

THE ALLIANCE, PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING BY THE ALLIANCE PUBLISHING CO.

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J. BURROWS, Editor.

J. M. Thompson, Business Manager.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea, With a glory in his bosom That transfigures you and me. As he strove to make men holy Let us strive to make men free, Since God is marching on.

EDITORIAL.

Independent State Ticket.

- Governor, JOHN H. POWERS, of Hitchcock. Lieutenant Governor, WM. H. DECH, of Saunders. Secretary of State, C. M. MAYBERRY, of Pawnee. State Treasurer, J. V. WOLFE, of Lancaster. Attorney General, J. W. EDGERTON, of Douglas. Auditor, JOHN BATE, of Wheeler. Commissioner of Public Lands and Buildings, W. F. WRIGHT, of Nemaha. Superintendent of Public Instruction, PROF. A. D'ALLEMAND, of Furnas. For Congress Second Congressional District, W. A. MCKEIGHAN, of Webster. For Congress Third Congressional District, CAPT. O. M. KEM, of Custer.

Lancaster County Independent Ticket.

- State Senators, J. M. THOMPSON, JAS. G. TAYLOR. Representatives, ELIAS BAKER, W. S. DENIGARE, I. F. DALE, J. F. EGGER, ROBT. McALLISTER. Commissioners, L. S. GILLICK, AUGUST ANDERSON, D. A. STOCKING. County Attorney, N. Z. SNELL.

THE FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

Published Weekly by the Alliance Publishing Co.

J. BURROWS, Editor.

J. M. THOMPSON, Bus. Mgr.

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THE ALLIANCE is the official organ of the State Alliance. It is conducted solely in the interest of the farmers and laboring men of the state. It is absolutely fearless and untrammelled in the discussion of all questions. IT ACCEPTS NO CORPORATION PATRONAGE. ITS EDITORS HAVE NO FREE PASSES, AND ITS OPINIONS ARE NOT FOR SALE AT ANY PRICE. In the above particulars it is a new departure in Nebraska journalism.

We confidently appeal for support to all who can appreciate the value of such a paper.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

The most important political campaign ever made in Nebraska is about to open. On the one side will be arrayed the farmers and laborers of the state; on the other the corporations and their henchmen, and the newspapers which for years have prostituted their columns to the uses of corporations.

EVERY TUB ON ITS OWN BOTTOM. The nomination of a prohibition state ticket last week in this city completed the outfit of tickets that will be voted for in Nebraska on the 4th of next November, we suppose. The nomination of this ticket effectually disposes of the charge that was being made by the railroad jobberworks that the independent movement was a prohibitory movement.

PREMIUMS.

- THE ALLIANCE one year, and Looking Backward, postpaid, \$1.30. Ditto and Labor and Capital by Kellogg, 1.10. Ditto and Caesar's Column, 1.25. Ditto and Our Republican Monarchy by Volder, 1.10. The above books for sale at this office, or sent postpaid as follows: Looking Backward, 50 cts. Caesar's Column, 50 cts. Labor and Capital, 20 cts. Our Republican Monarchy, 25 cts. Address, ALLIANCE PUB. CO., Lincoln, Neb.

BENTONIAN.

Large numbers of the ablest republican papers in the state are urging the voters to scratch Tommy Benton. This is awfully unjust. The man that can accept Richards, Hastings, Allen and Humphrey ought to take Tommy as a sweet morsel. But all the same Tommy will probably never go marching home again. Tommy Benton is simply an unfortunate victim of circumstances. He is one of the jolliest of good fellows, and true as steel to his masters. The unfortunate circumstances for him is that masters are about to change. The railroads put him there, and he has stayed with them grandly; and they are reciprocating in trying to put him there again. But it can't be did. Tommy must go, a martyr to the cause of the poor-down-trodden corporations. They will probably be able to give him a situation in a railway auditor's office at a higher salary than the state allows. "Good-bye, Tommy, good-bye."

A RED-LETTER DAY FOR LANCASTER COUNTY.

The grandest celebration ever held in Lancaster county was on Labor Day, September 1st. Twenty thousand people were said to be on the grounds at Cushman Park. The procession was over five miles long. Banners, mottoes, floats, and devices of all kinds, were too numerous for description. One of the most notable turnouts in the parade was a float got up by Oak Creek Alliance, drawn by six horses, and loaded with twenty-four beautiful young ladies. This is Brother I. N. Leonard's Alliance, and it is presumed that he and his estimable wife planned this fine display.

