

# LANDLORDS, TENANTS.

What the Census Reports for Kansas, Ohio and Iowa Show—The Independent Farmer is Disappearing.

## SOME STARTLING STATISTICS.

**Less Than One-Third of the Families of the Nation Occupy Homes Which They Own Free of Mortgage.**

### The Change is Coming.

The New York Times of August-12, 1877, said:

"There seems to be but one remedy and that must come, a change of ownership of the soil; that is, tenant farmers on the one hand and landlords on the other, like that which has long existed in Europe and our own state of California. Everything seems ripe for the change; half the farms of the country are ready to be sold if the buyers would only appear."

The change spoken of by the New York Times is now rapidly taking place.

The proof of this is found in such startling facts as the following shown by the census bulletins:

### FARM OWNERSHIP.

In Kansas in 1880 only 13 per cent. of the farms were rented.

In 1890, ten years later, 33 per cent. of the families in Kansas were renting farms. An increase in tenantry of from 13 to 33 per cent in ten years. If the increase continues at that rate how long before the change will be complete?

Kansas is a new state. Let us turn to one of the old settled states and see what the census shows. In Ohio in 1880 about 25 per cent. of the farms were rented.

In 1890, more than 37 per cent. of the families in Ohio were renters.

In Iowa in 1880, 23 per cent. of the farms were rented. In 1890 over 29 per cent.

The statistics of tenancy have only been reported for a few states, but every report so far has shown a rapidly increasing percentage of tenants.

But these figures, startling as they are, by no means show the full extent to which this change has already gone. The man who has a mortgage on his farm is a virtual tenant to a greater or less extent. And unless industrial conditions change, it is only a question of time when most of the mortgaged farms will become rented farms.

The census returns from Kansas show that nearly two-thirds of the families owning farms in Kansas own them subject to mortgages. The same is true of over one-fifth of the owning families in Ohio, and of more than one-half the owning families of Iowa.

The following table shows the percentage of families renting farms, the percentage owning mortgaged farms and the percentage owning free farms in the three states:

State	Tenants	Mortgaged	Free
Kansas	33%	43%	24%
Ohio	37%	43%	20%
Iowa	29%	37%	34%

Thus we see that in Kansas less than one-fourth the farmers own farms free of incumbrance, in Ohio one half and in Iowa one-third.

Truly the change spoken of by the plutocratic sheet of New York is well advanced. It will be completed in a few more years.

### HOME OWNERSHIP.

The above statistics relate to farmers alone. When we include the cities and consider the whole population, the results are still more startling and suggestive.

Below we give a table showing what percentage of the whole number of families, in both city and country, are (1) tenants, (2) families owning mortgaged homes and (3) families owning free homes:

State	Tenants	Mortgaged	Free
Kansas	48%	27%	25%
Ohio	60%	7%	33%
Iowa	36%	29%	35%

A comparison of these tables reveals some very interesting and suggestive facts. It will be seen that the percentage of families renting homes is much greater than the percentage renting farms, while the percentage of mortgaged homes is correspondingly less than the percentage of mortgaged farms. This indicates that the process of changing this republic into a nation of landlords and tenants has gone on more rapidly in the cities than in the country. In Kansas where only one-third of the farmers are tenants, nearly one-half of the whole number rent homes. In Ohio where 37 farmers out of 100 rent farms nearly 70 families out of 100 rent homes. The difference is all in the cities where the bulk of the population has been reduced to a state of tenantry-at-will.

Another suggestive fact is revealed by these tables. In the old settled state of Ohio, the percentage of tenants is larger and the percentage of mortgaged farms and homes smaller. It should be remembered that the mortgaged farmer or home-owner is in the intermediate state between independent ownership and tenantry. As time passes the mortgaged class decreases and the tenant class increases. The final result of the change will be

to wipe out this intermediate class and leave but the two classes, landlords and tenants. Now these tables show that in the older settled state of Ohio this process of changing the owners of mortgaged farms and homes into tenants has advanced much farther than it has in the newly settled western states.

The signs of the times are so plain that "he who runs may read," and "a way-faring man though a fool need not err therein." Not only the capital of the country, but the land, is being rapidly centralized into the hands of the few. Unless a change comes, it is only a question of a few years when the whole population of the country will be divided into but two classes, the very rich and the very poor, landlords and tenants.

