

-THE-

ALLIANCE - INDEPENDENT

Consolidation of the
Farmers Alliance of Nebraska Independent

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY
THE ALLIANCE PUBLISHING CO.
Cor. 11th and M Sts., Lincoln, Neb.

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SUBSCRIPTION ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR

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OUR AVERAGE
Circulation for Six Months
Ending Sept. 29th,
22,034.

Publishers Announcement.

The subscription price of the ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT is \$1.00 per year, invariably in advance. Paper will be promptly discontinued as expiration of time paid for unless we receive orders to continue.

AGENTS in soliciting subscriptions should be very careful that all names are correctly spelled and proper postage given. Blanks for return subscriptions, return envelopes, etc., can be had on application to this office.

ALWAYS sign your name. No matter how often you write us do not neglect this important matter. Every week we receive letters with incomplete addresses or without signatures and it is sometimes difficult to locate them.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. Subscribers wishing to change their postoffice address must always give their former as well as their present address when change will be promptly made. Address all letters and make all remittances payable to THE ALLIANCE PUB. CO., Lincoln, Neb.

WILL BE ON TIME.

On account of the burning up of our electric motor, and other circumstances of an unavoidable nature, THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT has got out a day late for the past two weeks. For this we offer our readers an apology, and crave their indulgence. With the beginning of the new year we will turn over a new leaf, and publish a day earlier. Then if the post office authorities will permit, we will reach every subscriber by Friday or Saturday at farthest.

THE LEGISLATURE.

On Friday the 30th, the independent members elect meet in Lincoln to hold their preliminary caucus. Nearly all the members have been heard from, and promise to be on hand. The members all express themselves as firm in the belief that the people's U. S. senator can and will be chosen. How the two houses will be organized is at this time a matter of surmise. There seems to be a very general sentiment among independents to unite with the democrats for the purpose of organization if it can be done without sacrifice of principle. THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT has no desire to dictate to the independent members elect. We consider them a body of as true and able men as ever assembled in the Nebraska state house and thoroughly able to take care of themselves. Next week we hope to give a full account of the organization of both houses.

ALMOST A PANIC.

On December 13, two and a quarter millions of gold was shipped to Germany.

On December 14, one million dollars of gold went to France.

On December 19, four millions of gold was exported.

The morning of December 20th, the great dailies of the country displayed startling headlines of which the following from the Chicago Tribune is a fair sample:

"Wall Street Panic—Industrial stocks take a gigantic tumble—Excitement not equaled since the Baring failure."

It begins to look as if the Omaha platform would be vindicated.

"The country is one the verge of financial ruin, and it will only take a few millions of gold to push it over the verge into the gorge of panic and bankruptcy."

REASONS WHY

An independent United States senator should be elected by the coming legislature:

Because one good man in the United States senate will be able to do more for the advancement of the reform cause than a score of over-worked campaigners at home.

Because the independents can elect such a man if they only "stand together."

Because for the independents to elect a republican or a democrat would be to advertise themselves as either devoid of principle or lacking good sense.

Because an independent senator will stand up for Nebraska and the west, and not for Wall street and the east.

Because the independent party has men who are well qualified for the place, able, broad-minded, honest, uncorrupted, and incorruptible.

Because it is about time Nebraska should be represented in the United States senate.

Because six years is a long time to wait for another chance.

THAT INTERNATIONAL FARCE.

The modern political world has not seen another such complete and stupendous farce as the international monetary conference. It was called by President Harrison for effect on American politics. It was not called in the interest of the American people. A majority of the American delegates were opposed to the remonetization of silver. As Mr. Leon Say, the great French financier remarked, "the American delegates seemed to have no definite proposals." They lowered their dignity, and handicapped themselves in the beginning by falling in with the Rothschilds plan for silver purchases.

