

STUPENDOUS FARCE.

National Farmers' Congress Meets in Lincoln—Controlled by Wall Street Farmers and Dudes.

THE FARMER WASN'T IN IT.

In Dealing Openly Defended—Road Improvement the Only Reform Demanded.

"Calamity" Weller Makes a Great Speech on Money—The Congress Sits Down Hard on All Calamity Howlers.

Brief Account of the Meeting.

The farmers of the United States are certainly rising in the world. They are being recognized as a political factor. Why only a short time ago, the office of Secretary of agriculture was created and Uncle Jerry Rusk appointed to fill it. And Wall street was kind enough to permit this without protest. And why not? Certainly so long as Wall street has the president, and the secretary of the treasury, it should not object to the farmers having Uncle Jerry in the cabinet to collect statistics, distribute garden seeds, and quarrel with Dr. Billings about hog cholera germs.

But this is not all by any means: The farmers now have a congress. Just how they got it, whether it was discovered or invented and if so by whom, perhaps not one farmer in ten thousand knows. And what it is for, is as Lord Dundreary would say, "one of those things which no fellow can find out." But the farmers have got a congress, that's certain, for it met in Lincoln last week. And as far as we have heard no objections have been raised by the gold bugs and protected manufacturers of the east, or the railroad kings of the west. In fact they all seem very much pleased that the farmers should have a congress of their own. The other fellows have a congress that meets at Washington every winter to look after their interests, and so long as the farmers don't interfere with their congress, these gold-bugs, tariff-barons, and railroad kings will encourage the farmers to have a congress of their own. Indeed the railroads have shown their sympathy by transporting many of the leading members hundreds of miles "free gratis." And the gold-bugs, manufacturers, grain gamblers and railroad kings all showed their burning interest in the farmers by sending some of their friends, nice slick talkers, to tell the farmers what a grand and glorious business they were in, what a wonderful, and prosperous country this is, and urge them to reform the only thing that needs reforming in the nation—the country roads! Surely the farmer's future is before him; he is a coming man!

But about this meeting. About a year ago, it was announced that the farmers congress had decided to hold its next meeting in Lincoln. But the people had forgotten pretty much all about it, especially the farmers. You see it is such a well regulated, self-adjusting affair that it doesn't require a particle of attention on the part of the farmers. No members to elect, no salaries to pay. The governor of each state kindly elects one member from each congressional district, and he usually selects fellows to whom the expense is a small matter. Then all in the world the farmer has to do is to attend the meetings and let his bosom swell with pride and patriotism.

So the meeting at Lincoln had to be announced and heralded a good deal by the news-papers, especially the republican papers who were particular to say that this congress was a "non-partisan" affair. Fearing the farmers wouldn't hear of it, (for most of them have quit reading the republican papers) Hon. ex-Governor K. W. Furnas, Secretary of agriculture-at-large for Nebraska sent out special invitations to a large number of farmers asking them to attend as honorary members. He even included several alliance men.

So on the appointed day November 22, at 10 o'clock in the morning, the congress met. There were delegates present as follows: Illinois 8, Iowa 13, Kansas 5, Nebraska 8, Maine 2, Massachusetts 1, Rhode Island 1, Georgia 1, Oklahoma 1, Colorado 1. There were also a number of visitors present, and about two dozen honorary members who could make remarks but had no right to vote.

What the congress lacked in numbers, was made up by the polish and dignity of its leading members. Most of them wore the finest dress suits, shining plug hats, an air of superlative dignity, and had "Hon." neatly tacked on to the front end of their names. There were some actual farmers present. We are willing to vouch for that. We found one in the Illinois delegation; the delegate from Colorado was a farmer; several of the Iowa men were farmers, and most of Nebraska's delegates were actual farmers of the "non-partisan" variety.

The president of the congress is the venerable W. Smith, governor of Kansas, who is a farmer, and is a very successful one. Therefore he was suffering from a political collapse which



VOL. IV.

