

THE ALLIANCE. PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING. BY THE ALLIANCE PUBLISHING CO. BOHANNAN BLOCK, Lincoln, - - - Nebraska. J. BURROWS, Editor. J. M. THOMPSON, Business Manager.

EDITORIAL.

What to Plant.

The sowing of wheat is going rapidly forward, and all farmers are considering the problem of what crops will pay best. We remember no year since we have been in Nebraska when plowing was begun so early as the present season. The above problem is an important one, and upon its proper solution will hinge the prosperity of many a farmer. Corn is certainly the poor man's crop. Its varied uses, the fact that it is mainly made during the growing season of other crops when little else could be done, the ease with which it can be stored and preserved make it pre-eminently a desirable crop to raise for consumption. But at the prices which have prevailed for the past five years there has been no profit in raising it for shipping purposes in its raw state. As a matter of fact this is never good policy when it can be avoided. But only comparatively few of us have been able to convert our corn into the various products into which it can be transmuted, and have therefore been compelled to put it on the market for what it would bring. This condition of affairs is likely to continue with a great many of us. But it is desirable that less land should be planted to corn, especially if it can be done at a saving of labor and an increase of stock-production. It is likely, on account of a worm which has attacked the corn root, that this desirability will be changed to a necessity, as where this worm has gained a foothold it has been found that only a rotation will destroy it, and that corn cannot be followed with corn. The remedy that we propose is more pastures and better pastures. We have found clover and timothy the most profitable crops in Gage county. We have found these crops assure, as easily raised, and giving quite as large yields per acre, as in eastern central Iowa, one hundred miles north of this latitude. That this will prove true in this state in any part east of the one hundredth meridian we have no doubt whatever. Now the great value of corn is that it can be converted into cattle, horses, mules, hogs, milk, butter, cheese, etc. But this conversion involves a great amount of labor in addition to raising corn. When once seeded down to grasses the fertility of the soil can be converted into these commodities with very little labor. An acre of well-seeded fertile land will make in the eastern part of Nebraska two hundred and sixty pounds of beef in the season, and the same proportion of the other products named. The easiest, pleasant and most remunerative work a farmer can do on a rainy afternoon is to sit on the porch and smoke his pipe, and watch the pigs and colts and steers eat grass. After the dinner dishes are cleared away his wife can share this labor with him, all but the pipe, without to any great extent impairing her vital energies.

There is no doubt that more money per acre can be taken from land by this method than by any other. But in addition to this prime consideration the land is gaining a needed rest, in fact is actually recuperating its fertility. Clover is a biennial plant. That is, it dies at the end of two years. Clover pastures and meadows are maintained by the annual reseeded by the portion of the crop that ripens seed. The clover roots penetrate to a great depth. We have followed them down six feet. It often attains the size of a man's thumb at its crown. The weight of the roots of a large crop of clover is said to be over 15 tons per acre. This immense mass of roots is grown every two years, penetrates the soil, loosens and opens it mechanically, and carries into it from the atmosphere a large amount of nitrogen, and thus stores fertility for future use, which to the careful farmer is as good as money in the bank. We have said "more and better pastures." Nothing in farming is much more unsatisfactory in its results than poor pastures. Fertility being equal, poor pastures are caused by two things, both wrong—bad seeding and overstocking. Overstocking is fearfully wasteful. First, the stock does not thrive; second, the pastures are destroyed for future years. Pastures should be so seeded and stocked that the grass should be always foot-lock high or higher. If interest should be felt in this subject we may recur to it. A practical experience of over twenty years of stock-farming has taught us something about it.

Money Petition.

We publish this week a petition in relation to money which explains itself. This petition has been called for from all parts of the state. We hope it will now be immediately signed and forwarded to this office. We will consolidate and place them in hands where they will receive attention. Do not confine signatures to members of the Alliance, but obtain all names possible. When Alliances authorize the secretary to sign the names of the members, that fact should be stated on the petition, or appended to it. FIFTY THOUSAND NEBRASKA FARMERS SHOULD SIGN THIS PETITION.

The Call and R. R. Taxation.

Governor Thayer has a splendid opportunity to do something for the people. He asked and demanded of the railroads a twenty per cent reduction on freight rates and he did not get it. Now let him as one of the state board of assessment raise the assessment of the railroads in Nebraska twenty per cent. Here is a chance for him to do something that will do the citizen and taxpayer some good, and he has the power to do it—Call.