There was but one way in which the American delegates could hope to accomplish anything, and that was by a bold and consistent fight for the full restoration of silver to the place it occupied twenty-five years ago. They might not have gained their point, but they would have aroused an interest, started an agitation, and come away with the increased respect of other nations. As it is they have given the world the impression that the conference was called for the selfish purpose of increasing, or at least keeping up, the price of American silver. By their hesitancy, indefiniteness and inconsistency they have created disgust in the minds of intelligent Europeans.

The results of the conference prove its farcical character more fully than anything else. The committee of twelve after a dozen or more sittings finally came to the remarkable brilliant conclusion found in the following cablegram:

BRUSSELS, Dec. 25.—The committee appointed by the international monetary conference to consider the various projects submitted to the conference has adopted a report by which they state that in considering the various proposals submitted to them they confined themselves to the study of general principles and did not discuss the details necessary to give the several proposals effect. After reviewing the reasons for and against the different plans the report concludes: Having regarded the fact that the conference has not yet pronounced on the general question, the committee does not feel justified in taking a vote on any of the projects or attempting to formulate a compromise between the varying monetary doctrines advanced.

They "confined themselves to a study of general principles," they "reviewed the reasons for and against the various plans proposed," but they "did not feel justified in taking a vote on any of the projects." And why? Because "the conference had not yet pronounced on the general question."

The conference in the first place had refused to act on the general question, and appointed this committee to formulate something to bring before the conference. Now the committee refuses to act because the conference hasn't acted! That must be what they call diplomacy in Europe.

But the conference was determined not to be out-done by the committee as the following cablegram will show:

BRUSSELS, Dec. 17, 1892.—The international monetary conference today adopted a resolution made by M. de Renzi declaring that the conference recognizes the great value of the argument set forth in the reports presented and of the discussions that have been held in the plenary sittings and that, while reserving final judgment on the questions submitted, the conference expresses gratitude to the government of the United States for affording an opportunity to study anew the present position of silver.

Continuing, the motion declares that the conference agrees to suspend its labors and, subject to the approval of the governments represented, resume its sittings on May 13, next.

They "recognize the great value of the argument," and they are very thankful "to the United States for affording an opportunity to study anew the present position of silver."

And this is the result of a month's work on the part of the greatest financiers and statesmen in the world! Once upon a time, it is said, "a mountain labored and brought forth a mouse," but this great conference has done even less. It has brought forth nothing. Well does the New York Herald speak of "the childish character of the conference." It appears to have developed into a sort of kindergarten for "the study of general principles." And the interchange of ideas caused such pleasant sensations in the great brains of the members that they resolved to let the world know that they "recognized the great value" of their own arguments!

They didn't do anything. They didn't vote on anything, or attempt to decide anything. They didn't even have the nerve to decide to do nothing. They simply adjourned till next May to give the nations of the world an opportunity to pass judgment on their work.

It is but fair to say that two American delegates, Jones of Nevada, and McCrory of Kentucky made the best fight they could for silver considering that they were in a minority in their own delegation.

BOODLERS INDICTED.

J. Dan Lauer, steward of the insane asylum, and brother-in-law of the editor of the State Journal, indicted for forgery, uttering, publishing and transferring forged property; embezzlement; and obtaining money under false pretences.

and one of the greatest lobbyists in the state, indicted for "embezzlement," and "obtaining money under false pretences" in connection with the management of penitentiary affairs.

John T. Dorgan, local manager of the Whitebreast coal company, which furnished coal to the asylum, indicted for "obtaining money under false pretences."

W. D. Sewell who had the contracts for furnishing flour for the asylum, indicted for "obtaining money under false pretences."

Jack Stubbs, indicted for the same.

Gorham Betts, another coal man, indicted for the same offence.

Thirty-seven indictments all told against seven men.

The above is a brief report of the findings of the grand jury which has for more than a month been investigating the Lincoln asylum steals.

Papers for the arrest of these parties were issued last Friday. Lauer and the two Dorgans, and Sewell came in and gave bail with sureties for \$1,000 each, Betts was brought on Tuesday. Hubbard and Stubbs are still at large.