We give a very inadequate report of the day on the first page of this issue. On the speakers' stand at the park we observed Honest John Powers, Lieut. Gov. Dech, State Supt's D'Allemand and Wright, Auditor Bate, State Treasurer Wolfe, Senator J. M. Thompson, Attorney General Edgerton, Mr. Voldo, Chairman Blake, Secretary Pirtle, and many other distinguished gentlemen.

Speeches were made by Mr. Edgerton, Mr. Wheat, of Iowa, Mr. Voldo and Mr. Powers. September 1st, 1890, will be a long-remembered day by the thousands who participated in its parade, its business and its pastimes.

The sturdy yeomanry of Lancaster county were never so well represented. If the day was an omen of the result on the 4th of November next, Lancaster county will surely be redeemed from monopoly rule.

The following are the editorial comments of the Call upon the day. "A GREAT IMPROVEMENT. Never in the history of Lincoln has there been a demonstration equal to that of today. Labor day has invoked an era here, and the magnificent parade this morning is a bright omen for the farmers and workmen. It is all a profound expression of the demarcation of the common people from supine followers to aggressive leaders. It expressed stronger than words express to the most doubting, that the workingmen and farmers are in earnest as never before.

And the farmers of Lancaster county were out in force. The Alliance procession alone covered more than four miles in length. It was the public proof of what has been repeatedly stated that the farmers in this county are in touch with the farmers over the state.

While the great parade was in honor of Labor Day, it was yet a political parade. The workmen in the city and the farmers from the country bore placards on every hand announcing their adherence to the independent ticket. Here in the capital city, with its two thousand republican majority, the demonstration today will be a revelation to the dominant party in this city and it should be a revelation to the party in the state. These stirring times in Nebraska politics, and the party that longer refuses to recognize the fact, and the candidates who refuse to recognize the true moment of the uprising, may sit in the ashes of defeat in November."

FISH OR CUT BAIT.

Mr. Van Wyck has trifled with the people's congressional nomination long enough. There is no earthly reason for longer delay. The committee should meet at once and put a man in nomination who cares more for the movement than he does for himself.

EVERY TUB ON ITS OWN BOTTOM.

The nomination of a prohibition state ticket last week in this city completed the outfit of tickets that will be voted for in Nebraska on the 4th of next November, we suppose. The nomination of this ticket effectually disposes of the charge that was being made by the railroad jobberworks that the independent movement was a prohibitory movement. This charge is being freely made in all parts of the State where it is supposed it would be prejudicial to the people's ticket. It appears that it was not sufficiently a prohibitory movement to secure a word of endorsement or approval from the prohibition convention. And it was especially noteworthy that the head of the people's ticket came in for a special amount of vituperation and abuse at the hands of delegates in the prohibition convention. This probably is all right, and as it should be. The people's movement is based upon a few certain well-defined principles which are agreed upon and approved by a large majority of the voters of Nebraska. The prohibitory amendment is a proposition by itself. It is submitted to the voters, and will be upon the tickets of all parties, and therefore is removed to a certain extent outside of the domain of partisan politics. In our opinion it should have been uncomplicated with the personalities of candidates—left as a clean proposition for each voter to decide upon unbiased by personal preferences. But the leaders of the prohibition party thought otherwise, and we cheerfully acquiesce in their decision.

The corporation jobberworks, with amusing consistency, are also charging that the people's movement is solely in the interest of the democratic party; the people are gravely informed that the independent leaders are democrats in disguise, and are engaged in a conspiracy to elevate democrats to office. The democrats repudiate this assumption by putting up a full state ticket, and congressional tickets in every district but one. A straight nomination would have been made in that district

only for the fact that there were more independent than democrats in the democratic congressional convention, and hence the independent candidate was endorsed. In the third district there is no doubt whatever that there is a combination between the republican and democratic leaders to elect the republican to congress.

The people of this state will not fail to see that this cry against the people's ticket of prohibition in one place and democracy in another, is unadulterated fraud. It shows the deplorable straits to which the railroad crew is reduced. They dare not attack our principles. Not a single prominent paper has assailed them. They cannot attack our candidates. They are above reproach. So they are compelled to resort to misrepresentation and personal abuse. These tactics will not win this time. The people demand facts, not froth and fustian.