LINCOLN, NEB., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1892.

NO. 25

occurred November 8. The vice-president, Hon. D. G. Purse of Savannah, Georgia, called the meeting to order. He is a short chunky man with a very bald head, a benevolent forehead, and an air of the most supreme dignity and self-satisfaction. His farming is mostly of a political character, although it was rumored that he owns a plantation. After Col. Purse had made a few remarks, Rev. G. W. Crofts of Beatrice offered prayer. Then the University band played a medley. Then Governor Boyd was introduced, and delivered a very glowing address of welcome. He regarded the farmers as the strength and bulwark of the nation. He said the tiller of the soil was the prime influence in elevating us as a nation to the proud destiny and splendor. He then went back to the days of Adam and Noah when agriculture was in its infancy, spoke of the Romans, and finally got back to Nebraska again. The following are his remarks on NEBRASKA'S AGRICULTURAL GREATNESS.

And I may say to you, that while Nebraska is yet a young state, with thousands of acres of soil yet unbroken and unturned by man, its magnitude, its productive capacity, its marvelous resources are beyond the appreciation of even those who people its vast expanses. Within the boundaries of this state there are 48,758,400 acres of which 34,000,000 acres yet remain unimproved; and of this vast area 11,000,000 still belong to the public domain and yet accessible to those who desire to avail themselves of the nation's bounty. The value of land under cultivation at the low estimate of \$15 per acre is \$210,000,000, while the land uncultivated at the low estimate of \$3 per acre approximates \$100,000,000.

But the greatest surprise comes in studying the magnitude of its farm products. In the year 1891 the farmers of Nebraska raised 251,895,996 bushels of corn, the value of which approximated \$50,000,000. In 1891 only three states exceeded this. In the same year they raised 10,571,059 bushels of wheat, valued at \$6,000,000; 43,843,640 bushels of oats valued at \$11,000,000; and of rye, barley, potatoes and hay, a property whose value was \$10,000,000. In all gentlemen, showing a total value of farm output amounting to \$77,000,000. The department of agriculture, for the year 1891, furnishes the following figures in round numbers, regarding the value of our farm animals: Horses and mules, \$40,000,000; cattle \$37,000,000; hogs, \$13,000,000; sheep \$700,000; a total of over \$90,000,000. These might be regarded as stupendous results for any state, but especially so for Nebraska, when it is recalled that less than one-third of its territory is under cultivation, and but a short spell ago it was comparatively unknown. And for this reason I do not wish you to consider me vain when I say, to you representatives of other vast and fertile empires of land, that our beloved state claims an equal honor with your own to share in the nation's splendid crown.

In the senate hall at the other end of this building you will find a unique display of the agricultural products of Nebraska; of cereals and grasses, native and cultivated, goods manufactured from its products, notably, beet sugar, chicory, oils, binding twine, Nebraska tanned and manufactured leather goods; also a handsome floral display, to which your inspection is invited.

Governor Boyd then touched on some needed reforms in a distant "non-partisan" sort of a way. He was evidently laboring under a misapprehension. He seemed to think the congress had met to discuss economic problems and demand reforms. He was evidently judging from his own experience with the farmers of Nebraska, for he suggested that the laws governing common carriers needed reforming; that the tariff wasn't a good thing for western farmers, and that the consumer paid the tariff, as well as the overcharge on the railroads, etc. He then finished his address in the following words:

"I have no doubt that all such features of our national economy will receive your intelligent consideration. I am pleased to note also, the thoroughly non-partisan spirit in which you are assembled to deliberate upon them. "A national congress of farmers aloof and above political sentiment and desire of political access seems somewhat anomalous at this time, when a party, whose flag is the interest of the farmer, has made such a showing of strength and importance in our national affairs. But I say to you, this anomaly is very welcome just the same. In behalf of the people of the state, let me again say, you are welcome."

