

THE FARMERS' ALLIANCE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY BY THE Alliance Publishing Co., COR. 11th AND M STS., LINCOLN, - - NEBRASKA.

"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." Julia Ward Howe.

"Laurel crowns cleave to deserts, And power to him who power exerts." "A ruddy drop of manly blood The surging sea outweighs." Emerson.

"He who cannot reason is a fool, He who will not reason is a coward, He who dares not reason is a slave."

EDITORIAL.

THE ALLIANCE RELIEF FUND. The following amounts have been contributed for the relief of the drought-stricken region of the state: S. Alliance to Red Willow Co., \$100 00

ADAMS AND GOULD Twenty years ago, in the North American Review, Charles Francis Adams spoke of the places where Jay Gould sometimes plucked his hands as "those capacious pockets which yawned for all the wealth of Erie."

There is a contest being against Ed. J. Hall, representative from Hall county.

The Farmers' Alliance, published weekly by The Alliance Publishing Co. J. BURROWS, Editor. J. M. THOMPSON, Bus. Mgr.

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 PER YEAR. INVARIABLE IN ADVANCE. OR FIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS, IN ONE ORDER ONE YEAR FOR \$4.00.

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 CORPORATE PATRONAGE. ITS EDITORS HAVE NO FREE PASSES, AND ITS OPINIONS ARE NOT FOR SALE AT ANY PRICE.

We confidently appeal for support to all who can appreciate the value of such a paper. The bold and aggressive fight made by this paper in the late campaign, resulting in giving the farmers' movement in this state over 70,000 votes against both of the old parties, has made it the FOREMOST CHAMPION AND ORGAN OF THIS MOVEMENT IN THE WEST!

Its aggressive warfare against corporate and plutocratic rule will be continued. "Truth and Justice" always being its motto. If our subscription warrants, THE ALLIANCE will be enlarged to a six-column 8-page paper Jan. 1st, 1891.

With an Alliance membership of 80,000 the subscription list of THE ALLIANCE has never exceeded 12,000. It should be 75,000. With a list near that number we would be able to furnish The Best Paper in the State.

Will you aid us to make it 50,000? All Alliance officers are requested to act as agents.

All yearly subscriptions sent from this date forward run to Jan. 1st, 1892. PREMIUMS. THE ALLIANCE one year, and Looking Backward, postpaid, \$1.20

WHO WILL ORGANIZE THE LEGISLATURE?

In view of the peculiar situation in this state the above question is one of great importance to the people. In the appointment of the committees, and in the direction he can give to legislation, the speaker has great powers. The clerk, also, if interested in any special direction, and disposed to do so, can have great influence.

No man has thus far been elected speaker of the Nebraska house without first putting himself into the hands of the corporations, giving away beforehand all the important chairmanships, appointments, and making terms with every corrupt and vicious combine.

The clerk of the house and secretary of the senate are quite as important positions as that of speaker. It is being broadly intimated that the independents have not in their ranks men who are competent to fill these offices; and some of the precious scamps who have heretofore filled them are proposing with superb audacity to be candidates again.

Remember, the interest that organizes the house will control it. The first battle is the important one, the one on which hangs the issue of every one to follow.

THE METHOD OF PROCEDURE.

The Omaha combine has laid out a programme for the coming legislature in the matter of the contesting governors and has fortified its position by an opinion from a railroad attorney named Lake. Achieving an honorable position as Chief Justice of Nebraska, and nursing aspirations for the United States Senate, he demonstrated his innate littleness of soul by relinquishing an honorable career in the service of the people and sinking into insignificant obscurity in the arms of a corporation.

"The returns of every election for the officers of the executive department shall be sealed up and transmitted by the returning officers to the secretary of state, directed to the speaker of the house of representatives, who shall, immediately after the organization of the house, and before proceeding to other business, open and publish the same in the presence of a majority of each house of the legislature, who shall for that purpose assemble in the hall of the house of representatives."

Now it will be observed that the above does not say that the person having the highest number of votes on the face of the returns shall be declared duly elected; but it says "the person having the highest number of votes." It will also be observed, on reflection, that this is the very point in controversy, and the point that must be investigated and determined before the fact can be declared. There has been no precedent anywhere for a case such as the present one in this state. Here was a conspiracy beginning with the census of the school children in Omaha, and going on through the U. S. census, the registration of voters, the choosing of election

MR. WINDOW'S NEW SCHEME.

Mr. Window has proposed in his forthcoming treasury report a scheme for easing the money market. The most important fact connected with this is the admission of the necessity for any measure of the kind. The scheme as near as we can gather is for the government to issue bonds at 1 1/2 or 2 per cent., to be convertible into money at the pleasure of the holder.