Every political tub now stands on its own bottom. There has been no fusion, no conspiracy, no unholy political bargain and sale, and there will be none. The contest lies now between the people's ticket standing on a platform for the people, demanding purity instead of corruption, justice instead of extortion and robbery, and the so-called republican ticket, nominated by railroad influence, composed of railroad men, and intended to bolster up and perpetuate railroad power, and nowhere else.

No amount of misrepresentation can change this fact. Either Honest John Powers will be elected governor, and Honest John Bate state auditor, or railroad Richards will be elected governor, and railroad tool Tommy Benton state auditor, as sure as the world goes round till the 4th day of next November. With public opinion roused as it is, and with the people informed on this monopoly question as they are, there can be only one result. "Good-bye, Tommy, good-bye!"

THURSTONIAN.

When our John wishes to issue a pronunciamento to the people of the United States he goes down to Chicago and takes a fine suite of rooms at the Grand Pacific and sends for a reporter. [His salary of \$12,000 a year as general attorney for the U. P. railway runs on just the same. In fact that's the way he earns it.] Well, when the reporter comes John sits back in a cushioned arm chair, with his feet on a damask sofa, and looks comfortable. He only lacks a cigar to be a picture of the serenest felicity attainable by any general railroad attorney. But our John don't smoke, he don't. He isn't built that way. His salary of \$12,000 a year don't warrant cigars. Well, when John gets settled comfortable he just talks, and the reporter takes it down in shorthand.

His last blow-off in that delectable manner was about ten days after the people's convention; and it proves that John isn't a prophet nor the son of a prophet, though \$12,000 a year to sit in an arm chair with one's feet cocked up on a sofa, might be considered profitable. On that occasion John said "the people ought to have nominated Van Wyck. Van Wyck would have made things hum. But now there will be a tame campaign." A tame campaign, eh? Well, we would like to see a campaign when things are humming. Progressions three miles long! Meetings in the woods in a farm country where the houses are two miles apart attended by five thousand people! Whole townships hitching up their farm wagons and driving thirty miles to hear the people's candidates speak! Parades with ten thousand people in line, like that at Lincoln Monday last! A tame campaign, indeed! We should just like to see a wild one. It seems Honest Farmer John Powers is almost as much of a drawing card as Van Wyck might have been. If "things" go on improving till October as they have since the people's ticket was put up John will think the farmers of Nebraska are raising only one crop—the last of the three he said they raised in Texas, viz. corn, cane and h—l.

We heard John say one time in Armory D that "he wished it was the law that no man could wear a white shirt until he had paid a woman a dollar for making it." That would be four or five dollars a day for the woman, if she was handy with a machine—very fair wages, but not quite \$12,000 a year. We would like to inquire whether John's philanthropy has impelled him to make any effort to raise the wages of the section hands of his road to over a dollar a day? Or is his sympathy for the shirt makers a shade—just a shade—different in texture from his sympathy with the section hands. A man who can sit in a cushioned rocker at \$12,000 a year can talk sympathy for anybody. Talk is cheap. But we have yet to hear of our John making an effort to raise anybody's wages.

When another people's convention is held our John must be invited. In fact, he'll probably be a delegate, as when the people get on top all the railroad attorneys will climb the fence. Our John will probably have a people's anti-monopoly league formed, and will be sending out type-written platforms for people's conventions.

GRAND ARMY COMRADES, ATTENTION.

Mr. Voldo wishes to have it announced that as a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, being one of the youngest veterans of the army of the Cumberland, and being also a member of the Knights of Labor, with which order he worked for eight years, he would be highly pleased to greet and be greeted by the comrades and brothers of both organizations along the line of his future appointments, as given in this paper.

When writing to advertisers be sure to mention THE ALLIANCE.

DESTITUTION

In Western Nebraska—An Appeal for Relief.

NEBRASKA STATE FARMERS' ALLIANCE, SECRETARY'S OFFICE, LINCOLN, NEB., Sept. 1, 1890.

On the 13th day of August Secretary Thompson received the following letter and resolutions:

INDIANOLA, NEB., Aug. 11, 1890. J. M. THOMPSON, Esq., Lincoln, Neb.: Dear Sir and Brother: Enclosed find a resolution which explains itself. Will you kindly lay this matter before our state executive, requesting them to secure free transportation for donated supplies and soliciting agent as referred to in resolution. Fraternally yours, J. F. BLACK.

