AFTER the speeches on Labor Day it will no longer be doubted that the workingmen are in earnest in demanding the Australian ballot reform law. It was a good day for politicians to get pointers. Time will tell whether they improved it or not.

ALLIANCE PICNIC.

Blaine township Farmers' Alliance will hold a picnic at Maddock's grove, three and one-half miles east and one mile south of Hastings, on Thursday, Sept. 10. A special invitation is extended to Alliances and farmers generally to be present, though everybody are invited.

GET THERE.

The farmer needs just one thing—the recognition of his rights. All his troubles and misfortunes have come from a denial of his rights by other classes, by government, by politicians and by political parties. Farmers, like other people, act with some political party, and like other people their political attachment is usually pretty strong. There can be no objection to this, if the political party with which he acts is doing the farmer any good. As a farmer we are free to say that next to insuring the prosperity of the nation, we desire our own prosperity rather than the success of any political party that exists or ever did exist. We have an undeniable right to share the prosperity that is enjoyed by the corporations. It is sweat from our brows that is turned into millions for the combinations of capitalists, and they are able to get rich at our expense, because the politicians favor them and make laws in their interests and against ours.

We can change this condition of things if we will. It is probable that if we have the mind to do it, we can effect organization among farmers that will enable us to control the primaries, and thus control the policy of the political party to which we belong. At all events, it is our sacred duty to protect our rights and our interests, even if it is necessary to smash the old political parties and form new ones. We are heartily tired of paying the fiddler while other classes do the dancing. We desire to see the coming of the time when the profit on a bushel of grain will go into the pocket of the man who grew the grain, and we are quite ready to do that result.—American Farmer.

ORGANIZATION OF THE ADAMS CO. FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

The Sub-Alliances of Adams county met for the purpose of organizing a County Alliance, at Allen's hall, in Juniata, Saturday, Aug. 31, at 10:30 a. m. Called to order by Organizer A. C. Tompkins, and on motion Mr. W. I. Huxtable, of Hansen, was made temporary chairman, and C. S. Wilson, of Kenesaw, secretary. A. C. Tompkins, of Hansen, Francis Phillips, of Liberty, H. B. McGaw of Blaine, E. Budy, of Shiloh, and John Breckner, of Ayr, were appointed a committee on resolutions. A committee on permanent organization were then appointed as follows: J. B. Brown, of Liberty, P. C. Donoly, of Shiloh, and A. A. Bowman, of West Blue.

The meeting then took a recess until one o'clock p. m. One p. m. Meeting called to order by the president pro tem, who requested all not members of the Alliance to retire from the room, and

announced that the doors would be thrown open at 3 o'clock and everybody invited in. Bro. John Shea appointed doorkeeper. The committee on permanent organization made the following report: "That the officers of this organization be a president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer, lecturer, sergeant-at-arms and doorkeeper; that the president, vice-president and secretary-treasurer be elected by ballot, and that an informal ballot be taken on each with-out nomination. Other officers to be elected by acclamation." Report adopted, and after the informal ballots were duly taken on each officer embodied in the committee's report, the following were duly elected: President, Francis Phillips; Vice President, W. I. Huxtable; Secretary-Treasurer, H. B. McGaw; Sergeant-at-arms, John Shea; Doorkeeper, J. B. Brown; Lecturer, A. C. Tompkins; Chaplain, John Breckner. A committee on constitution and by-laws were then appointed as follows: S. M. Davis, Shiloh, S. M. Frink, West Blue, B. B. Snodgrass, Blaine. This committee to report at next meeting.

Committee on resolutions then made a report which was adopted.

Secretary McGaw then announced the Alliance picnic to be held in Blaine township, Sept. 10, after which, on motion, the doors were thrown open and the soul-stirring marshaled band of Blaine Alliance called those on the outside into the hall. President Phillips then announced that we were going to have a regular class meeting and invited everybody to take part. The next speaker called out was Mr. G. Fisher, of Cottonwood, who gave the evening a good practical talk, which evinced the fact that the old veteran of the Cottonwood still lived. He was followed by J. M. Miller of Kenesaw, J. B. Brown of Liberty, Mr. Hill of Roseland, M. L. Woodward of Kenesaw, S. M. Frink of West Blue, S. M. Davis of Shiloh, A. C. Tompkins of Hansen, and others.