"In case of the death, impeachment and notice thereof to accused, FAILURE TO QUALIFY, resignation, absence from the state, or other disability of the governor, the powers, duties and emoluments of the office for the residue of the term, or until the disability shall be removed, shall devolve upon the lieutenant governor."

We beg leave to further suggest that the governor cannot "qualify" and be installed in office until he shall have been declared duly elected by the legislature, and that the same is true of the lieutenant governor. Also to the further obvious fact that under the above provisions of the constitution the chances for Gov. Thayer to hold the office after the expiration of his term have gone glimmering, and that some person who was at least elected to the legislature in the late cyclone will act as governor until the contest is decided.

THE DEMAGOGUERY OF DEMOCRACY.

This subject is brought to our attention by the use of the World-Herald in making of a letter written to it by Mr. McKeighan. This was a civil letter thanking the W. H. for its able support of him in the late campaign, and was right and proper. The letter was in no sense an endorsement of the W. H., nor an intimation of any desire for a fusion of the independents and democrats. But the W. H. has printed and is sending the letter all over the state to independent committeemen and officers, asking them to send it a short letter of "endorsement and encouragement" for its friendly attitude towards the alliance.

The W. H. advocated nothing but democracy in the late campaign. If there had been a straight democratic candidate for congress in the Second district it would have supported him. It did its best to defeat Powers and elect Boyd. It did its best to defeat Kem and elect Thompson. Its pretence of being on the fence deceives nobody. Its apparent "friendly attitude towards the alliance" reminds us of the picture in which the monkey had hold of the cat's paw.

This matter would be hardly worth attention if only the W. H. had made this proposition. But a letter from J. Sterling Morton was published November 13, which is worthy of more notice. Mr. Morton among other things says: "After so vigorous and effective warfare against protection and prohibition by the World-Herald, I am very much gratified to observe the wisdom of a good policy which directs its editorial advice to the alliance men and democrats as to the important questions which are vital to popular forms of government."

While during the late storm upon the sea of Nebraska politics, the alliance and democracy rallied around the same track, there was never anything in their signals or movements of hostility to each other. And therefore there should now be a most mutual and cordial friendship between the two parties which so thoroughly agree upon the greater economic question of our day and generation.

A convention to form a more perfect union between the alliance men and the democrats, made up of conservative, thinking, discreet men, to be held at Lincoln, say Jackson's day, January 8, 1891, might prove a judicious movement. Now let us give a few moments' consideration to J. Sterling Morton. First, he is a tariff crank. He has given the (total) labors of a splendid intellect to the study of the tariff, forgetting that it is simply a defective system of taxation, and that if it is abandoned another system would have to be substituted. In his opinion tariff reform is the only reform needed in this country to-day. Second, he is a born aristocrat. He is incapable of feeling a single emotion of sympathy for the great plain people. Third, he is at heart an ultra railroad monopolist. He believes the corporations should be left entirely alone to manage their own affairs in their own way. He has been one of the most persistent advocates, in season and out of season, of the repeal of the interstate commerce law. Fourth, he is an uncompromising hard-money man, and is hostile to any change in our money system in the direction now so popular with the people. He sees more millions put in the pockets of millionaires by law created franchises—he sees other millions put into the pockets of other millionaires by a vicious and class system of law-created money, yet says value cannot be created by law, in which he is simply a fool.

A tariff crank, an aristocrat, a monopolist, a gold-bug fanatic—this is the man who proposes a meeting of "conservative, thinking, discreet men" to cook up a union between the independents and democrats. Mr. Morton may rest assured that the "conservative, thinking, discreet men" he alludes to will not be at that meeting. And while we are about it we will put another flea in his ear, viz: the alliance is quite as hostile to the democrats as it is to the republicans.

It is first worthy that the above letter is the first paper that has been heard through this great democrat since Jim Boyd was nominated.

THE GREAT CONSPIRACY.

When we look at it in the light of later developments, the strength and shrewdness of the late election conspiracy, as well as its unprincipled villainy, stand out in bold relief. There were several important objects to be attained by a many different parties.

First—The whiskey party desired the defeat of prohibition. Second—The railroads desired to control the board of transportation. Third—The democrats desired to elect Jim Boyd.