Henry George, observing the tendency of the times, and fore-seeing its inevitable result, a few years ago, predicted that the people would be ready to accept his "single tax" system before many years. It remains to be seen whether a people who have been reduced to tenantry and poverty have enough manhood left to adopt and carry out any system of reform.

Will a people who have not the courage and intelligence to resist the forces which are reducing them, to serfdom, have the mental and moral stamina to regain their liberty after they are reduced to serfdom?

### Parliament and Congress.

It has been said of the English House of Commons that it has more sense than any one of its members. Professor Bryce, in his great work on the American Commonwealth, points out very many delinquencies of the American Congress, and he teaches us that when judged by the wisdom of its action, our Congress compares unfavorably with European legislatures, and especially does it compare unfavorably with the English Parliament. Yet when he compares the personnel of the American House of Representatives with that of the English House of Commons, he surprises us by saying: "Their average business capacity did not seem to me below that of the members of the House of Commons of 1880-'85." Our standard of intelligence is lowered by the absence of a few great lights which adorn the English House, but it is raised, according to Mr. Bryce, by the absence of certain classes who, in the English House, are conspicuous for their lack of intelligence. If, then, we take without allowance all those statements, we would seem to reach this conclusion: there is something about the English House of Commons which makes its action wiser than would be the action of the wisest individual statesman; while there is something about the American legislature which makes its actions less wise than would be the action of its average member.—From Prof. Jesse Macy's article on "Parliamentary Procedure in the November Annals of the American Academy."

### Our Law Makers.

According to the Grand Island Independent, the occupation of the members of our next legislature will be divided as follows: "Out of one hundred members in our next house sixty-two are farmers, nine are lawyers six are merchants, four are bankers, three are editors, two are real estate dealers, two are contractors, one is a grain dealer, one a commission merchant, one a physician, one a stock and coal dealer, one an abstractor, one a nurseryman, one a cigar maker, one a school teacher, the occupation of one is unknown, and one is a preacher. The thirty-three in the senate are composed of fifteen farmers, three lawyers, three real estate dealers, two merchants, two clergymen, two bankers, one stock yard manager, one stock dealer, one capitalist, one editor, one speculator, and one brewer."

### Who Owns America?

The railroad companies own 211,000,000 acres, or enough to make six states as large as Iowa. The Vanderbilts own over 2,000,000 acres; Mr. Disston of Pennsylvania owns over 4,000,000; the Standard Oil company, 1,000,000; and Murphy of California an area equal to that of Massachusetts. The Schenley estate owns land from which the heirs have received annually \$1,000,000. Twenty-one million acres are owned by foreigners, who owe no allegiance to our government, and are no friends to a republic. What will our children own?—a right to pay rent.—Tulare Citizen.

### Nothing Surprising About It.

The much talked of money conference is now in session at Brussels. The conference promises to be long and tedious, as such meetings usually are, and will probably hold over Christmas. We may rest assured that whatever recommendations are made will be in favor of the banking interests of the world. Mr. Cannon, one of the American delegates and president of a national bank, while in London was, with others, courteously shown through the bank of England, and dined with the governor and other officials.—Progressive Farmer.

### The Basic Monopoly.

Many a man could easily work his way out of poverty, debt and dependence, if he only had a bit of the land which other people are not using, or was not compelled to pay for the use of that which others do not need. Land monopoly is the basis of that system by which an idle and non-useful class are enabled to live in plenty and enjoyment at the expense of the world's workers. It is a vicious system and must be overthrown by educating public opinion against the enormity of it. Man's access to land must not remain a bought or hired privilege, but become an asserted right.—Bertrand Herald.

## SOME QUEER VOTING.

Why Voters Make Mistakes—The Australian Law Needs Amending.

Editor ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT:

I have promised a number of our independent voters that I would start the question concerning most necessary changes on our present election laws in THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT. I will do this now in due season so as to give opportunity to hear different views on the subject. All with whom I have met admit that our election laws can be improved, but how is not so easily settled. I think there is one change which will meet with the approval of every honest voter.

I have always been under the impression that the way of printing the ticket is the greatest fault, and your last week's report about the "g. o. p. tricks" concerning Mr. McKeighan of the "fifth district" confirms me in my belief. I have been on the election board both times since our new law took effect, and it was easy to see that many voters made mistakes. Some of our foreigners who may have as good an education as the average American will not swear that they can't make out their ticket. It is too humiliating for them, and I don't blame them for it. They would rather run their chances of getting them right and in most cases they thus vote to some extent against their own sentiments.