This is the third chapter in the greatest exposure of fraud and thievery known to Nebraska politics for nearly twenty years. The first chapter consisted in the exposure of the corruption by Hon. E. C. Rewick, which was laid before the people by the ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT and the World-Herald. The second chapter consisted in the investigation by the board of public lands and buildings. The fourth and last chapter is yet to come. It will consist in the trial of the indicted parties.

That it should result in the conviction and punishment of the guilty parties, every one who has watched the exposure in its successive steps believes. No one will be surprised if it goes further and implicates some who hold high offices in the state.

Now that election is over and men whose negligence has made this corruption possible are safely re-elected for two more years, the Omaha Bee comes out with the following strong language:

The work of the investigation by the Lancaster county grand jury, which has resulted in the indictment of a number of persons charged with defrauding the state by outright embezzlement, forgery of due bills, short-weight and measure of supplies furnished state institutions and general pilfering, should be supplemented by a thorough legislative investigation into the management of state institutions.

There are ten chances to one that the Lincoln indictments will result in a fizzle, very much like the indictments of Omaha's boodle councilmen. Lincoln is infested with professional public thieves and plunderers and it would be next to a miracle that any man connected with these rings should be convicted and sent to the pen. Such a thing is unheard of in the annals of Nebraska and is not likely to happen unless some scapegoat is picked out to cover the retreat of the gang.

Every word of the above is true, and the editor of the Bee was as well aware of the facts three months ago as now, yet his powerful support was given to elect the state house ring. The people will be likely to remember and appreciate the fact that THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT and the World-Herald assisted by local independent and democratic papers over the state have pushed this exposure from the start, and contributed to the success of the investigation.

The Journal which denounced Mr. Rewick as a black-mailer, and a disreputable character when the exposure was made, hasn't found time to say anything in praise of the grand jury's work. On the contrary it is now engaged in showing that the grand jury was not properly called, and hence its work must be null and void.

The people and press of the state should use every effort to see that the trial of these men does not prove a farce. An irresistible public opinion should be created in favor of punishing every guilty man regardless of his social or political standing.

THE PRINTERS' STRIKE.

At 9 o'clock on Saturday evening, the union printers in the offices of the Journal and the Call went out on a strike. They had arranged a new scale of prices slightly in advance of the old scale, yet considerably below the prices paid at Omaha and Kansas City. The managers of the Journal and Call refused to pay the new scale. Hence the strike. Both papers got out with a good deal of difficulty, and in very inferior condition on Sunday and Monday. They have recruited their forces with "scab" printers from other points, and are now getting out in fairly good shape.

The printers have started a new evening daily known as "The Unionist" to advocate their cause, and a merry war is in progress. All the other offices in town have accepted the new scale, even the Lincoln Paper House, which has been an "open" office.

Public opinion seems to be very generally with the strikers, as is usually the case. What the outcome will be cannot be predicted.

The union of the Nebraska Farmers' Alliance with the N. F. A. & I. U. at Grand Island was a grand move in the right direction. The union would have been consummated three years ago had not the Nebraska Farmers' Alliance been abandoned.

PRESIDENT POWEWS' ADDRESS.

Brothers and Sisters of the Alliance: At this recurrence of our annual meeting it becomes my duty and privilege to again address you as a state alliance. The past year has been fraught with occurrences of momentous interest to us as citizens of our noble state and nation. Soon after our last meeting the national alliance met in Chicago. It was a meeting of deep significance with regard to the relation of the alliance to political action. The influence of the Nebraska delegation was exerted in favor of sending delegates to the industrial conference which was held at St. Louis on the 22d day of February, which received a sanction of the majority, and delegates were accordingly chosen.

A resolution had been adopted in our state meeting in favor of bringing about a union between the N. F. A. and the F. A. and I. U., but a majority of the national alliance refused to sanction such action.