Fourth—Rosewater wanted to be on top, no matter how the pile might stink. The railroads had no choice between Richards and Boyd. To control the board they would take either. But the whiskey men were opposed to Richards. Boyd was their man. Rosewater preferred Boyd, as he was an Omaha man and a saloon man. Besides, two weeks before election he had fully made up his mind that Boyd would be elected. He counted on the alliance democrats going back to their party, which they did not do. So the deal took this shape: Rosewater gave up his republicanism, Boyd gave up his democracy, the whiskey ring and the railroads took the middle of the road, having no ties anywhere, and they agreed on Boyd, Hastings, Benton and Majors. Rosewater engineered the drive. He is the only man in the state with just the stanic nerve required to do it.

It was a very strong combine. Rosewater having proposed it, he was entrusted with the direction of the details. This is his strong point. He had this state mapped down to the last precinct, his lieutenants appointed, paid and instructed. The result justified the expectations of the combine.

But like all villainous conspirators, they left one or two points unguarded. They did not sufficiently hide their gross infractions of the law. They employed too many roughs at the polls.

Another point they did not consider. They did not count on any contest. They did not consider that there might be men in Nebraska who would carry this thing to the court of last resort, and who would neither be bull-dozed, bribed or intimidated. They have run against a few just such men, and the question whether the suffrage can be violated and a governorship stolen will now be decided.

A SAMPLE YELP.

"Dear Burrows was probably the most thankful man in Lincoln as he sat down to his luxurious repast yesterday. But a few months ago he was a struggling farmer, and a mighty poor one at that; now he is the ruler of the state of Nebraska, with a wad of money, a fine house, and a crew to make and unmake men at his pleasure." The above is from the B. & M. Journal of the 28th. Its two sentences contain nine distinct lies. There is no "Dear Burrows." Mr. B. had no "luxurious repast" on Thanksgiving; he was not a "struggling farmer" a few months ago; he was not "a poor farmer," but on the contrary he was a very good one; he is not "the ruler of the state" or anything else; he has no "wad of money," but he is on the contrary a thousand dollars poorer than he was when he left his farm; he has no "fine house," but on the contrary rents a cheap house in the suburbs of Lincoln; and has no power to make or unmake any man.

We give the above as a sample yelp from a choice kennel of pups which have been suckled and fattened on B. & M. and state paper. We could add samples from the Bee, Kearney Hub and Grand Island Independent, all pitched to the same key—"Dictator Burrows," "King Burrows, etc., etc., ad nauseam." The only and sole object of this yelping is to injure the Alliance and the people's movement by circulating the belief that there is a political dictatorship at Lincoln, headed by Burrows, aiming at political power. They may accomplish this with those who have no sources of information except the slop buckets through which these puppies vent their malignant and baleful emanations. But with well informed people they will have no influence. Mr. Burrows has been in the Alliance for nine years. He is tolerably well known to the farmers of this state, and it is well enough to remember that in these years no charge of any corruption or any dishonest or underhanded act has been brought against him. Instead of being a dictator he is simply one unit of seventy thousand, and if he should drop out of the movement to-day his absence would not be perceptible, but the avalanche would move right on. This general abuse will not have its desired effect. Part of the people may be deceived for a while, but truth prevails in the long run. "All things come to him who waits."

LEASES OF SCHOOL LAND FALLING DUE.

Some school land leases which were made twenty years ago have fallen due, and payment has been enforced. Some persons are under the impression that this is done under a law lately passed, but such is not the case. It is in accordance with the terms of the contract of lease originally made, and because there is no officer having authority to change these contracts, as well as for the additional reason that under the law as it now exists the title of the lessees might be imperilled were the conditions of the contract not enforced.

Of course all leases made twenty years ago are in the eastern part of the state, and the lessees are not probably so hard up as they might be if further west. But the fact remains that the state does not want the principal of the money due on these leases, but only the interest; and that as soon as the money is paid it is for loan on the security of municipal bonds, which net the state a much lower rate of interest, in some cases not over 3 1/2 per cent. These bonds are generally first negotiated by operators at as large a discount as possible, and are sold to the state at an advance over the first rate. It thus happens that the very money paid by the farmer on the lease is soon reloaned over a bank counter at a usurious rate of interest.

One of the first duties of the new legislature will be to extend the time on these leases as long as the interest is promptly paid, and lower the interest to a rate corresponding to that which the state receives on the preferred securities it is allowed to invest in.

A NEEDED INVESTIGATION.

The U. S. District Judge at New Orleans is now being investigated by a joint committee of congress. There is a United States district court in this neck 'o' woods that ought to have some of the same kind of medicine.

THE WORLD-HERALD, MR. SHRADER AND THE INTEREST QUESTION.