INDIANOLA, NEB., Aug. 11, 1890. At the last session of the Red Willow county Farmers' Alliance the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, The failure of crops in southwestern Nebraska the present year caused by drought and hot winds is such that the yield of grain is scarcely equal to the seed sown. The potato-crop is a like failure, as are vegetables of all varieties. The failure of crops has so reduced this people financially that hundreds of them have left their homes in search of subsistence while their families eke out a miserable existence in their drought-desolated homes; and

Whereas, These people have not the means of securing subsistence through the now approaching winter, nor seed with which to plant the coming spring, therefore be it

Resolved, By Red Willow county Farmers' Alliance duly convened and assembled, that J. F. Black be made soliciting agent for southwestern Nebraska. That he solicit fuel, corn, flour, vegetables, salt, meat, clothing, groceries, money, seed, etc., with free transportation for all donations and supplies purchased with donated funds, and free transportation for himself upon his duties from this date.

A. C. BLAK, Secretary.

J. B. PEASE, President. In response to the above resolution and request the chairman of the State Alliance executive committee addressed a letter to the general managers of the U. P., F. & E. V., and B. & M. railroads, setting forth the facts and asking for the needed transportation.

Up to this date only one reply to these letters has been received, viz.: from Geo. W. Holdrege, general manager of the B. & M. His letter is given below:

OMAHA, NEB., Aug. 27, 1890. Mr. J. M. THOMPSON, Chairman State Farmers' Alliance executive committee, Lincoln, Neb.: Dear Sir—Your letter of Aug. 15 was received at my office during my absence and therefore has not been promptly answered.

Our company, as you know, has in the past responded in kind to similar requests for free transportation for seed and for other articles. Our rates have been so greatly reduced in the past two years that it is doubtful whether we have at this time the ability to help the western counties to the extent that has been done at other times in the past. We desire, however, to aid in the direction you request in cases where it is practicable to do so. If you will refer to us the various requests as they are received, we will be glad to consider each case upon its merits and give it prompt attention. We can safely say that for the present we will forward seed without charge to points where it is needed from points within the state.

Yours truly, G. W. HOLDREGE, General Manager.

Since receiving that letter Secretary Thompson has received the following communications from the committee of which Bro. J. F. Black is chairman. The letter to Superintendent Alexander was written on the suggestion of Assistant Manager Calvert, who said applications for free transportation in that locality would have to be referred to him. It is published because it gives a statement of the situation:

INDIANOLA, NEB., Aug. 27, 1890. J. M. THOMPSON, Lincoln, Neb.: Dear Sir and Brother—Enclosed find a copy of our application for transportation. We hereby make application to the Nebraska State Farmers' Alliance for assistance in this hour of trial. The land is wet with late rains. The call for fall wheat and rye is everywhere heard. Emotionally submitted,

J. F. BLACK, J. C. BLACKSTONE, H. H. PICKENS, A. L. ENGART, JAMES WRIGHT, WM. BARBER, JOHN WHITTAKER, T. D. WHITE, Committee.

INDIANOLA, NEB., Aug. 27, 1890. Alexander Campbell, McCook, Neb., superintendent B. & M.: Dear Sir—We the Alliance relief committee for southwestern Nebraska respectfully represent that the lands of western Nebraska are moist and in the most fertile condition, and that they may at once be returned to their former productive condition.

Therefore, we ask that you grant to the hot wind sufferers of southwestern Nebraska free transportation for all donated seeds and articles of subsistence until relieved by the raising of a crop, and furthermore that you secure to them the same courtesy over all lines of the C. B. & Q. and its branches.

Respectfully, J. F. BLACK, Manager and Secretary. J. M. SMITH, J. C. BLACKSTONE, H. H. PICKENS, A. L. ENGART, WM. BARBER, T. D. WHITE, Committee.

It will be seen that the need for relief is urgent, especially for seed wheat and rye. Rye sown at once will afford great relief in the way of enabling the people to keep a portion of their stock longer than they otherwise would. It will also be seen that Mr. Holdrege offers to transport seed to the needy district free. We have no doubt this liberality will be extended to other donations. We therefore URGENTLY APPEAL to all who are more favored by crops this year to contribute fall wheat and rye, and other supplies, in aid of the stricken region. Such contributions may be forwarded by the B. & M. road to J. F. Black, chairman relief committee, Indianola.