I will state some few examples which occurred in our precinct: A man voted for five republican electors and five democrats. A man voted for independent governor and republican lieutenant governor. One voted for but one elector and four road supervisors. Another voted for sixteen electors. One ticket I remember ran about thus: Seven democratic electors, one independent elector, republican governor, democratic lieutenant governor, prohibition secretary of state, independent auditor, republican treasurer, independent attorney general, two commissioners of public lands and buildings, prohibition and democratic, two congressmen independent-democrat and prohibition, etc, until he came to road supervisor when he voted for all four candidates. Now that ticket showed that either the man's politics were most terribly mixed or he did not know what he was about; the latter most probable. I could give other examples but these will prove what I want to prove and that is: "Our ticket must be plainer," and not give so much opportunity for mistakes and for "shenanigans" (has Webster got the word?) in the printing. I like the Indiana law. There the ticket of each party is printed in a separate column. I suppose you are better posted on this than I am and I know you would do us a favor in explaining it in your next number. Then we can talk it over with our legislators and senators if we are lucky enough to have them on our side. They can thus find out the sentiment of the people and vote intelligently when they go to Lincoln. Very respectfully yours,  
A. S. LOHMANN.

### COMMENTS.

No doubt hundreds of other election officers have "canvassed" just such ballots as Mr. Lohmann describes. As we stated last week there is a very general sentiment for a change. This is not a parti-an question. Democrats and republicans are just as much interested as independents in improving the present law. Hence voters of all parties should discuss this matter, and make their conclusions known to their members of the legislature.

The Indiana ballot has each ticket in a separate column. At the head of each ticket is a picture. A rooster heads the democratic ticket. An eagle stands at the head of the republican column. A cottage heads the prohibition ticket and a farmer and a laboring man grasping hands is the emblem of the populists. The voter who desires to vote the straight ticket of his party simply puts an X opposite the head of the ticket. If he desires to vote a mixed ticket, he must omit the X at the head of ticket and place an X opposite the name of each candidate voted for.

There are of course objections to this form of ballot. The chief objection is that it conduces to the voting of straight tickets. Hundreds of voters who might exercise judgment in choosing between candidates in voting the ballot we now have in Nebraska, would not do so, if they can dispense with the whole matter by making an X opposite the head of the ticket. Against this it may be argued that the intelligent voter who really wants to use a little time and judgment in making out his ballot, can do so as easily with the Indiana ballot as with any other.

This question should be thoroughly debated in literary societies and political clubs of the state during the next two months.

### EDITOR.

#### Resignation a Crime.

For a long time a sham angel, with borrowed robes of virtue and a stolen sceptre of authority, has tried to persuade the world that fortitude and submission combined are lovely, and that a suffering creature on his knees with teeth set to unmurmuringly bear and endure, is a spectacle worthy both of sympathy and reverence. To this counterfeit angel many men and women have written beautiful, sad poems and pathetic stories, and many thousands of people, but chiefly almost wholly women, have offered up their uncompelling, unprotesting lives, with a martyr's confident hope of future reward. All this is profoundly wrong; for patience under evil is tacit encouragement of evil, and to submit to pain is to sanction the torture. Resignation is selfishness under another name, is cowardice under a white veil of goodness. The patient endurance of wrong leaves wrong free to elsewhere spread itself in this generation and to transmit its widened influence to the next generation.—The Dawn, Australia.

Subscribe for THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT.

## AMONG OUR EXCHANGES.

The farm mortgages amount to \$245,000,000 in Kansas; in Illinois, \$380,000,000; in Iowa, \$220,000,000; and in Missouri, \$214,000,000, an aggregate of over \$1,069,000,000 in four States.—Stockville Faber.

When the legislature convenes, the independents should select a man for United States senator, one who has been thoroughly identified with the movement, with an unassailable record for honesty, integrity and morality, so there may be no question arise as to where he stands and what he may do if elected, and after having chosen such a man to vote for him first, last and all the time.—Kearney Standard.

Hon. J. Sterling Morton has been playing before fair audiences each night during the past campaign in the role of John Sherman, as the western agent of the eastern gold bug.—Crete Democrat.