The meeting then adjourned to date. To a quiet listener outside of the Alliance it might seem from the tone of the speakers at this meeting that the Alliance was strictly a non-political organization, and no definite plans in that direction for the future. This is a serious mistake. There is no organized class of men today that realize more fully the need of political action than the Farmers' Alliance. It knows full well that class laws have established the present oppressive systems, and that the only remedy must come via the ballot box. This is what it proposes to do, and do in a non-partisan way—NOT non-political. Perhaps our members are too conservative is why they are misunderstood, but while this might be true to a certain extent, still they are deeply in earnest and purpose taking hold of all matters carefully and considerably. While a policy of this kind might not bring the move into prominence so rapidly, still it is commendable as the safe and sure road to success. "The longest way 'round is the surest way home." The Farmers' Alliance is BOUND TO WIN.

NOTICE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Nebraska State Farmers' Alliance will be held at the office of THE ALLIANCE, in Lincoln, on Tuesday, Sept. 10, 1889, at 1 p. m. By order of J. BURROWS, Chm. J. M. THOMPSON, Sec.

Coal For The Alliance.

August and September is the best time to figure on the winter's coal supply. We quote the following prices: Pittsburg, Kansas, good article soft coal, \$1.65 per ton. Mulberry, \$1.75 per ton. In lots of 12 tons or over f. o. b. at mines. Orders should be sent to the state agent right away stating number of cars wanted and time of shipment. Need not be paid for until received at your station.

The Alliances desiring groceries at

jobbers rates should send money with the order. To meet the objection of not knowing how much to remit we will commence your list at the beginning and fill it entire, or until the money is exhausted. In ordering lumber, make out bill stating kind and quality, price of same bill in your home market, so that in case we could not save you money we would not fill your order. We quote good 8 in. wagons at \$51, 3 1/2 inch. \$63, 3 1/2 inch \$64. Address all orders to Allen Root, State Agent, Omaha, Neb.

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

[Under this head we solicit short articles from the people upon any and all subjects of interest. We cannot undertake to be responsible however for any matter appearing under this head—the design being to allow the greatest freedom to writers whereby they can discuss, and thus take an interest in the great questions of the day which are so materially affecting the people. Write plain but never mind your spelling, grammar, or anything of that sort, we'll attend to that. Sign what you choose to your articles, but send us your name always.]

The Multiplication of Political Issues.

The adoption of new issues by an old dominant party before said issues become popular is sure to disintegrate and defeat the party. The same policy pursued by a new organization or party is sure to prevent its growth and make success impossible.

These propositions are self-evident when we take into account the actual facts. Let us consider the facts.

The leading and basic principles of the people's party, of the Knights of Labor, of the Grangers, of the Farmers' Alliance, and Labor Union, are:

First—Abolition of land monopoly.

Second—Money at cost.

Third—Transportation at cost.

Perhaps none of these organizations have yet adopted these precise formulas. But a careful reading of their declaration of principles and literature will show that these three propositions are a condensed synopsis of their leading principles and practical aims, and the only means of accomplishing their avowed purpose—the emancipation of labor from the tyranny of capital.

A large majority of the American people are already in favor of these principles as a means of emancipation. In other words, the primary purpose and end of these organizations and their friends and supporters, is the emancipation of labor from the tyranny of capital.

These three political measures, regarded as the means and end of the practical, constitutional and political means for their accomplishment.

All that prevents an immediate union on these three essential measures is the multiplication of minor side issues. For instance: Introduce prohibition, and we alienate at least one-half of our friends. Introduce woman suffrage, and we thereby shut out half the remainder, thus, by these two side issues alone, reducing our numbers at least three fourths, thereby making success and emancipation impossible.

This multiplication of issues is the most effective means our enemies take to "divide and conquer." And it is the most fatal mistake our short sighted friends make.

There is no rational hope of our success until we unite on the above named essential measures, and set our faces as a flint against the introduction of side issues (however good in themselves) till the primary ends are attained.

ANSLEY, NEB., Aug. 10.—EDITOR ALLIANCE.

