

THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT

Consolidation of the Farmers Alliance of Nebraska Independent PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY THE ALLIANCE PUBLISHING CO.

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Managing Editor: S. EDWIN THORNTON. Business Manager: JOHN F. MEYER. Advertising Mgr.: SUGAR A. MURRAY.

N. I. P. A.



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Publishers Announcement.

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

POPULISTS will do well to beware of the A. P. A. It is a scheme of the plutocrats to keep public attention away from the real issues.

THERE was never such need of publishing populist principles to the front as now. The financial panic is opening the eyes of the people to the real issues. Push the work.

THOSE who now fight in the van of the great industrial revolution can be proud of the memory while they live and after they are dead can leave it as a legacy to their children.

WE have in stock about a hundred copies of A. B. Flack's little humorous pamphlet entitled "Sizin' up Politics." Mr. Flack is a Nebraska writer and there is good sense as well as genuine humor in his writings.

NEBRASKA populists should take heart. The days of "the ring" are numbered. Public robbery is growing unpopular. In the great court of public opinion the republican state officials have been pronounced guilty.

THE Rocky Mountain News says: A proposition is pending in Nebraska to allow Mosher, the defaulting president of the wrecked bank at Lincoln, to escape the penitentiary by his friends paying \$100,000.

MOSHER, the republican bank wroker, while under arrest, lives at elegant quarters at a hotel. Bill Smith, the poor thief, lies in a noisome cell in a jail. Mosher got away with several hundred thousand dollars and took the hard earnings of widows, orphans and men who live by daily toil.

PUBLIC opinion is awakening. The three leading articles in the Arena for June boldly take the ground advocated by the populists on three great issues: The first advocates the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

Thus one object lesson follows another. Thus one after another are the "great financiers" of the nation swallowed by the great octopus which they have served and defended.

A GREAT OBJECT LESSON.

The following dispatches contain a great and impressive object lesson for the American people:

FOSTORIA, O., May 36.—Ex-Secretary of the Treasury Charles Foster started the business world this morning by making an assignment for the benefit of his creditors.

At an early hour this morning the bank of Foster & Co. was closed on an attachment for \$3,200 in favor of the Isaac Harter Milling company, and at the same time the wholesale grocery house of Davis & Foster was closed by an attachment for \$1,200 in favor of O. T. Brown.

The assignment of Secretary Foster was the signal for the assignment of a number of concerns in which he was interested.

The Mambourg, Calcined and Crocker Window Glass companies, three concerns that have been backed by Mr. Foster, will assign today.

The extent of the failure is so great that its significance can scarcely be realized. A half dozen of the prominent industries will go to the wall and hundreds of people be thrown out of employment.

The loss to business men who are depositors in Foster & Co's. bank is one of the deplorable features of the crash. The assignment of Davis & Foster, the wholesale grocers, will probably be the direct cause of the failure of a failure of a number of grocery concerns throughout the country.

Ex-Secretary Foster gave out the following statement to the public this evening: "Words cannot express the deep distress and humiliation I feel. If I could bear all the burden that my failure will entail I should feel a sense of relief."

When I returned from Washington I knew that my indentments for the window glass company and the brass and iron works company were very large, so large, in fact, as to induce me to fear that I would have to suspend at that time. I, however, prevailed upon a friend to give a large amount of help and felt confident that I could maintain myself and finally come out all right.

Can any intelligent man read Foster's statement and fail to see true cause of his failure? It was the natural and inevitable result of doing business on capital borrowed at high rates of interest. Notice the many expressive phrases used in his statement: "My indentments were large;" "Concerns owed me more than I had supposed;" "Every one that I owed wanted money, and no one would lend;" "Payments for glass instead of being made in cash were made in paper. Sales, in fact, came to a stand still. I struggled, seeking every possible means to tide over the situation, until I am compelled to assign. I did not give up the struggle till today. It will take the assignee some time to make up the schedule of my affairs. I can see plainly in settling my affairs through the courts the house compelling my assets to be reduced to cash, large sacrifices will be made. This being so I can not give encouragement that my debts will be paid in full."

I have given mortgages to two women, who relied upon me to invest their money, it being about all the property they have, amounting to about \$4,000.

The aggregating amount of liabilities, including bank deposits, my individual debts, the three glass companies, the brass and iron works company, the light and power company, will be about \$600,000. The assets on paper will more than cover the liabilities."