THE PEOPLE'S PARTY.

The result of the St. Louis conference in inaugurating a new application of the principle of a government by the people, is now before the world as a part of the history of our country. It is peculiar in this, that, whereas, heretofore eminent men, leaders of opposing factions, with prejudices strongly formed and partisan feeling strongly enlisted, have formed the platform for, and practically built up, the political parties which have, during most of our history, alternately been our government, this was an attempt of the great working people to form a political party. And this, not by the action of a few leaders, but as a result of the deliberate opinion of all the industrial organizations of our country. The Omaha convention was called and the foundation of the people's party was laid on the platform adopted by the conference, a platform perhaps crude in some of its expressions and meager and imperfect in details, but yet a plain expression of general principles, which on the different subjects included therein are necessary that the people may actually rule. The results in the campaign just closed though in some degree a disappointment to the friends of reform, are a terror to our foes. But we are not here today to rejoice over our past achievements or to express regret for partial failures.

It is our duty from the present standpoint and condition of the alliance to make preparations for the correction of every mistake in principle or plan that may exist, and to press right forward in our great work for the people. This is a period of great danger to the efficiency, if not the very existence, of our order. Our society was founded for educational purposes and as the system from the very nature of the case is for the mutual education of its founders and members, and also for immediate practical application of the knowledge obtained, it is absolutely necessary that our schools should be made permanent as well as efficient, and that the work for which they are preparatory should be persistently carried on.

SELF GOVERNMENT THE OBJECT.

The object is to prepare the people for efficient and beneficial self government, and this not for a passing emergency, but for all time. It is evident, therefore, that as the courses of nature are continually changing the preparatory means must be perpetual. Then as political knowledge, like scientific, cannot be fully attained but by successive steps, and the conditions of business and of the people are continually changing, the necessity for the alliance is not lessened by any circumstance which can arise either from temporary triumph or defeat in political action or business enterprise.

THE NEED OF EDUCATION.

Notwithstanding these facts it is too evident that the late all absorbing political campaign had the effect in many cases to interfere with and practically break up the regular meetings of the alliance, and in some instances has produced a condition of almost hopeless lethargy. Remonstrance is sometimes met with the reply, "We will all vote right, anyway, and what need of alliance meetings?" forgetting that the mission of the order is not only for its present members to vote right, but to add to its membership, persevere in its studies, discussions and teachings, and so continue until the great mass of our people shall vote right and thus establish their rights by law. From the very nature of our plan of organization our membership can only be increased by additions at the meetings of the order, and when an alliance has not held a meeting in three months, we know at once that during that time it has not increased in membership, but in nine cases out of ten is very much reduced. Others say "the people's party is now formed. Let us depend upon our political clubs for the education of our people and the spread of our principles." But political clubs have so far been but temporary organizations to put into effect a plan of principles already agreed upon, and should they be made on a permanent and systematic plan fitted to accomplish the results arrived at by the alliance, it would necessitate all the work, and expense which has been necessary to bring the alliance forward to its present ability for educational work without the advance of a single step in efficiency.

THE NEED OF SYSTEM.

Again, political clubs are made up of the adherents of a political party of all branches of business and all professions, and are not adapted to that mutual improvement which can be readily attained by each class and profession having its own separate school with the same object in view by conference and co-operation aiming at the same results. Our work must be better systematized; we need an alliance manual or text book—not so much to give technical information as to call out systematic thought and discussion on all those subjects which are abandoned.