Noticing sketches from various Alliances I thought I would drop you a line and let you know how our Alliance is getting along. On the 9th of last March we had hard work to get seven members to organize Alliance No. 521. Since that time we have continued to grow both in numbers and interest until at our last meeting we initiated two new members, making forty-five, and six applications, with full and earnest determination to stand by and carry out Alliance principles to the letter. Some of us take THE ALLIANCE and some the Economist, and some take the Workman, but you can rest assured that, come what will, 521 Alliance will be the last to leave the ranks, and while there is a man of us left our voice will be lifted against the giant oppression of monopolies and in favor of the elevation of labor. The farmers in this vicinity are fully awakened to their interests, and if everything works as present indications go to show, our enemies on the outside may expect soon to hear something "drap."

With best wishes for the success of our cause we are

Yours fraternally,
PRES. ALLIANCE 521.

SILVER CREEK, NEB., Aug. 20.—

EDITOR ALLIANCE:—I take the liberty of sending you enclosed a copy of a private letter which may be of sufficient interest to your readers to warrant its publication. The writer had no thought whatever of it ever appearing in print. The members of our Alliance hope soon to be able to organize a business association. We find it rather slow work, principally on account of a swindling concern of a hay company here, which nearly ruined some of our farmers, so that

people are afraid. We adopted an article precisely identical in terms with Article 10 of the Nebraska State Farmers' Alliance Business Association. But fearing that it might not afford full protection to individual stock holders, I sought this legal counsel. I see no reason whatever why farmers by means of these associations should not be able to sell most of their produce and buy most of their supplies, and greatly to their advantage, only so they are careful, go into no speculations, and always aim to do a perfectly safe business.

Respectfully yours,
CHAS. WOOSTER.

CENTRAL CITY, NEB., Aug. 17.—

CHAS. WOOSTER, DEAR SIR:—You say your people have an article which reads, "Stock holders shall not be liable for the debts of the corporation beyond the unpaid amount at any time of their subscription to its capital stock." You then ask, "Will this protect the stock holders?" I answer, under certain circumstances it will. Under other circumstances it will be no protection.

You then ask, "Under what circumstances will it fail?"

Answer: If your corporation should fail to comply with the General Statutes in perfecting its organization, it renders the stock holders collectively and individually liable for the whole of the debts contracted from the time of organization until it does comply with the provisions of the General Laws.

I suggest a strict compliance with Sections 126, 128, 130, 131 and 136 of Compiled Statutes of Nebraska, page 256—7 of corporation. If you do this your stock holders will only be liable for unpaid subscriptions.

Respectfully,
I. W. SPARKS.

CORNELL, NEB., Aug. 19.—EDITOR ALLIANCE.

One of the most difficult questions which come before the Alliance at the present time, is: How may the members of the Alliance most effectively co-operate in political action?

Every reflecting person realizes that without changes in our state and national laws, and in many cases, radical changes too, everything else that may be accomplished can effect but temporary relief. Unless the law making and law executing powers are brought under the control of the laboring classes, every advantage that may be gained by co-operation in business, will, by and by, be neutralized by the maladministration of laws already existing, or the enactment of such laws as will effectually prevent such advantages in the future. And, though by patient study, and earnest discussion we may be brought to agree on what laws may be necessary to protect our rights and interests from the greed of corporations and capitalists, and the domination of the moneyed aristocracy, what relief shall we obtain by that knowledge, if our political action is controlled by these same soulless corporations or dictated by this same selfish aristocracy? Here we are, mostly members of but few months standing in the Alliance. We have, the most of us, voted from the time we were old enough, in some of the eight, or more political parties now existing. Though unconscious of it ourselves, we know we are blessed by political prejudices, for everyone can see it in his neighbor.

Shall we form a new party on the platform of justice and equal rights for all?

Suppose the majority of the delegates of our regular meetings should decide on such a course. What would be the result? George Washington Alliance No. 1279, would bring the subject of the new party up at the very next meeting. A resolution would be promptly introduced binding the Alliance to the support of the new party. John Doe immediately takes the floor. "Mr. President, I like that platform. It is strong and deep. It was the essence of the framework of the grand old republican party when it was first formed. I therefore heartily endorse it. Let it be covered with the right kind of planks and it will be worthy of the support of every member of the Alliance." The gentleman further remarked that if the principles of a high protective tariff were incorporated in the platform, he would not pledge his own support, but also that of many others of the republican party who are getting tired of the corrupt willfulness by which the party is controlled.