A run was started on the People's bank at North Baltimore, which is partially owned by Governor Foster, and it was forced to close its doors about noon M. B. Waldo, the manager, states that the bank is solvent and will open tomorrow, and has money to meet all the demands. The Merchants' bank of this city, in which Governor Foster is a shareholder, stood a run immediately after Foster's bank closed, and all fear was allayed by a receipt of \$15,000 from Toledo bank by express at noon.

The embarrassed institutions are in fearfully bad shape and will not pay out more than 25 cents on the dollar. A. M. Day, Governor Foster's private secretary, who had all his money in these enterprises, is penniless. He is prostrated in bed from the blow. J. W. Wilkinson, his partner in the banking house, is ruined and will save nothing from the crash.

NEW YORK, May 26.—The Foster failure caused no astonishment in Wall Street. In certain circles it has been known for some time that the firm was in a tight place for money. One banker said that Foster had been caught between seed time and harvest.

CLEVELAND, O., May 27.—In the course of a telegram in response to an offer of space for a statement made by an afternoon paper, Governor Foster said: "My failure simply illustrates the folly of permitting one's self to be in debt beyond the reach of reasonable quick assets for relief when the hour of difficult borrowing comes. My business was largely done with borrowed money. Confidence in the maintenance of sound financial conditions is essential to legitimate lending. That confidence has for some time been shaken in the ability or capacity of the government to maintain gold payments is evident. The country possesses enormous resources which are at the command of the government, and it should say and act in terms and ways that will satisfy the country, without ambiguity or uncertainty, THAT GOLD PAYMENTS WILL BE MAINTAINED."

Thus one object lesson follows another. Thus one after another are the "great financiers" of the nation swallowed by the great octopus which they have served and defended.

Only a few weeks ago every paper in the land told under startling headlines of "McKinley's Ruin." The great apostle of high protection made an assignment, went into bankruptcy. Why? He was the victim of a credit system. He borrowed money. He endorsed heavily for friends. The money was invested in productive enterprises. The enterprises couldn't stand the drain of usury.

He shouted: "America for Americans! Down with English free-trade." But he voted to adopt the English system of finances. He voted for contraction of the currency. He supported the single gold standard. He whooped it up for the "honest dollar." He assisted in putting the industries of the country in the toils of the money power. He advocated a financial system which has plastered the farms and homes of the people with mortgages; which has built up industries on borrowed capital; which has made public bond-age the basis for public improvements.

He simply fell a victim to the monstrous system he helped to create and defend. High tariff couldn't save McKinley. Home market couldn't help him.

And now comes Foster, Harrison's secretary of the treasury, the little fellow who has been rattling around in the place which great men had been wont to fill.

He was Wall street's own tool. His financial condition "was well known in certain circles." He was over head and ears in debt and the money kings knew it. At their command he undertook to prove that the currency had never been contracted, that we have more money per capita than we ever had before. He undertook to prove that all his predecessors in that great office, all the great leaders in congress, all the great statesmen and historians of the country for the past quarter of a century were either fools or liars.

To accomplish this he issued a special treasury report purporting to give financial statistics. And the plutocratic press of the country shouted "amen!" and the hired mouthers of the money power told it on the stump and on the street corners. They all said with one voice: "Behold! we have more money today than ever before. The secretary of the treasury says so, and who can dispute such authority?"

And when the bankers wanted to make the Sherman law odious, and presented their treasury notes for redemption, Foster redeemed them every one in gold. And when they wanted a new issue of bonds to buy more gold, Foster went to New York and conferred with them secretly and arranged with them to have fifty million of new bonds issued. But Harrison said "no." They tried congress and congress said "no."

Foster was in the grip of the money power, and he thought his only salvation lay in serving that power. Can any intelligent man read Foster's statement and fail to see true cause of his failure? It was the natural and inevitable result of doing business on capital borrowed at high rates of interest. Notice the many expressive phrases used in his statement: "My indentments were large;" "Concerns owed me more than I had supposed;" "Every one that I owed wanted money, and no one would lend;" "Payments for glass instead of being made in cash were made in paper;" "My business was largely done on borrowed money;" etc.

Foster was on the wrong side in the great game of money-getting. He was a borrower, an interest payer. Now he is a bankrupt.

Wonder is sometimes expressed that the manufacturers, merchants and business men generally, do not join the farmers in the reform movement. The reason is evident. They are nearly all doing business on borrowed capital. "The borrower is servant to the lender." He is a slave. He has lost his financial independence, and with it has gone his political independence.