ple. My observations and experiences have taught me that, while many of our alliances have been in the habit of continuing their meetings in a profitable and interesting manner, some, I fear, have only followed a dull and formal routine of ceremony, unworthy of our noble order, and unproductive of any apparent good results. As a consequence the members have grown weary of the monotony, lost their interest and discontinued their attendance. I trust such action may be taken at this meeting as will insure a series of uniform discussions with a definite and progressive plan which shall lead to a profitable and uniform advance in knowledge on the subjects which it is our common duty as citizens of a people's government to understand and control. So necessary do I consider this that I would recommend that it be recognized in our constitution and the measure and the result of its use be required in the official reports of the order. By this course I am convinced that the interest in our meetings will be greatly revived and their efficiency for good be greatly increased. Regular attendance at the meetings should be insisted on. It should work no hardship. A reasonable excuse is always legal tender in such cases, but members of sub-alliances who are able to attend the regular meetings and neglect to do so are doing no good, and receiving no good, as members. Their names on the books are deceptive and their examples pernicious. Like the dead limbs on a tree, they may for a brief time seem to add to the size of its top, but in the end, if not shed or cut off, they produce decay and death. And what is true of individual members is just as true of the representation of the alliance in country and state meetings. I would recommend such amendment to the constitution as to secure an attendance of delegates from the several alliances or a satisfactory reason for failure.

ALLIANCE FINANCES.

The financial condition of our treasury is a sufficient answer to those who in some localities are clamoring for a reduction of the fees and dues, and I would recommend that strictest economy in all our expenditures that is consistent with efficient work and useful results. I call your attention to the fact that while our last annual meeting laid a definite line of labor on our country lecturers, it failed to make any provisions for their pay for the same, the required county dues being entirely inadequate for the purpose. I would recommend that they be increased by additions from the sub-alliance dues.

CONSOLIDATION WITH THE F. A. & I. U.

The question of the consolidation of our state alliance with the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union I think, is worthy of your earnest consideration and I trust that if it is found to be expedient steps may be promptly taken by which it may be successfully accomplished. Of course, objections may arise and real obstacles may exist, but I think that such objections would probably apply with equal force to retaining the south in the federal union, which cost the mightiest civil war of modern history to maintain, and which is now insisted on by all the people.

In regard to the legislation of our state and country I think action should be taken by our alliance at the present meeting; not so much in reaffirming general principles on which our opinion is generally understood, but insisting on taking such steps as public opinion is prepared for and the necessity for which is clearly apparent.

REFORMS SUGGESTED.

The reduction of railroad freight rates in this state and amendment of the Australian ballot law, some relief, if possible, from the present usury abuses; a government postal telegraph system; and that which I consider of the greatest importance, at the present time, a grand trunk railroad owned by the government, running from the Dakotas to the gulf, should be insisted on as a step that is not only feasible but absolutely necessary to arrest the continual depletion of the west for the enrichment of the east. This would be an experimental and initiatory step for the general application of our principles of government ownership of all the railroads of the country.

The subject of mutual insurance, I think, should be carefully considered, I see no reason why, on a carefully formed plan, it should not be as feasible and beneficial for the alliance in this state, as it has been in neighboring states, and thus another continual drain of the hard earned money of our people to enrich eastern capitalists be stopped.

WORDS OF EXHORTATION.

And now, brethren, let us renew our courage and go forward. I see before me brothers who have grown gray in the alliance harness. What is this complaint you have breathed, my brothers, that you have given your time, your money, your talent and the best years of your lives to the cause, and that now the reward is offered to others. It is not worthy of you. I know you have been worthy and zealous apostles for the truth, but it is not enough that we preach like Paul. If our courage fails when we are slighted and neglected and egged, remember that to round out his grand career it required not only the grand work of his ministry, but persecutions, scourings and the cruel cross at the end. God is with us in the right, and what we lack here he will make up to us hereafter, and my brothers in the full strength of early and middle manhood, consider how much depends on you.

THE FRUITS OF THE FUTURE.