At the monetary conference now being held at Brussels, Alfred de Rothchild of the English delegation, has proposed a scheme, which is really a death blow at free coinage of silver. This is the same Rothchild who has formed a syndicate with \$240,000,000.00 capital to control the brewing interests of the United States. Cunning old fox! He knows that he can absolutely run any government whose finances he can control, and the liquor interests are the unscrupulous influences he proposes to wield to secure and hold the financial reins of this government.—Allen News.

### The Aggressiveness of Capital.

Capital, in the midst of ever-increasing wealth, refuses to allow labor to share in the wealth produced. It controls wages and keeps them down to the mere subsistence point. Labor resists strikes for higher wages; it is locked out and non-union or competitive labor is employed in its place. This is the turn of the thumb-screw of torture for labor; it is work at the wages offered or starve. Labor knowing that its life depends upon organization, attacks as its deadly foe non-union labor; then capital calls to its aid the military powers of state and nation, and labor is coerced and rendered powerless. Peace under such circumstances, is delusive; it is the peace of prostration—of subjugation—it is peace enforced by the bayonet.

If capital succeeds in blanking up labor organization and enslaving the workers, the decline and fall of the republic is certain. An overpowering monopolistic civilization doomed to perish through its own weakness and corruption, will be the next stage in the growth of society. If, however, the people are sufficiently strong to resist the aggressiveness of capital, interlocked and intertwined as it is with all the powers of church and state; if, through political methods and the introduction of industrial co-operation, an entire change of the industrial system is effected, and wealth becomes equitably distributed, then the future prosperity of the nation is assured. The turmoil of war will cease, and peace and prosperity will be the common heritage of all the people.—Sociologic News.

### Government Help.

The American government says that it is impractical for government to financially aid the individual. Some have demanded that it aid settlers to reach the public lands and start them in the development of farms. Others have demanded that it loan money to the farmers whose farms are mortgaged, at a low per cent of interest, thus helping them to escape the ruinous interest rates that Shylock demands. But the government replies to such demands that compliance would not be practical. Perhaps it is not advisable to do these things—though this is a question—but it is perfectly practical. It is just as practical to loan the farmer money as it is to loan a banker money, and the government has been doing that for twenty years. It is just as practical to loan a farmer money as it is to loan money to the Pacific railroads, and the government has done that. The Farmer's Voice believes that justice requires the government to do one of two things at all events. It should stop loaning money to any class or else loan it to every class that can furnish adequate security. If the government will print bank bills, and guarantee their redemption, to enable rich Mr. A. to do a banking business for profit; it ought to print government notes and guarantee their redemption to loan to poor Mr. B., who owns a \$5,000 farm with a \$2,000 mortgage on it. Use all alike is all we ask of our government.

### FOR SALE.

I offer my farm of 200 acres, two and a quarter miles north of Wahoo, for sale. A good two story house, four rooms down stairs, three up, pantry and three clothes presses, a good cellar 18x28; six acres of bearing orchard and plenty of small fruit; two wells, one wind mill, horse barn 36x36, room for fifteen or twenty tons of hay; cattle shed 82 ft. room for 44 tons of hay, with stone foundation. Many other improvements. Terms, one half cash down or all, or to suit purchaser. \$40 per acre.  
H. H. VERRELL,  
224 Wahoo, Neb.

### Tourists Trips.

Round trips to the Pacific Coast. Short trips to the Mountain Resorts of Colorado. The Great Salt Lake. Yellowstone National Park—the most wonderful spot on this continent. Puget Sound, the Mediterranean of the Pacific coast. And all reached via the Union Pacific System. For detailed information call on or address,  
J. T. MASTIN, C. T. A., 1044 O St.,  
E. B. SLOSSON, Gen. Agt.,  
Lincoln, Neb.

● CHEW AND SMOKE ●  
● UNTAXED NATURAL LEAF TOBACCO ●  
Best chewing 14c per lb Best smoking 9c.  
ALLIANCE TOBACCO CO., Clarksville, Tenn.

**Do Not Fail to See  
Our Overcoats  
At 8.00, 10.00 and \$12.**

They CANNOT BE EQUALLED for the money  
Elsewhere.

## In Men's and Boy's SUITS

for Winter wear we will show you the best values to  
be had. Come and see them at the

**Globe Clothing House,  
Cor 9 and 10th St.**

## BEST WESTERN COAL OUR SPECIALTY.

FARMERS' ALLIANCES, SCHOOL BOARDS AND CLUBS will  
save money by buying their

## Coal Direct by the Car Load.

Write for Prices.