We copy from the World-Herald of December 1 a very peculiar interview with Mr. Shrader, the independent representative elect from Logan and Custer counties. First we will premise that it will be entirely unfair to judge Mr. Shrader by this interview. The W. H. is crazy to enter into any kind of a compact in behalf of the democracy with anything and anybody who claims any affinity with the independents.

Therefore its claim that Mr. Shrader is a democrat-independent should perhaps be taken with considerable allowance. It has also been claimed for Mr. Shrader that leading republicans of Lancaster county desired him to be a candidate for speaker. In either or both cases he might well pray to be delivered from his friends. No more damaging claim could be made for him. The independent who undertakes to make a compact with either of these parties to secure a position commits political hari-kari beyond redemption.

Legitimate banking, as at present carried on in Nebraska, is a very equivocal term, and we presume it is the reporter's, not Mr. Shrader's. We presume a majority of the next legislature will propose to interfere with banking as at present carried on in Nebraska, legitimate or not. The majority of the banks of Nebraska are shaving shops of the worst kind. We presume also that a majority of the members of the next legislature do intend to lower the legal rate of interest in this state, as well as to put an end to the "wide-spread robbery" resulting from unchecked usury. We also presume that the people of this state will not be content to wait until a wild and impracticable scheme to unify the legislation of three or four western states can be completed before putting that reform in operation. We imagine such a proposition would be very acceptable indeed to the shylocks who infest Nebraska, as promising them longer immunity in their nefarious usury.

We have no doubt this interview does Mr. Shrader great injustice. The mere suspicion that he was coquetting with Omaha democrats at this time would be very injurious.

MR. WANAMAKER'S PANACEA.

All the little men of the country have some special panacea for the hard times. Mr. Wanamaker's is a postal savings bank. You see the trouble with the people just now is that they have got so much money they don't know what to do with it. With prices going down they don't like to invest it. Property might depreciate in their hands. With so many banks breaking just now they don't like to trust it to the banks, and there they stand "with a hat-full of dollars, and a champagne basket full of scrip," fearful of being robbed, and begging Mr. Wanamaker for some safe place to store that money where they will be sure of getting it when they want it.

Mr. Wanamaker and Mr. Window seem to be in competition in this business. Mr. Window thinks the people would like to put their money into a two per cent. bond, and that they can afford to pay the government two per cent to keep the money safe and interest convert it when wanted. It doesn't seem to have dawned on the opaque vision of either of these gentlemen that it is not so much a place to put money as it is money to put in a place, or a multitude of places, that is in demand by the people. We believe, however, that such is the case, and that if a great deal of additional money should be furnished, the people will find places for it in abundance, without investing it in two per cent. bonds. As for the postal savings banks, they are all right. But if these gentlemen wish to signalize their administration they had better study out some plan to furnish the people more money, and not trouble themselves about what they will do with it.

FREE FISH.

State Fish Commission Have Them for Distribution. A Letter From Commissioner McBride That is of Much Interest. Plant Fish Now. The following is a copy of a letter written by Commissioner McBride to an inquiry from Saline county regarding young fish for free distribution. It is of such general interest to all who are interested in fish culture that THE ALLIANCE publishes it that it may become generally known that young fry are to be obtained at the state fish hatchery by those who may wish them. The thoroughly practical and every way successful work that the commission is doing in the cultivation of a great product is not fully appreciated but if anyone with a small pond or stream desires to see what success will attend planting of food fish they should avail themselves of the opportunity to secure young fish now. The letter states the kind and varieties in stock and the best waters to place them in. Commissioner McBride says:

LINCOLN, Neb., Nov. 7, 1890. Dear Sir:—In reply to your letter regarding fish with which to stock your ponds I will say this: We have at the state hatcheries at South Bend, Neb., a good supply of German carp and black bass which are for gratuitous distribution at any time. These I regard as best for ponds. Late in the winter we shall have a supply of trout, three or four varieties, but they are better adapted to running streams of clear, cold water, and would not thrive in ponds of shallow stagnant water such as most ponds are. In the summer each year we have a bountiful supply of wall-eyed pike which do well in any pond of clear water.

Our fish car makes trips in various directions each month and you can advise the superintendent, M. E. O'Brien, South Bend, Neb., what kind of fish you want and you will be served in turn. If you are in doubt as to which kind of

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fish would do best or what number you want, I suggest that you describe the pond or stream to him. If a pond, give size and average depth and also state whether clear or muddy and whether stock drink from it or not. We aim to stock all running streams ourselves, but any one willing to assist us can get a supply of fish by applying to the superintendent.

We have a limited supply of lake trout which do well in deep, clear ponds. Very respectfully, J. C. McBRIDE, President Neb. Fish Com.