This appeal is made to all, but we especially ask our brothers of the Alliance to respond at once. It is our

brothers in the west who are stricken and in need; and it is especially our duty as it should be our pleasure to respond with quick relief.

The State Alliance will make a liberal appropriation for the sufferers as soon as the executive committee can be heard from.

Contributions in money sent to this office will be acknowledged in the paper each week and forwarded to the committee, or they can be sent direct to the committee if preferred.

Supplies must be shipped to J. F. Black, Indianola, and all inquiries as to relief addressed to him.

Committees will be designated at other points as soon as possible. J. H. POWERS, President State Alliance. J. M. THOMPSON, Secretary. J. BURROWS, Chairman State Ex. Com.

THE GREAT UPSISING.

As no period in the history of the United States has there been such an uprising of the agricultural and wage-earning people of the country to assert their rights and regain their waning liberty of shaping the laws and affairs of state and national government. A lapsed vigilance at the close of a terrible war allowed class legislators to frame the laws controlling the financial affairs of the country to such an extent that a plutocracy of cruel, unfeeling millionaires have grown up and are attempting to seize the government and reduce the sovereign people to a state of vassalage. The conspirators in the interest of Wall street and the Rothschilds by ingenious finance and tariff laws, became so bold and dangerous in their wicked designs that the people have taken the alarm. Party ties are severing and snapping like spider webs in a cyclone. The sons of revolutionary fathers have woken to the danger menacing our free institutions, and in a few months they have allied together the grandest organization of voters ever beheld in any country. From the gulf to the mountains, over the fields of Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and Dakota the tread of the marching hosts of independents are moving against the ramparts of monopoly, greed and plutocracy. "The government of the people, by the people, and for the people" must be upheld. There must be a change and a bettering of the condition of the wage-earner and the producer, and that change can only be gained by the victory of the independents. In the language of Douglas, there are to day but two parties, "Patriots and traitors." The traitors hold sway in legislative halls of state and nation. Over forty plutocrats are in the United States senate to day, and no measure of relief to the people is allowed to pass that body only by the strongest pressure. But the sweep of an avenging Nemesis is at hand and the great Independent Alliance of the American people in the northland and southland, in the east and the west, will listen no longer to the siren songs of men that would be rulers instead of executives. We recognize no such rulers but obey executives of the laws, and the laws must in the future be in the interest of the people, for the people are the government. The attempted seizure of the government by plutocrats and plutocracy must be throttled, shall be throttled, by free American independents.

THE AMAZING ECONOMY OF THE G. O. P.

Last year the farmers of the western part of Nebraska were burning ten cent corn, while the roads were asking 20 cents per 100 to carry it to Chicago. This year the farmers of the same section are giving away or killing their live stock to keep it from starving, and are appealing to their more fortunate brothers in other sections for donations of food for their wives and children. At this juncture the railroads advance the charges on 90 per cent of their business 15 to 20 cents per ton. This beautifully illustrates the benevolence of the railroads. But the grand old party, always mindful of the farmers, must have taken great pains to save the money they pay in taxes so as to enable them to stand the exactions of roads. Let us see about it. Here is the ADDITOR'S OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE LAST LEGISLATURE.

We find the total appropriations for two years were \$2,386,328.88. Taking the population at 1,225,000, this is one dollar and eighty cents per capita. An average family of five pays \$4.50 as state tax merely for the running of the state each year.

Legislative expenses two years ago \$190,000. Let us see now where some of these "legislative expenses" go to.

The senate has thirty-eight members. To serve these thirty-eight members it had to have one hundred and eleven clerks. [It ought to be explained right here that a large number of these clerks were young ladies—friends of the family, you know—in some cases friends of the head of the family—sometimes cousins and aunts, though probably not often aunts.] Pay of 88 members, \$10,616 00. Pay of 111 clerks, 24,966 40 or nearly three times more to clerks than members.

Here's Economy with a big E. Three clerks and nearly a half of one more for each senator. It should they all those numbers. How could they all those halves of the lady clerks? Some of the venerable senators might have had more than their share. We have heard it intimated that some of them obtained clerkships for their wives. But that isn't probable, circumstances considered.

Now let us look at the house. It has 100 members, and these found one hundred and sixty-five clerks necessary to do their writing and stamp-licking. Pay of members of the house, \$32,566 37. Clerks for same, \$85,510 25, or

nearly \$3,000 more to clerks than members.