It is a suggestive though painful fact that Governor Boyd mistook the character of that congress. It didn't even come up to his ideas of reform. Hon. Pope Yeaman of Missouri then responded to Governor Boyd in a

labored and very dignified way. He spoke of farming as the "high God-ordained occupation of tilling the soil," referred to the "marvelous development of the great west," and the "world conquering civilization of the United States."

This Hon. Yeaman is the gentleman who worked with U. S. Hall of Missouri last year in the effort to split the southern alliance by getting up on anti-subtreasury convention. Mayor Weir was next introduced. He welcomed the congress to Lincoln "the best city on the continent." He said:

"The city is yours. The locks are broken. The gates are off their hinges and stand wide open. Not a key will be turned on anything and, in the language of the classics, 'if you don't see what you want, ask for it,' and you will find our resources equal to almost every demand, intellectually, legally, socially—from the university to the penitentiary. If there is one element in our country that lies at the very foundation of all our prosperity, it is found in the farmer class. One of the first lessons my father taught me was that when the farmer was prosperous everybody was prosperous. When the farmer was struggling with hard times, business of every kind was depressed. And I have found these sayings to be oracles in my own experience. Hence I believe every effort to develop the farmers' interests, is an effort in the direction of the entire country's best welfare."

Rev. W. F. Crofts of Beatrice then came forward and read a very nice welcome in poetry which started out as follows:

Hail benefactors of our race,
Of brain and brawn and honest face,
For you my harp I gladly string,
And join this hearty welcome.

Then Farmer C. A. Atkinson, secretary of Lincoln's board of trade, last of the welcome-givers gave Lincoln as big a boom as he could. He thought farming was the "basis of every other industry, and the farmers were the bone and sinew of the nation." He said it took some brains and energy to farm. "The man who whittles dry goods boxes, prates about politics, and spends most of his time in telling how the whole country should be run, never succeeds at farming." He evidently intended this as a delicate compliment to the alliance men present, and it was received with applause by the fellows who wore the plug hats. After showing some ears of self-popping corn, Mr. Atkinson subsided.

Col. Daniel Needham of Boston responded. He will be described farther on. He gave his imagination and eloquence full scope in describing the greatness of this country all of which he attributed to the farmers. It took all forenoon for these "representative farmers" to get through welcoming and being welcomed, and expatiating on the wonderful progress and development of this country, and the great dignity of farming.

All this time the alliance farmers present sat there with eyes and mouths open taking it all in. Their bosoms didn't heave with gratitude to any alarming extent. They looked like country boys listening to a fairy story or a myth.

AFTERNOON SESSION.
A committee of one from each state was appointed on resolutions. A number of resolutions were presented, and then Hon. Pope Yeaman of Missouri read a paper on the "Inter-dependence of Agriculture and Transportation." He said all industries depend on one another to a certain extent, and this is especially true of agriculture and transportation. He thought agriculture was the more independent of the two for farmers could get along after a fashion without the railroads, but the railroads couldn't well get along if they didn't have farm products to carry. Under such circumstances he didn't see why agriculture should be made subservient to the corporations. He referred to railroad discrimination, corruption of legislatures, etc. Producers are struggling to make ends meet and there must be something out of joint in this country. Capital invested in farming is paying only one per cent, while capital engaged in manufacturing is making an average of eleven per cent.

Mr. Yeaman went on at some length with very good anti-monopoly talk. Several Nebraska railroad tools looked very plumb while the old man was talking against the roads, but he soon put them all in good humor by showing that his reform ideas were toothless. He was opposed to government ownership of railroads. It was too ridiculous to consider. (A applause.) Finally he came to the solution of the railroad problem, and it was "water navigation, improvement of rivers and harbors." Up

(Continued on 5th page)

A HOPEFUL OUTLOOK.

THE MONETARY CONFERENCE MAY NOT BE A FAILURE.