The U. P. Railroad Petition.

We publish this week the form of a petition to congress against the extension of the U. P. R. It is likely that the bill for the extension of this debt may soon be acted upon. It is therefore important that these petitions be filled out and sent in at once. Cut out this form and paste it on a sheet of foolscap, and get it filled with names and FORWARD TO THIS OFFICE AT ONCE, and we will place them where they will do the most good.

Prohibition Convention.

The temperance people are holding a convention at Lincoln as we go to press. The attendance is large and there is much enthusiasm. Hon. A. P. Dickey spoke on Wednesday evening, and John P. St. John on Thursday evening. The convention is for the purpose of organizing for the prohibition campaign which is now opened.

The Press and the L. S. L.

It is amazing, the amount of virtuous indignation expressed by the press at the proposition to license the Louisiana Lottery in Dakota; and it is about equally amazing to see that the papers that are loudest in their denunciations mostly have a flaming L. S. L. advertisement in their columns.

rand" to Chicago to try and get a temporary reduction on one rate. Mr. Garber don't give our Hamilton county brothers any new tip when he tells them the board has no power to fix a through rate. They simply ask the board to mend the matter "where they have the power to do so." This car of barb wire was billed to Council Bluffs, and then billed to Fullerton. The three mile haul from the Bluffs to Omaha make it interstate business. But it is evidently charged for in Nebraska at the local rate. Omaha people will do well to remember that as long as an extravagantly high local rate can be charged in Nebraska the Iowa roads will never change their terminus from the Iowa side.

Meeting of the Saunders Co. Alliance.

The Saunders County Alliance held its regular quarterly meeting at Ithaca, Saturday, Feb. 15. The business session was held during the day, and a public meeting in the evening. There are nineteen Alliances in Saunders county with a membership of nearly one thousand. There were sixty-two delegates present at the meeting, and we imagine from the crowd nearly all the membership of the county. We were present at the evening meeting. This was immense, and the enthusiasm unbounded. The large church at Ithaca was packed to its utmost limit, every inch of available standing room being occupied. Extemporaneous addresses were made by many members whose names we carelessly neglected to obtain, much to our regret. Among them was Hon. Wm. H. Dech. The addresses were good evidence that there is no lack of oratorical talent in the Saunders Alliances. An excellent choir discoursed sweet music, and there were several excellent songs by persons not belonging to the choir.

The Farmers' Meetings.

Gov. Thayer suggested the holding of farmers' meetings to "express their demand for a corn rate." The suggestion was approved by the Bee, Republican, World-Herald, Lincoln Journal, and some other papers. Some farmers' meetings have been held, but they have not panned out quite as Gov. Thayer expected. Fulsome resolutions, endorsing his supplications to the railroad employes, have not been adopted in any great extent. On the contrary the resolutions almost uniformly denounce the governor and the state board for not exercising their power in regard to local rates, and demand a reduction on all rates, instead of on the corn rate alone. In addition to this the most of them intimate that there may be decided changes in November. It isn't wise to appeal to the people, governor, unless you are sure of your position.

Cost of Railroad Construction.

The agitation about rates has made the question of the cost of roads a matter of much interest. In reply to a request for information we have received the following letter from Gen. Leese, enclosing an estimate published here-with:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Cost. Includes items like 100 tons of steel rails, 100 tons of iron, 100 tons of lumber, etc.

Terrible Accident From Barb-Wire.

Our brother Wm. Denne, of Olney Alliance, near Filley, met with a terrible accident last Saturday. At a B. & M. crossing, just east of Filley, his horses took fright. The road at that point passes near the edge of a ravine, and the road is very narrow, not more than one rod wide, with a wire fence on one side. At this point Bro. Denne was thrown from his wagon and upon the wire fence. He was fearfully cut on the side of his neck and cheek, and the road is within one-sixteenth of an inch of the jugular vein. He is lying in a critical condition, but will recover unless blood poisoning or some untoward accident intervenes.

Gov. Larrabee's Message.