The senate needed 12 pages to carry papers for 33 members, and the house needed 30 pages to carry for 100 members.

There are some other very suggestive items. The business of law-making isn't such tame library business as an honest old granger might suppose. In fact, it requires a good deal of riding—hack riding and other kinds of riding—and the members think the farmers ought to pay their hack-hire while they are in Lincoln. [Isn't it a little strange that the hack men don't remember to give the legislators free passes, the same as the railroads do?] Gran Engu received, April 6th, for hack-hire of members, \$226.25. At regular city fare this would be nine hundred and five rides, or about seven rides for each member. Well, perhaps the rides of the lady clerks were included.

These few items are enough for this time. They go to show just how far the tender regard of the g. o. p. for the taxpayers extends. They prove that the whole political system of the state is based on robbery and corruption. They prove that the republican railroad tools, when they get their hands in the people's pockets, grab for all they can. On the principle of the Vanderbilt motto, "the people may be d—d," or starve, for all they care. They are in it for the boodle there is in it, and not for patriotism, good government or any other good motive.

Farmers, isn't it time there was a change? We will recur to this subject next week.

INDEPENDENT PEOPLE'S PICNICS BOOMING.

At Odell, in the southwest part of Gage county, the farmers held one of the most successful meetings ever held in Gage county. From three to four thousand people were in attendance. From the farms and the city, early in the morning, came delegation after delegation. The Diller cornet band, the Lanham cornet band and the neighboring martial band furnished the music. The glee club of the Alliance tendered most excellent labor songs. The farmers' baskets were filled with material for the inward man, and from first to last of the exercises of the day it was a constant round of feasting, physically and mentally. The candidates for county offices occupied the forenoon with speeches, developing the fact that they are equal to the occasion, and were in full sympathy with the necessities of the people. After dinner W. F. Wright, candidate for commissioner of public lands and buildings, spoke upon the issues before the people for nearly two hours, many times being obliged to wait for the applause of the people to subside. The speaker carried his audience with him from beginning to end. At Cortland, in the north part of Gage county, a most successful meeting was held about 4 miles southwest of the city. Some mistake seemed to have been made at this point in not giving proper notice. But a most enthusiastic and very large audience greeted the speakers. Mr. Voldo of California and Mr. Wright of Nemaha county were received heartily, and each of the speakers occupied nearly two hours. The enthusiasm aroused by the speakers at this meeting speaks with no uncertain sound as to the result of the vote in the northern part of Gage county. At Weeping Water, Cass county, last Saturday, Hon. John H. Powers, the people's candidate for governor, was greeted by a large audience of the representative men of that county. Mr. Powers spoke for about one hour and a half, and as we learn from those in attendance, was again and again interrupted by the demonstrations of approval from the audience. At the close of Mr. Powers' remarks the chairman introduced Mr. Wright, of Nemaha county. Mr. Wright at once proceeded to business, and without ceremony or gloves arraigned the republican party of Nebraska as the boodle anarchists of the state. State legislation for the last twenty years was shown up in such a manner that at the close of his remarks he was besieged by dozens inquiring for information as to where the authority he produced could be procured. Take it all in all the reports received from all quarters of the state show the largest crowds of people in attendance at all our speakers' meetings ever known in the state.

THE PAUPERS TO THE FORE.

The way the paupers are getting there is simply amazing. Every time the money organs refer to Mr. Richards' slip about the pauper business they make matters worse. Mr. Richards' home organ intimates that there is some doubt as to which is the pauper, the maker or receiver of the mortgage, but clinches its former statement by saying "there are a good many of both kinds." If the receiver of a mortgage is a pauper, the giver must be doubly one. The B. & M. Journal rushes to the defense of Richards, and assails McKelghan and Kem on the ground of their poverty alone. A good way to escape poverty is that adopted by the editor, viz: grab a public teat and hang on for dear life. But when the aforesaid editor grabbed he was a pauper all right. Now having filled up with monopoly pap, the quality that made the pap necessary to him is a disqualification for others. The kind of mortgage that makes the difference. If the railroads and the party had a mortgage on Kem and McKelghan the mortgage on their farms would never once be thought of. The mortgage the B. & M. has on Editor Gere is of no consequence whatever.

Bets & Weaver were closed on Monday. Farmers and laborers should remember them as the only coal firm in the city which thus showed their appreciation of Labor Day.