"Confidence is essential to legitimate lending," says Foster. The manufacturer or the business man who is working on borrowed capital feels that he must maintain "confidence" at all hazards. He dreads a change above all things. He knows he must renege his loans or "go to the wall." In nine cases out of ten he doesn't think or see far enough ahead to realize the drift of things. To save himself is his one great object.

Foster sees no salvation for the borrowing class except in unconditional surrender to the money power. The farmers are the only class left in America that have any degree of political independence. They are borrowers it is true, but they borrow for long periods and hence are not immediately at the mercy of the money power. The manufacturer or business man who borrows from month to month can not say his soul is his own.

He is an abject and pitiable slave. Bankruptcy is the only thing that will free him, or bring him to realize the condition of the country. Similia similibus curantur. "The hair of the dog is good for the bite."

Existing evils must work out their own cure by their own dreadful consequences. Let the organized farmers take fresh courage. The warnings they have sounded are being justified, their predictions verified, their claims vindicated.

The men who have ridiculed, abused, and denounced them are now furnishing object lessons of their own folly. The earthquake is coming. It will wreck the financial system of the country. It will cause untold suffering. But it will free the American people, and open the way for an advance to a higher civilization.

If anything were needed to show the arrogance of the railroads the stand taken in regard to World's fair rates has dispelled that need. They have made it simply impossible for a poor man to visit the fair. By their rapacity and greed they have called down on their heads the anathemas of the whole people. Their motto evidently is "The fair was made to swell the coffers of the railroad kings. The people be a-d."

THE JOURNAL'S RIDICULE.

The State Journal speaks of the coming railroad convention of June 23, as a "wind convention," and refers to the idea of building a railroad from Bismarck to the Gulf as a "wild and woolly proposition."

Exactly as we expected. Who ever heard of the Journal falling in line with any movement for the emancipation of the west from bondage to the east? For any plan to arouse western sentiment, and organize western forces for political ends it has nothing but ridicule.

The Journal says: "In the first place the people of the states interested would not favor the expenditure of the state's money for such a road except in the immediate vicinity, perhaps, of the route pursued which would make it a purely sectional interest owing to the distances to be traversed from the remoter points to the line before it could be availed of."

Perhaps by the time the great "North and South" is built and put in operation, the people of the western states will have learned something of their rights and power over railroad corporations. Perhaps they will have learned that they can make every railroad in every state crossed by the great "North and South" a feeder of that road. Why not? Suppose this great trunk line to be built through Lincoln. What is to hinder the state legislature from giving every other city in the state an almost equal benefit by regulating rates between Lincoln and all other points in the state? Or suppose the existing corporations should object to being made the servants of the people in such a capacity; there is nothing to hinder the legislature from passing a law permitting the north and south trunk line to run trains over every road in Nebraska to gather up freight and passengers. Then the corporations might go out of business if they wanted to. There is no reasonable doubt that the state has power to compel one corporation to let another corporation use its tracks at a reasonable rental.

Then the Journal sees an insurmountable obstacle in the way of raising money to build the road. It points to that article in the state constitution which forbids the state's going in debt beyond \$100,000. Of course the Journal couldn't think of raising money in any other way except by the issue and sale of bonds. What's the matter with paying cash for the road? Nebraska is robbed of enough every year in the way of extortionate railroad charges to build her share of the road. That portion of the road which would lie in Nebraska ought not to cost over \$5,000,000 at the outside. That amount could easily be raised by taxation inside of three or four years.

Besides after all the western states may not have to build this line after all. Perhaps the voice of the west may be heard in congress. Perhaps the north and south line may be the first great experiment in "government ownership."

Even the "populist cranks" don't expect to build this road the 28th of June, nor within a month or a year thereafter. The convention has been called simply to discuss a measure of great interest to the people of these great western states. That is exactly the reason why the Journal ridicules it.

A GREAT CONTRAST.

The following a verbatim copy of a letter received by Governor Crouse one day last week:

CRETE, Nebraska, 1893.—Dear Sir: I thought I would write you a few lines to let you know the position I am in. I became converted and now stand on the true rock, Christ Jesus. I am troubled about a little offense I made about one year before I became converted and now the spirit brought it to my mind because God's words in the bible says, "there is nothing hid that shall not be manifest;" another to one, "there is no secret that shall not be made known." Besides that he says, "confess your sins one to another." Of course this is a case of not direct one individual therefore you are the one that will cover it.