The late agitation as to rates in this state, and the outcome of the appeal to the roads to reduce the corn rate, have probably done more than anything else possibly could to convince our people that a schedule no higher than that of Iowa should be made legal here. All information as to their success in Iowa is valuable. We therefore give this portion of Gov. Larrabee's message relating to the transportation question in full. He says—

PETITION

For the free and unlimited coinage of silver, the defeat of the Windom bill, the defeat of the bill to issue bonds as a basis for bank notes, and the continuance of government supervision of banking in the interest of depositors.

To THE HONORABLE THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

Your petitioners, members of the Farmers' Alliance and citizens of the State of Nebraska, respectfully represent: That the volume of money determines the general level of the prices of commodities.

That the constantly falling prices and continued depression of values, the growing indebtedness of the people, and the cry of complaint from the great circle of producers prove that there is an insufficient volume of money.

That the demonetization of silver in England, France and Germany, and its partial demonetization in the United States, has been a potent factor in producing the industrial depression and the stagnation of trade called hard times, which now afflicts the country and the world.

That the bill known as the Windom bill, now before your honorable body, would, if enacted into law, tend still further to destroy the use of silver as money, would make it solely and only a commodity, and would entirely stop its coinage, and therefore aggravate the present strained industrial situation.

That the restoration of silver to free and unlimited coinage, upon an equality with gold, would measurably increase our volume of money, and largely contribute to remove the present commercial paralysis, and restore prosperity to the country, as well as increase the value of silver, which is one of our considerable products.

That the proposition to create a bonded debt, drawing interest from the people, to afford a basis for banking, is unstatesmanlike, opposed to the true interests of the people, and solely in the interest of a class.

We your petitioners therefore most humbly pray that your honorable body will not pass the Windom bill or any similar bill; that you will not issue or refund bonds to furnish a basis for the issue of bank notes; but that you will restore silver to free and unlimited coinage, on an equality with gold, as it existed from the foundation of the government to 1873; and that you will supplement this money with United States legal tender notes until the volume of currency shall reach \$50 per capita of the population; and that you will, as soon as possible, discontinue the issue of any other kind of money whatever.

Also that you will in your wisdom provide for the continuance of banks under the supervision of the United States for the safety of depositors.

Yours truly, Wm. Leese.

NAME.

From the State Laborer, Lincoln.

The Short Haul and Personal Abuse. The Journal of Friday, while commenting upon a dispatch sent to the Senate by the officers of the State Alliance protesting against the repeal of the long and short haul clause of the interstate law, goes out of its way to abuse Mr. Burrows, Chairman of the Alliance Executive Committee. It says he is a demagogue and professional agitator, and came to Nebraska from Iowa to recuperate his wrecked political fortunes.

We have been at some pains to ascertain the facts, and can state that Mr. Burrows went to Iowa in 1885 from the army, (in which he had served since 1861,) and engaged in farming. He remained there until the spring of 1880, when he removed to Nebraska. In that time he was never a candidate for either a national or a state office, except that he was kept in the position of Justice of the Peace for several years. He has as good an army record as any man in this state, having been promoted from the ranks for bravery and faithful service on the field of battle, and having two commissions to show, one from Hon. Edwin D. Morgan, and one from Hon. Horatio Seymour, governors of the state of New York. He has always been since the war and is now a farmer, managing a large farm in Gage county in addition to managing his paper, The Farmers' Alliance, in this city.

Mr. B. was a republican on national issues. He cast his first vote for John C. Fremont, and voted for every republican president from Grant for third term, and bolting Blaine.

As to his coming to Nebraska to "recuperate his wrecked political fortunes," that must be a mistake, as the above shows. He had no political success, wrecked or otherwise, to recuperate. His course certainly shows that he had no personal political ambitions. If he had he would have remained in the majority party, where his brilliant military record and his ability would have insured his success. On the contrary he joined a hopeless minority faction who are fighting for principle instead of plunder, and his course from that day to this has shown that he cared not for office, but a great deal for progress and reform.

The Journal says he is a demagogue and agitator. It is fortunate the Journal can say nothing worse of him. It is hardly likely that the opinion of anything to win the approbation of that paper, its condemnation being more flattering than its praise. Suppose he should retort by saying that the Journal and its brass-collared editor had stood sponsors for every kind of political steal that had ever been attempted on the people of Nebraska; that the shrewdest men of the community believe now that it and its editor draw a monthly stipend from the B. & M. railroad; that he has been a member of the mouth-piece and the tool of as nasty a political ring as ever disgraced a state; and that he is now, as postmaster of Lincoln, enjoying a political reward for a term of political violence; that he has not only found a more suitable ending in the penitentiary. Mr. Burrows might say this and much more, and be believed by a great many respectable people.