SILVER'S PROSPECTS ARE BRIGHT.

A Favorable Committee Selected to Pass Upon De Rothschild's Proposition—The Plans of President Levi and Professor Soetber Also to Be Considered—American Delegates Encouraged.

BRUSSELS, Nov. 30.—The committee appointed by the international monetary conference to consider the proposals of Alfred de Rothschild, which were presented to the conference yesterday, is made up as follows: Sir C. Freemantle, Great Britain; Sir Gailford L. Molesworth, India; Henry W. Cannon, United States; M. de Foville, France; Signor Sianelli, Italy; C. F. Tietjen, Denmark; N. P. van der Berg, Netherlands; Hans L. Torsell, Sweden and Norway; Señor Osma, Spain; M. Cramer Noey, Switzerland; M. Sainctelto, Belgium, and M. Raffalovitch, Russia. Alfred de Rothschild, Great Britain, and M. Montefiore Levi, president of the conference, are ex-officio members of the committee. The committee will also consider the plans suggested by M. Levi and Prof. Adolph Soetber.

The plan of Mr. de Rothschild is, in brief, that a syndicate of nations be formed to make yearly purchases of silver to the amount of 5,000,000,000 sterling, and that America continue her purchases of silver as at present. In the event of the price of silver rising above 43d per ounce, the purchases are to be at once suspended.

Prof. Soetber's plan is to establish one gramme of fine gold as the international unit of value and to stop the minting of coins containing less than 3.5065 grammes of pure gold—worth about 84. The circulation of coin of foreign countries of less than this standard will be prohibited by the countries signing the agreement and gold coin of inferior value will be withdrawn within five years. Private individuals will be allowed to coin gold on the payment of an agreed seigniorage. Gold certificates may be issued against gold held in reserve. The coinage of silver in the proportion of twenty units value of that metal to one of gold is included but private individuals will not be allowed free coinage of silver.

Of the committee that will consider the proposals five members are avowed bimetalists, six monometalists and one doubtful. The committee will sit twice each day.

The American delegates have strong reasons to be satisfied with the recognition by the advocates of monometallism of the seriousness of the dangers arising from a further fall in silver. They are disposed to support M. de Rothschild's proposals on the principle that half a loaf is better than no bread.

The American delegates believe that the continuous absorption of 30,000,000 ounces of silver by Europe would bring about artificially a condition of the silver market which international bimetalism could establish permanently and scientifically.

The delegates are combining some pleasure with their work, the interchange of dinners proceeding almost nightly. At the conclusion of the conference the burgomaster contemplates giving a grand municipal ball in honor of the delegates.

ROCK ISLAND OPERATORS.
They Decide to Have Increased Pay or Go On a Strike.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Nov. 30.—The committee of the Order of Railway Telegraphers which had been for two weeks working on a schedule of wages for Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific employees, completed its work yesterday and left last night for Chicago to present the schedule to the heads of the road. It calls for a minimum of \$45 per month on both main line and branches and for an increase of from \$5 to \$15 per month for all men now receiving \$45 or over. In all offices where but one operator is employed and when he is compelled to do extra work, pay is asked for at the rate per hour as is paid for regular work. For extra work done at night they ask one and one-third the scale paid for day work.

In case the request of the committee of telegraphers is not granted arrangements have been completed to order a strike over the entire Rock Island system.

Was He Poisoned?