THE DUTY OF THE HOUR.

A Question of Home and Country. There is now being fought in Nebraska the fiercest political battle ever known in the history of the state. Upon its decision hangs something more than the mere choice between two masters; but a choice, rather, as between principle and party, right and wrong, justice and injustice, liberty and slavery. It is a conflict between plutocracy on the one hand and the people on the other. Between millionaires and the masses. Between the money bags of the east and the corn and wheat and beef and pork of the west. Between the insatiable greed of organized wealth the rights of the great plain people, as vouchsafed by the constitution.

It is idle to educe proofs. The simple fact that, despite a generation of hard toil, the people are poor to-day; mortgage-ridden and distressed, is sufficient evidence that the whole system under which they have lived is a lie and an imposture. They have produced but they possess not. They have amassed wealth for other people to enjoy while they themselves are almost without the necessities of life. They have built palaces for the rich while they themselves live in sod houses, and so far from luxury, are denied even the common comforts of life, which no one on earth has a right to enjoy to the exclusion of him that earned them.

The present cruelly unjust system, therefore, is fast working the hopeless pauperization and degradation of the toiling masses. The great middle class, including the farmer, is gradually being undermined and destroyed. It has been boastfully said that there will yet be two classes in this country, the very rich and the very poor; in other words, the master and the servant. To this end legislation, both state and national, has directly tended, consciously or unconsciously, since 1861. And in keeping herewith, whereas the farmers owned nearly three-fourths of the aggregate wealth of the whole country in 1850, they barely own one-fourth of it in 1890.

Quite as alarming, our liberties are of course being destroyed with equal celerity. Said Daniel Webster, "Liberty cannot long endure in any country where the tendency of legislation is to concentrate wealth in the hands of the few." At the present time twenty-five billions of dollars, or just half of the entire wealth of the nation, are in the hands of twenty-five thousand aristocrats, while three-fifths of the whole wealth is cornered by thirty thousand persons out of a total population of sixty-five millions! Comment is unnecessary. Too plain is it to the patriotic vision that our country is fast going the way of Egypt, of Greece, of Rome, that is, to the certain death that awaits all nations alike when the wealth of all falls into the hands of the grasping few. Then is liberty at an end, and then, as in all the despotisms of the past, a nation of brow-beaten slaves will produce wealth for a handful of soulless tyrants to possess and enjoy.

The impending struggle, then, not only involves the safety of our homes but the cause of liberty as well; the preservation of our free institutions, the very existence of our beloved country. Confronted by such dangers, and with such a stake hanging in the balance, what is the duty of the present hour? It is, first and foremost, to follow after the example of corporate wealth, and in self-defense, organize, organize, organize. It is, plainly, to seek after every strength and avoid every weakness. It is to keep our eyes unwaveringly set on the main issue, the rights and liberties of the people as against the arrogant encroachments of the money power. It is to firmly and persistently demand a just and adequate solution of the problems of money, land and transportation, that industry may be fostered and all labor fully rewarded. It is to check by every lawful means the future concentration of wealth, and to destroy forever the iniquitous domination of railroad and other corporate power in the politics of our state and nation.

In the fulfillment of this duty there is the supreme duty of unity, of harmony. In an emergency so dire, trouble so great, none but traitors to themselves, their families and their country will make division or contribute to discord. Hold fast to the main issue. Bury personal prejudices and minor differences. If the independent convention did not give every one his first choice remember that it was a representative body wherein all are supposed to cheerfully accept the decisions of the majority. Remember that the candidates it offers are chosen from the ranks of the people, that they are honest, tried and true men, and are pledged to serve the whole people alike. That in supporting them with our ballots we are supporting the cause of common justice, and maintaining that glorious principle of our national constitution that the mass of the citizens are the safest depository of their own rights.

LOOK OUT FOR NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE MEN.

Under the guise of the republican non-partisan league the railroad party is sending out its cappers to poison the minds of the people under false pretences. The pretence is to preach prohibition; and under cover of this pretence the rankest monopoly doctrine is being preached. We especially warn our readers against giving one Rankin any audience. Pretending to be a prohibition advocate he preaches the rankest plutocracy. And he turns traitor to the prohibition cause by asserting that there is only two tickets to choose from in Nebraska this year—the democratic and republican. We do not believe the prohibitionists are responsible for putting such men in the field.

Again, pass the word along the line—give no audiences to our enemies.