Full, permanent success we old men can not hope to see, but you will see it. We must walk by faith but you will enjoy the sight. We have seen the rising sun; its light struggling with clouds and mist. You will enjoy the light and warmth of its meridian splendor. Do not think I envy you, nay, rather, I rejoice in you that the success of our labors will surely be gathered by you. That you and your children will eat of the fruit of the tree which we have planted together. There is nothing to discourage us, but that which is compelling to all human efforts. We are seeking the truth and God will help us. We are struggling to maintain the right and God is with us. Duty has brought us this far. The voice of the people cries "Onward." Justice points upward to our reward and liberty holds out toward us a glorious crown. Let us revive our courage and renew

HURRAH for the grand Jury!

RENEW at once. Don't put it off.

CAN'T you get up a club for THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT?

How do you like our report of the Grand Island meeting?

THE independent state central committee meets at the Lindell on Friday.

THE Nebraska State Teachers' association is in session at the University this week.

THE large amount of space occupied by the report of the State Alliance meeting this week has made it necessary to shorten up on editorial matter.

THE reform club dinner at which President Cleveland was the principal guest, cost \$12 a plate. Many a poor family in Nebraska could live a month on that much and think they were enjoying the luxuries of life.

THE World-Herald last Friday states that the republican have made a proposition to the democratic members-elect to the legislature to unite for the organization of the house and senate, with an equal number of employees. Their motto is "anything to keep the independents out." The democrats do not take kindly to the proposition.

A FEW days ago the New York papers chronicled a new sensation: Miss Emma Van Norden of New York City, whose father is president of the Bank of North America, joined the Salvation Army, donned regimentals and carried a tambourine. She is said to be very pretty, and also very sincere in religious views and actions. Her parents will not interfere.

A STRONG effort is being made in political circles to revive interest in the national banking system. The present secretary of the treasury, and comptroller of the currency urge congress to amend the national bank act by repealing the one per cent tax on circulation, and increasing the circulation to the full value of the bonds, instead of 90 per cent as now. Plans are also proposed for the issue of long-time national bonds, bearing two per cent interest to be used in extending the system.

THE FARMERS' AND EASTERN RURALIST.

THE farmers of England are experiencing an awakening somewhat similar to the alliance awakening in the United States three years ago. An agricultural conference has lately been held in England in which the farmers expressed some very independent views. Among the resolutions passed was one to the following effect: "That the long continued depression arises chiefly from the appreciation of gold, and the fall of silver." The full remonetization was urged. This conference is probably but a beginning of a reform movement of vast importance to the world.

INDEPENDENT PRESS MEETING.

The Nebraska Independent Press Association will hold its annual meeting in the parlors of the Lindell Hotel, Lincoln, on Saturday, Jan. 14, 1893; beginning at 10 o'clock a. m.

The meeting will be made the most important in the history of the association. A program in which some of the ablest editors in the state will take part is being arranged. Secretary W. S. Morgan, of the Reform Press Association has signified his intention of being present if possible and of talking on the subject of independent ready prints. Officers will be elected for the coming year, and matters of vital importance to every independent editor in the state will be discussed.

The meeting occurs just two days before the great senatorial fight begins and every independent newspaper man who can will desire to see that struggle. Besides the presence of the press on the grounds may have quite an influence in keeping our own men solidly in line.

Organization and education are the watch words of our movement. Members of the independent press need to be more thoroughly in touch with each other, to have a common object to hew to the line on a certain well-defined principles; and to more thoroughly understand the business of conducting a successful newspaper. The above are some of the objects of the independent press association.

This organization must and will be made one of power and good results. Let every independent editor in the state attend the meeting in January. Let them come imbued with the idea of making that meeting a magnificent success.

With proper organization and work Nebraska can and will be put into the independent column. The independent press must do that work.

J. A. EDGERTON, S. E. THORNTON,
President, Secretary.

Clubbing Rates.

To those of our readers who wish to read the Dakota Ruralist (Pres. Lou paper) we can save nearly half the subscription by ordering that paper with your renewal to the ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT. We will send both papers one year to the same or different addresses for only \$1.60. Send all subscriptions to THE ALLIANCE PUB. CO. Lincoln, Nebraska.