My case is this: I took some coal out of the box car a Lincoln at the asylum switch. It was two of us. We both are converted now. Please wont you put that of both of us in the place where it will reach it again. I will pay my bill to—He took the same \$1 worth. Pleas forgive me and that for Christ—amen. Yours respectfully.

Governor Crouse turned the two dollars over to the treasurer to be placed in the "conscience fund."

Here are two fellows doubtless laboring men who each stole a dollar's worth of asylum coal because they needed it to keep their families warm. Yet when their consciences became quickened they could not rest till they had confessed the crime and made good the loss.

What a contrast there is between the action of these men and the action of the hoodlums who stole thousands of bushels of asylum coal, and robbed the state of thousands of dollars in other crooked deals in connection with the asylum and penitentiary cell-house! The former humbly confess their crime and try to make the restitution. The latter brazenly deny their guilt and defy the state to punish them or recover its losses. They no doubt laugh at these two poor penitents as sentimental weaklings. And public opinion has become so warped and corrupted that these big hoodlums have the open sympathy of thousands of people who profess to be christians! Let such christians read the above letter and blush for shame, if indeed they have any sense of shame.

What we need today is a revival of true religion, a quickening of consciences a restoration of the old-fashioned ideas of duty. Public opinion must be purified and elevated. We want preachers of the gospel who will denounce crime and criminals regardless of position or politics. We want church members who will not only permit the preachers to do this but who will demand it of them. Then no man will be allowed to buy immunity from punishment with a portion of his stealings. Then no man can gain and maintain a high position in society merely because he possesses wealth which he has gained by dishonest methods.

THE ALLIANCE AID.

The alliance aid is simply an insurance degree in the F. A. & I. U. It is something new in this state, but it is well worthy of investigation. We believe its general adoption would do much to make the alliance a permanent institution.

NO DECISION YET.

On Monday at 2 p. m., the supreme court room was filled with an expectant crowd, but the august court failed to appear. At 3:30 they sent in a bailiff to say that the court had adjourned till next Monday.

This is generally believed to indicate that the court is divided. The idea is gaining ground that a verdict for conviction may be rendered.

THE VANDERBILT POODLE.

I'm the Vanderbilt pet poodle—hear me!—Just a dog, like all the other dogs. Barking at the public who come near me: But observe my "togs"

Took a hundred fifty thousand dollar Railroad dividend to buy and place R. owned my neck this poodle-eratic collar. Kingly in its grace.

And I shine, I tell you, at the parties. Of the princely pups who ve in style! Not a dog of all the high-nosed "smarties" Dares to growl or smile.

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THAT NORTH AND SOUTH RAILROAD CONVENTION.

In pursuance of the resolution introduced by Senator Stewart and adopted by the legislature, arrangements have been made for a convention of western states to discuss the great north and south railroad scheme. The convention will be held in Lincoln, June 28. The delegates will be appointed by the governors of the states. Governor Crouse has heard from South Dakota, Minnesota and Kansas and expects to hear from several others, all of which will be represented. Jerry Simpson will be among the delegates from Kansas. Governor Crouse has not appointed the delegates for Nebraska yet. He says he intends to consult some of the leading independents, and put friends of the move on the delegation. The convention will meet at the state house at 2 p. m.

This meeting is one of great importance to the west. Its object is one of vast and immediate importance. It is a move which should receive every possible encouragement of populists, a large number of whom should be present at the meeting. The convention will of course be nonpartisan, yet it must result in advancing populist ideas.

The Alliance-Independent of this city appears this week with the typographical union label at the head of its editorial columns. More offices will use them as soon as they can be secured from Indianapolis. The label indicates that all matter run is set up by strictly union labor, and it is a standing recommendation for any paper using it.—Weekly Unionist.

A WESTERN railroad president is recently reported as saying: "If public opinion in the west still continues so hostile to the railroads as it has shown itself in the past few years, it will be necessary to organize to protect our interests." It always seemed to us that the republican party answered that purpose very well here in Nebraska. Perhaps the aforementioned railroad president meant after the republican party is dead.

TO BRIDGE CONTRACTORS.

On page 8 of this issue appears an extended notice to bridge contractors from the county clerk of Furnas county. We call especial attention to this notice for the reason that the publication of it has been delayed two weeks on account of the letter being held in the Lincoln post-office for additional postage.