DAVID CITY, Neb., Nov. 30.—A jury in the Armagost poisoning case has been secured after occupying the time of the court for four days and exhausting the regular panel and special venues of 180 names. The only witness put on the stand so far is Dr. A. J. Chamberlain of Ulysses, who attended Mr. Roberts during his last illness. He was called February 20, 1887, and diagnosed the case as a bilious attack. Mrs. Roberts expressed the opinion that her husband would not recover. The patient was suffering from pains in the bowels, headache and pain in the right side. The doctor left the medicine usual for such cases and returned the next day. He was surprised that they had not had the desired effect. He found the patient suffering from impaction of the bowels, and, as he thought, bilious colic. The doctor described the symptoms produced by arsenical poison and said they were the symptoms of the case of A. J. Roberts. He had inquired particularly of the time of the second visit in regard to what the patient had been eating, and at the time Mrs. Roberts told him that her husband had eaten a large quantity of cabbage a few days before; that he had on former occasions had sick spells similar to this from eating cabbage and that the doctors had told him that if he ever ate cabbage again it would kill him. Mrs. Roberts was the only person to whom directions for giving medicines prescribed were given.

The time of the court was taken up this forenoon in proving the death and burial of the victim, the identification of the grave and the testimony of Coroner Roys in regard to exhuming the body and delivering certain parts to Prof. Mueller for analysis. The afternoon was taken up by the expert testimony of Prof. Martin Mueller, who made the chemical analysis of the parts. He described the manner of making the analysis and said over a grain of white arsenic was found in the parts tested.

Badly Hurt.

OMAHA, Nov. 30.—E. S. Hart, a brakeman on the Union Pacific, met with an accident that came near resulting very seriously for him. He was on a stock train between Omaha and South Omaha, when something about the brake under one of the cars got out of order. He stooped down and stuck his head out at the side of the car to make an investigation. Just as he raised his head a switch lever struck him and knocked him headlong from the train. He was picked up unconscious and brought to his home, 1707 Sixth avenue. A huge gash had been cut in the back of his head, and had to be sewed up. His injuries are not considered dangerous.

Burglary and Fire.

VERDIGREE, Neb., Nov. 30.—A disastrous fire occurred here at 3 o'clock yesterday morning, destroying the general store of Pavlik & Beran, J. K. Schmidt's hardware and furniture store, Vac Jedlicka's store building and the central hotel. The losses were as follows: Pavlik & Beran, \$6,000; insurance, \$3,000; Schmidt's, \$2,000; insurance, \$1,000; Jedlicka, \$700; insurance, \$500; Central hotel, \$2,500; insurance, \$1,500. Burglars cracked Pavlik & Beran's safe, securing \$75, and fired the building to cover their tracks, the fire spreading to adjoining buildings. All the buildings and stocks were insured in the Home Fire of Omaha.

George Gets a Whipping.

OMAHA, Nov. 30.—Miss Lottie Shields, a well known young lady, created something of a sensation about 5 o'clock last evening by calling George M. Winkleman, a clerk in the First National bank, outside the counting room and giving him an artistic whipping with a nice new buggy whip, accompanying her actions with a torrent of burning words. Winkleman had been engaged to the young lady, but had jilted her for another.

McCook In It.

MCCOOK, Neb., Nov. 30.—The merchant tailoring establishment of H. Kapke was burglarized last night, goods to the amount of over \$100 being stolen, and included an overcoat and a number of suitings. A young man by the name of Allen Rice has been arrested on suspicion and is now confined in the city jail. He is the individual who figured in the robbery of a way car a few months since and broke jail.

THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT from now till January 1, 1894, for only \$1.00. Subscribe now.

POISONERS AT WORK.

AN INDIANA FAMILY MARKED FOR EXTERMINATION.

POISON IN THE BREAD AND WATER.

The Family of William Crawley Stricken by Arsenical Poisoning—One Child Already Dead and the Father Not Expected to Live—Other Members of the Family Ill—Much Excitement.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Nov. 30.—There is much excitement at Liberty, Ind., over a poisoning case that has already resulted in one death and will probably result in at least one more. Some weeks ago William Crawley, with his wife and 6-year-old son, was taken suddenly ill. Two weeks later the child died.