The great weakness of the Journal Co. as a business proposition is that it has no paper in existence. But if the feeling of contempt which the people of Nebraska have for it could have due effect it would be sunk so low that it could never be resurrected.

Cardinal Manning Approves Emperor

William's Action in Calling a European Conference on the Labor Question.

Cardinal Manning has written the following letter to Richard Fleischer, editor of the Deutsche Reine, by whom he was asked to give his opinion of the emperor's action in summoning a conference of nations on the labor question: ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE, Westminster, Feb. 10.—Sir: You ask me what I think of the invitation of the emperor of Germany to the European powers to meet in conference on the subject of labor. I think this imperial act the wisest and worst that has proceeded from any sovereign of our time. The condition of the wage-earning people of every European country is a grave danger to every European state. The hours of labor, the employment of women and children, the scantiness of wages, the uncertainty of employment, the fierce competition fostered by no more political economy, the destruction of domestic life resulting from these and other kindred causes have rendered it impossible for men to live a human life.

How can a man live a human life for sixteen or sixteen hours a day the life of a father to his children? "How can a woman who is absent from home all day long do the duties of a mother?" Domestic life is impossible, but on the domestic life of the people the whole order of human society reposes. If the foundation be ruined what will become of the superstructure? Emperor William has before shown himself to be a great and far-sighted statesman.

Believe me always yours faithfully, HENRY E. CARDINAL MANNING, Archbishop of Westminster.

Notes From Richardson County.

EDITOR FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

Permit me to say a few words through THE ALLIANCE to my brothers in the order. We have no before breakfast job on our minds, but we are going to try all our tenacity. To fail is more than to never have tried at all. Ask nothing but what is reasonable. Demand justice; ask nothing more. Justice demands the foreclosure of the mortgage on the U. P. R. by the government. Uphold Attorney-General Leese in his efforts in this direction. Justice demands free coinage of silver on equal terms with gold. Demand our representatives and senators to use their influence to this end or promptly retire them. Justice demands many other things. If this does not find its way to the waste basket I may mention them in a future article. Hoping the utmost good may attend your organization, I am Very truly yours, GEO. WATKINS.

The York Co. Meeting.

We have another account of the grand meeting at York, sent us by R. R. Ryan. We omit it because we published the same thing in substance last week.

Mr. Ryan says:

We have made arrangements to have Capt. Trevellick with us on Friday evening the 21st, for speech in Alliance work, at Harmony church, and on Saturday the 22nd at Arborville. Then on Sunday we have two lectures in the interest of prohibition, and are making arrangements to keep him for two or three more days at other points near by. We propose to have one hundred members before spring work commences. We now have forty-three and several applications in. Wishing THE ALLIANCE great prosperity, I am Yours, R. R. RYAN.

Exposition Dining Hall.

Odell's Dining Hall is re-opened under above name. Our friends will find it an excellent place to get meals. 1121 N street.

We invite attention to Bro. W. F. Wright's advertisement.

Bro. Wright has an excellent reputation where he is best known.

Endorsing Senator Vest.

NYSTED ALLIANCE No. 548, Feb. 8, '90. Resolved, That we heartily endorse the action taken by Senator Vest in regard to Phil Armour and the steamship companies, and respectfully ask the State Alliance to do the same.

A. C. NIELSON, Secy.

The Book of the Acts of the Hayseeds.

And it came to pass when Grover departed from the White House, that Benjamin reigned in his stead. And Benjamin spoke to all the people in his message and said, Behold, your taxes shall be kept very high so that you shall be prosperous and happy. And the Lord blessed the farmers with bountiful crops; yet they prospered not.

For their substance was devoured by the tax-gatherers, and by those who loaned money at usury, and by those who collected tolls on the iron highways.

Then there arose a great murmuring among the people. And they said, How long shall we suffer these things? Have we not been robbed, let these many years? Can a man raise twelve cent corn and pay three per cent a month?

And the tillers of the soil said one to another, Go to! let us bind ourselves together in a good Alliance. And it was so.

And many scoffed and said, It will come to naught. Can the farmers stick together? And they laughed. Selah.