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Mistress says, some people sniff their noses. And object to dogs in such a dress. Envious wretches! who, that's sans supposes Railroad pups need less?

More than this, says William (that's my master) —Hark ye, workmen who pay all the freight: I am king, and heed not your disaster. Since my slaves is great.

Sweet ye, slaves of brutes, the wealth I've taken. And the legal rights I've gathered up Build for us a throne that stands unshaken—Nerve me, serve my pup."

—GEORGE H. WARD GIBSON, in Inter-Ocean.

You will get fresh and pure seeds at Griswold's, 140 South Eleventh street.

Use Northwestern line to Chicago. Low rates. Fast trains. Office 1133 O St.

MID-SUMMER RALLIES.

A Series of Great Populist Revivals Arranged for by the State Committee.

SENATOR ALLEN TAKES THE FIELD

An Appeal to the Populists of Nebraska to Renew Their Zeal and Enthusiasm.

Allen's Appointments.

The time is ripe for a grand revival of populist enthusiasm. The vote-field is yellow for the harvest. It is time for every true reformer to be at work.

Confusion reigns in the ranks of the old parties. After thirty years of almost continuous supremacy, the republican party has been driven from power thoroughly corrupted and demoralized. The democrats, though completely victorious at the polls, are showing themselves utterly incompetent to grapple with the great problems which are pressing for solution. Since their accession to power they have done nothing but engage in a scramble for office.

Banks, business men, and manufacturers are falling in every section of the country. A general panic is imminent. Yet the only remedy proposed by the leaders of either old party is unconditional surrender to the money power.

In Nebraska both old parties are hopelessly divided and demoralized. The corruption of the republican party has been thoroughly exposed. Though the state has been robbed of thousands of dollars, no one has yet been punished for the crime. The better element of the republican party is powerless to free itself from the control of the corporations and corrupt leaders.

The democratic party on the other hand is rent with factional dissensions. The mass of its voters and a few of its leaders are in favor of free coinage of silver, and railway regulation. But the men who control its conventions are unalterably opposed to these things.

The time is ripe for a general breaking up and re-formation of political parties on new issues.

The people's party is the only organized force that is ready to take advantage of the situation. If there was reason for a grand rallying of reform forces three years ago, how much more is there now!

Recognizing these facts the independent State Committee have arranged for a series of mid-summer rallies. Senator Allen will fill ten appointments in June and probably that many in each succeeding month. He will be accompanied by other speakers of state reputation whose names the committee are not yet prepared to announce.

The following is the committee's notice of appointments.

- SENATOR ALLEN. The state central committee have made arrangements for Senator Allen and other prominent speakers to speak at the following places. Tecumseh, June 12. Beatrice, " 13. Geneva, " 14. Red Cloud, " 15. Franklin, " 16. Alma, " 17. Indianola, " 19. Holdrege, " 20. Hastings, " 21. Clay Center, " 22. Lincoln, " 23.

All of the meetings will be held at 2 o'clock p. m. Local committees will make necessary arrangements.

G. W. BLAKE, C. H. PIRTLE, Chairman. Secretary.

Populists should turn out en masse to hear Senator Allen discuss the issues. But they should not be satisfied with merely turning out themselves. They should by all means induce their old party neighbors to turn out. How are they to be won over to our cause unless the can be brought to hear our speakers and read our literature?

These meetings will also furnish a rare opportunity for friends of our cause to secure new subscribers to our reform papers, and to self reform books. THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT would be glad to have friends volunteer to distribute sample copies and take subscribers at these meetings.

DO YOU WANT A SEWING MACHINE?

If you do, why pay \$40.00 for a high-priced machine, at least half of which will go to the agents and middle men, when you can get just as good a machine for less than half the money?

For \$20.00 THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT will furnish the elegant new Columbian machine and a year's subscription to the best reform paper in the west.

If you haven't the money to pay for a machine, raise a club of 60 subscribers, and get a machine free.

Missouri Pacific are offering the very lowest rates for round trip tickets to the World's Fair, good for return until November 15 1893. Also have placed on sale summer tourist tickets at the usual low rates as can be verified by calling at office 1201 O street, Lincoln, Neb. J. E. R. MILLER, C. T. A. or H. C. TOWNSEND, G. P. & T. A. St. Louis, Mo.