The sickness of the family was diagnosed by attendant physicians as due to arsenical poisoning. Two weeks ago Crawley and his wife were again stricken and Crawley is now lying at the point of death. The first poisoning came from the drinking water, the second from bread eaten by Crawley and his wife. Others who ate of the bread were also taken sick, but not dangerously. A portion of this bread has been analyzed and was found to contain a large amount of arsenic. The body of the child will be exhumed for further investigation.

Held Up a Policeman.

CHICAGO, Nov. 30.—Details of police are scouring the country and suburbs southwest of the city for two masked highwaymen, who are making the residents of Riverside, Berwin, Hawthorne, Lyons and Clyde feel very uncomfortable. The boldest piece of work charged to this gang is the holding up and robbing of Policeman Keefe, of Cicero. He was relieved of all his small change and his pistol.

William Dalton Kills a Deputy Marshall.

MUSKOGEE, Ok., Nov. 30.—Word comes that William Dalton, a brother of the notorious bandits, shot and killed Deputy Marshal Chapman in a quarrel yesterday. The shooting occurred about forty miles west of here. The trouble grew out of a dispute over a horse Emmet Dalton had bought, or claimed to have bought, from Chapman before the Coffeyville raid.

Arrested on the Strength of a Dream.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 30.—The police have arrested George Demand, suspected of being the murderer of Josie Simmons on October 11 last. A peculiar feature of the arrest is that Demand was arrested at the instance of August Wossman, the lover of the murdered girl, who told the police he had dreamed Demand was the murderer.

Shot Two Negroes.

MARSHALL, Mo., Nov. 30.—At Arrow Rock, Saturday night, Elias Shannon, a young man, shot two negroes, Will and Harvey Parker, with a shotgun, seriously and probably fatally wounding the former. The cause of the trouble is not known.

CHEROKEE STRIP.

Senators Perkins and Higgins Not in Favor of Ousting the Intruders.

GUTHRIE, Ok., Nov. 30.—Senators Perkins of Kansas, and Higgins of Delaware, spent yesterday in Guthrie. They are members of a special senate committee to investigate the Cherokee intruder question and come from the Cherokee capital here.

They feel that it would be unwise for congress to comply with the demands of the Cherokees for the removal of the 7,000 intruders, many of whom have been there for twenty years, from that nation, and think the stipulation to that effect in the Cherokee strip treaty will be stricken out.

This will necessitate the referring of the treaty back to the Cherokee council. Senator Perkins says, however, that both houses of congress will undoubtedly ratify the treaty very early in the coming session, with this single exception, and the Cherokees will then act in time for the land to be opened early in the spring.

Wreck on the Missouri Pacific.

RICH HILL, Mo., Nov. 30.—At 7 o'clock yesterday morning a serious freight wreck occurred on the Missouri Pacific railway, ten miles south of here. A freight train was running south in two sections. The first section broke in two and the second section, which was running at a high rate of speed, crashed into it, telescoping five cars and completely wrecking them as well as the engine of the second section. The men who were in the caboose of the first section jumped and escaped serious injuries, but Fireman Turner of the second section, was badly hurt.

Ghastly Find at Pittsburg.

PITTSBURG, Kan., Nov. 30.—The body of a dead and badly decomposed man was accidentally found by some boys who were out on a hunting trip about three miles from this city. The man was about 70 years of age and rather nearly dressed. There was blood on his shirt and overcoat. By his side were found an empty bottle, two knives and several other things. On searching the pockets nothing was discovered to lead to his identity. It is a very mysterious affair. The coroner is investigating.

Killed by Poisonous Berries.

GUTHRIE, Ok., Nov. 30.—The three children of a farmer named Landes, living twenty miles north of here, went hunting blackbaws on Saturday, and ate a number of other strange berries which they found on vines. All were taken very sick and two of them died yesterday. The third child is very low, but may recover.

Wants to Be Labor Commissioner.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Nov. 30.—Hon. Albert W. Flores, of Nodaway county, is in the city. He has announced to his friends that he will be an applicant for commissioner of labor statistics under Governor-elect Stone.