**J. J. THOMAS & CO.,** Wholesale Coal Dealers, 1615 Curtis St., Denver, Colo.

## WHY THE GLOBE IS KING.

USES NO OIL.  
HAS ROLLER BEARINGS.  
HAS CHILLED IRON BOXES.  
REQUIRES NO ATTENTION.  
HAS A SOLID WHEEL.

THE GLOBE IS AN ALL STEEL AND IRON MILL, AND HAS THE  
LEAST NUMBER OF WEARING PARTS.

THE GLOBE HAS MORE POWER THAN ANY WHEEL OF ITS SIZE  
IN THE MARKET, AND CAN BE BUILT ON A SOLID TOWER, AND WILL  
ALWAYS BE FOUND WHERE PLACED.

THE GLOBE IS THE LIGHTEST, SAFEST AND EASIEST RUNNING  
MILL WHEEL IN THE MARKET, AND DOES NOT MAKE THREE REVO-  
LUTIONS TO GET ONE STROKE OF THE PUMP.

THE GLOBE IS THE IDEAL MILL FOR THE FARMER, THE  
STOCKMAN AND THE IRRIGATOR.

## BUY ONLY THE GLOBE.

GEO. W. HOFFSTADT State Agent,

707 O Street, Lincoln, Ne.

Please Mention This Paper.

## OUR BOOK LIST.

Our list of choice literature is made up of the best and most  
reliable reform books, by the most noted writers. If you want  
keep posted on the great questions before the American people you  
should consult the authorities. We name below a number of the  
best books published.

Author	Title	Price
GEN. J. B. WEAVER	A Call to Action. A valuable book that should be read by every one, send for a copy. Cloth and Gold Stickney, The Railroad Problem. The greatest sensation of the year is this great book on the railway problem by a railway president. Cloth edition has 14 illustrative diagrams. \$1.50	\$1.50
HAMLIN GARLAND	Mr. Garland is one of the brilliant writers of our times, and his pen speaks eloquently in behalf of the toiling masses. The following are some of his best works: "Jason Edwards," Treating of Fatu and Factory..... \$1.25 "Main Travelled Road," Six short stories..... .50 "A Member of the Third House." The lobby in politics..... .50	\$1.25
IGNATIUS DONNELLY	Cæsars Column, The book of the century..... .50 "Dr. Huguot," Southern story with moral..... .50	\$1.25
OPIE P. READ	Among American humorists Mr. Read stands at the head, and "as a little humor now and then, is relished by the best of men" we add two of his books to our list. They are clean and pure, and are worthy of a place in every library. "A Kentucky Colonel"..... .50 "Emmet Boniore," A newspaper man..... .50	\$1.25
COPLEY SQUARE SERIES	Comprising the following four excellent books: "Bond Holders and Broad Winners," King..... .25 "Money, Land and Transportation," three essays..... .25 "Industrial Freedom," Four articles from noted authors..... .25 "Esau, or The Bankers Victim," Bland..... .25	
MISCELLANEOUS AND SPECIAL.	"Whither are we Drifting," Willey..... .50 "The Farmers' Side," Senator Peffer of Kansas..... .50 "The Coming Climax," Hubbard..... .50 "The Great Red Dragon," Woolfolk..... .50 "Looking Backward," Bellamy..... .50 "A Financial Catechism," Brice..... .50 "A Tramp in Society," Cowdry..... .50 "Pizarro and John Sherman," Mrs. Todd..... .50 "Money Monopoly," Baker..... .25 "Labor and Capital," Kellogg..... .25 "In Office," Bogy..... .20 "Ten Men of Money Island," Norton..... .25	
GERMAN EDITIONS	"Geld, Schilling," German edition..... .10 "Seven Financial Conspiracies," Emery..... .10	
SONGS AND MUSIC.	"Songs of the People," Gibson. Words only..... .10 "Songs of the People," Published in sheet music. send for catalogue and prices. They are number one. "Labor and Alliance Songster," words only..... .10 per doz. \$1. " " " " Music edition..... .20 by ex. " " " " " b'd covers..... .25 " " "	
Any book on this list sent post paid on receipt of price. Liberal d to Alliances or clubs wishing to purchase a library. We are offering the ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT one year, and any b on the list for only \$1.35.		

Address,  
ALLIANCE PUBLISHING CO.,  
Lincoln, Nebr