Richard Roe also in a few pertinent remarks expressed his admiration of the new party platform. It was the grand foundation of the time honored democratic party of which he had always been a member. But he could

not agree with Bro. Doe in regard to the tariff. It was already too high, and was creating a dangerous surplus in the treasury. He would recommend that a plank be inserted which would pledge the judicious reduction of the tariff so that it would relieve the burden of the poor.

Mr. James Radical would say that the platform met with his hearty approval, and with the addition of a plank pledging the new party to the principles of free trade, he was sure it would be enthusiastically adopted by the Union Labor party of which he was a member. Mr. Robert Faithgood said that while he heartily endorsed the principles of the new party, he could not pledge himself to its support until he knew what stand it would take on prohibition. He had already pledged himself against the traffic in ardent spirits until it was destroyed and without a temperance plank in the platform he could not support it. Mr. David Beering said that he was in favor of the new platform, and of temperance, but he would never join a party which would try to dictate to him what he should eat or drink, or prevent his purchasing the same. Mrs. Watchful said she was decidedly in favor of the prohibition plank, but before she voted for the resolution she would like to know what was going to be done about woman suffrage. She said that the term "equal rights" was a misnomer so long as nearly one-half of our adult population was disfranchised. The President then called the Vice President to the chair, and in a few forcible and eloquent remarks, reminded them of the fact that they could accomplish nothing unless they "hung together."

The vote was then taken with the following result: For resolution, 21, against resolution, 20. The resolution was declared adopted. Mr. Doe immediately rose to his feet and with deep emotion said that this was what he had been warned of from the first, but he had not believed it until now. This action proved to him that the design of the Alliance was to break up the republican party. It was with deep regret that he was forced to this conclusion, but he should have nothing more to do with the Alliance. He then took his hat and withdrew.

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The vote was then taken with the following result: For resolution, 21, against resolution, 20. The resolution was declared adopted. Mr. Doe immediately rose to his feet and with deep emotion said that this was what he had been warned of from the first, but he had not believed it until now. This action proved to him that the design of the Alliance was to break up the republican party. It was with deep regret that he was forced to this conclusion, but he should have nothing more to do with the Alliance. He then took his hat and withdrew.

First—One of the most difficult questions which come before the Alliance at the present time, is: How may the members of the Alliance most effectively co-operate in political action?

Every reflecting person realizes that without changes in our state and national laws, and in many cases, radical changes too, everything else that may be accomplished can effect but temporary relief. Unless the law making and law executing powers are brought under the control of the laboring classes, every advantage that may be gained by co-operation in business, will, by and by, be neutralized by the maladministration of laws already existing, or the enactment of such laws as will effectually prevent such advantages in the future. And, though by patient study, and earnest discussion we may be brought to agree on what laws may be necessary to protect our rights and interests from the greed of corporations and capitalists, and the domination of the moneyed aristocracy, what relief shall we obtain by that knowledge, if our political action is controlled by these same soulless corporations or dictated by this same selfish aristocracy? Here we are, mostly members of but few months standing in the Alliance. We have, the most of us, voted from the time we were old enough, in some of the eight, or more political parties now existing. Though unconscious of it ourselves, we know we are blessed by political prejudices, for everyone can see it in his neighbor.

Shall we form a new party on the platform of justice and equal rights for all?

Suppose the majority of the delegates of our regular meetings should decide on such a course. What would be the result? George Washington Alliance No. 1279, would bring the subject of the new party up at the very next meeting. A resolution would be promptly introduced binding the Alliance to the support of the new party. John Doe immediately takes the floor. "Mr. President, I like that platform. It is strong and deep. It was the essence of the framework of the grand old republican party when it was first formed. I therefore heartily endorse it. Let it be covered with the right kind of planks and it will be worthy of the support of every member of the Alliance." The gentleman further remarked that if the principles of a high protective tariff were incorporated in the platform, he would not pledge his own support, but also that of many others of the republican party who are getting tired of the corrupt willfulness by which the party is controlled.

Richard Roe also in a few pertinent remarks expressed his admiration of the new party platform. It was the grand foundation of the time honored democratic party of which he had always been a member. But he could

not agree with Bro. Doe in regard to the tariff. It was already too high, and was creating a dangerous surplus in the treasury. He would recommend that a plank be inserted which would pledge the judicious reduction of the tariff so that it would relieve the burden of the poor.

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