RATHER UNJUST.

It has become perfectly clear that the proposed cleaning of the Argoon tables by the independents in the contest of the results of the election has degenerated into a dirty conspiracy tooust Boyd. The combination of the railroads and the so-called independent leaders in the contest is a conspiracy to the masses of the party have had nothing to say, but the result will be that the voters will have a cheap mess of potato thrown to them in the shape of clerkships and pickings. Powers will be counted into an office to which he was not elected. And this is to be the pitiful end of a grand rush to avenge and rectify fraud and intimidation at the polls. It would be interesting to know how much cold cash has been put up on the side to buy off these virtuous statesmen.

And this is the aggregation of sneaks and scamps that have led 70,000 farmers of Nebraska through the campaign, so much in hand and so much promised, and the votes go uncounted, the returns examined, the frauds condoned, the wrongs unredressed. Frauds and cheats and knaves of a degree too far even, and they are at this thing. And it is the scheme to do it.—Lincoln Herald.

We cannot believe that Bro. Calhoun intended to write anything so grossly unjust as the above really is. There is no "dirty conspiracy" to oust Boyd. There is no combination of "railroads and so-called independent leaders." In fact, we believe the railroads are in favor of Mr. Boyd. There has been no concession of anything by the Deeks and Bates for any "cheap mess of potato." The allusion to Mr. Battie is particularly unkind. Just before election he was called to the bedside of his dying wife. He now mourns her death, and has had nothing to do with the contest except give his assent to it. There has been no "cold cash" put up by any one to buy up anybody. The term "aggregation of sneaks and vipers" does not fit the gentlemen who led the army of 70,000 in the late fight; and we predict that our generally magnanimous friend Calhoun was ashamed of that article before the type that it was struck from was distributed.

BEE STINGS.

Where ballots have been cast in the "mode provided by law," says the state supreme court, "the presumption is that they are legal, and this presumption cannot be overturned by vague, indefinite and uncertain testimony." This logical definition is commended to the sober consideration of Burrows, Powers & Co.

Burrows, Powers & Co. accept the above dicta as exactly right. If the Bee could understand plain English it would not put its foot in it as it has in the above. Whether the ballots were cast in certain precincts "in the mode provided by law" is exactly the question at issue, to determine which the contest has been instituted.

"The desperados of the combine are as great a menace to the prosperity of the city as the dark clouds of prohibition. Every citizen should rally once more for Omaha and place public interest in the keeping of reputable, progressive men."

"Rally once more" is good. The rally of Nov. 4th was for the purpose of placing the interests of the state in the keeping of "reputable progressive men." There are combines and combines. Their character, in the estimation of the Bee, depends entirely upon whether Rosewater is inside or outside.

"The most audacious piece of political jugglery which the combine has played on the eve of the city election is the selection as judges and clerks of the election at which they expect to be voted for of a choice assortment of their tools, accomplices and co-workers, in both parties."

Its audacity depends entirely on who is in it. But isn't it quite remarkable that while the election of Nov. 4th and all its concomitants were so peaceful and quiet—a perfect Sunday school, in fact—and there wasn't an ill-disposed man in the city on that day, that such a vile outfit as the Bee is depicting every day should blossom out as soon as that election was over?

"The outrages perpetrated at both democratic and republican primaries above party men from any obligation to support the nominees." This is merely a city election. At the state election Omaha was on its good behavior, and the election was as quiet as a Sunday school. Rosey is singing.

"I want to be an angel, And with the angels stand."

"Have not the franchised corporations received every public privilege they have asked for? Do they want a perpetual mortgage on the city government?"

That's what they want, and Jay Gould wants a perpetual mortgage on the United States, and the Bee has gone in to help him get it.

DAVE BUTLER NOT A MEMBER OF THE ALLIANCE.

The World-Herald prints an interview with Dave Butler, in which it says he is a member of the state central committee of the Farmers' Alliance. This is not true. The man has no official connection whatever with the Alliance, and not even a member of a subordinate Alliance. By a vote of the state committee his name was taken off the list of campaign speakers. He is a handler of boodle for the B. & M. railroad company or for anyone who has corruption money to invest. We deem it our duty to protect the fair name of the Alliance by denying such statements as the World-Herald's.

THE CHICAGO EXPRESS.

That time-honored greenback advocate, the Chicago Express, has gone out of business for the people, it having been bought by the Lord & Thomas newspaper advertising agency. It's able editors, Mr. Alfred Clark and Mrs. Marion Todd, are out of a job. If it is attempted to continue it as an advocate of the people's rights it will be a fraud. Send no more subscriptions to it.