

THE CONVENTION.

Seldom in the history of the state has there been a more harmonious and earnest body of men than the convention which met last Tuesday in this city. It was not composed of bankers or professional politicians; even the lawyers, considering that it was a judicial convention, were surprisingly few. There were no free pass men, as very nearly every delegate who came from a distance had a certificate of fare paid. It was a body of farmers and laboring men; and the fact that nearly eight hundred of these left their fields and workshops and spent their time and money to come to a convention in times such as these is certainly most encouraging.

The reports brought in by these men from every part of the state show that the cause is gaining new converts; show that the people are aroused and determined as never before; show that the cause of truth is marching on to its final triumph.

The ticket nominated will grow in strength as election day draws near. Judge Holcomb is a man who gains rapidly on acquaintance. His ability as a lawyer or judge is every where admitted. His rectitude of character has never been questioned. He has nothing to explain. He wins friends among all classes and all parties. He is a man of the people; and while not so great a campaigner as many, he is a man who impresses every one with confidence in his integrity and his firmness. With such a man on the supreme bench, the people could feel that so far as he could make it a justice would be meted out to the rich and the poor alike.

The populists of Nebraska ought to win this campaign; and they will win it if they will only get out and work. Let every man do his part. If he will do this, victory will come as certain as the sun rises on the morning of election day. Nominate your clearest, strongest men. Organize your committees not only by precincts and townships, but by school districts. Let every man give something, though but a mite, to the campaign fund. There must be no lagging in the harness, but each must do his duty. Then let every populist be gotten to the polls on election day, even if he has to be carried there. Let these things be done and success is assured.

EVIDENCES OF PROSPERITY.

The evidences of prosperity are no longer confined to the rural districts. They are seen on the streets of every city. These evidences are of various kinds but they all agree in showing the "unexampled prosperity of the nation."

When this thought occurred to the writer not long ago, he meandered out on the streets of Lincoln to observe and read the "legends" of prosperity displayed in the store windows. The following are merely samples:

In a large dry goods store a window is filled with blankets on which are hung cards with such advertisements as the following: "Now or never: 69 cents a pair; must go: 58 cents a pair."

On the side of a large building occupied by a furniture store appears the following letters that could be read half a mile: "This entire stock of furniture now on sale at 50 cents on the dollar."

In the window of a large clothing store hangs this sign: "The sooner we dispose of this stock, the better for us: Values not considered in selling this stock."

In another window appears this: "The cheapest selling ever known going on here."

In another: "Prices cut in two. You can buy one half and get the other free."

In another store: "Handkerchiefs 50 per cent off marked price."

In a shoe store window: "Shoes former price \$7.50, now \$3.99."

In another shoe store: "\$7.00 hand-made shoes, patent leather, \$4.50 this week only."

In a dry goods store: "Shirts \$1.00 now 49 cents."

On the door of the store where in happier days Louis Meyer officiated in all his blandness, sold "country jakes" suits warranted to fit "just like do paper on de wall", and bought state, county and city warrants at a discount with public money secured through "a hole in the wall"—on the door of Louis's shop appears the following interesting legend: "Closed: When this store re-opens, goods will be sold cheap. Signed, First National Bank."

We might fill whole columns with these advertisements. The worst of it is that they are not mere catch-words, but in most cases are strictly true.

How do we make it appear that there are evidences of prosperity? Easy enough. In the first place they show that the owner of the goods is in debt. In many instances has a mortgage on the goods. This is an infallible evidence of prosperity. In the second place they show that the "laboring man can buy more for a dollar than he ever could before." No prosperity shrieker can deny that this is a sign of great prosperity.

The business men of Lincoln seem to realize their prosperity. They appreciate it. They want more of it. Why only a few weeks ago a large number of them sent telegrams to Cleveland asking him to call congress together, re-

peal the Sherman law, and give them this kind of prosperity as a regular fixed thing!

And they'll get it. They'll get prosperity till they can't rest. If they'd just take a few spare minutes each week to read, they'd see that dealers with small capital are everywhere being forced to the wall; they'd realize that no man can prosper in a mercantile business in these days with capital borrowed at high rates of interest; that falling prices is the bane of trade; that the farmers and laboring men are their friends, and Shylock their worst enemy; and that their only chance for speedy relief lies in an increase in the circulating medium.

But they haven't time to read or think! They're too busy trying to sell goods at half price and stand off creditors. When they rush into the bank to get their loans renewed, the banker shuts one eye, looks wise, shakes his finger at them and says: "If we just had that miserable Sherman law repealed, confidence would be restored and we'd be all right." And straightway the merchants begin to shout for "unconditional repeal."

Will intelligent American merchants never learn that politics is business, that they must go into politics if they would make their business successful?

Until they learn this, they will continue to get prosperity of the kind they are now enjoying.

HOME RULE.

The Irish Home Rule Bill has passed the House of Commons and goes to the House of Lords. For nearly ten years Mr. Gladstone has carried forward the fight, and though considerably over eighty years of age, his last campaign was his greatest. Since successful in getting a parliament favorable to home rule it has taken almost a year of continuous session to crowd the bill through the lower house. It has been perhaps the longest and hardest fought contest in the history of the British Parliament, if not in the history of deliberative bodies. Mr. Gladstone has been in the house every evening and has personally directed every detail of the fight.

Whether the Lord's pass the bill or not, the fight is now virtually won. The upper house in England is largely a figure-head body anyway and may be persuaded to pass the bill rather than suffer something worse.

It may take a year or two yet to complete the work, but the hardest part of the contest is over and the victory lies on the side of freedom. The dawn is breaking over Ireland.

Every patriotic American will give a God speed to the emancipation of the Emerald Isle; and all honor to the greatest English statesman of the nineteenth century—WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE.

It now seems inevitable that the great issue to be discussed in the next presidential campaign will be that greatest of all issues to laboring men, the financial question. Politics? Yes; it is politics, but as yet it is not partisan politics, but bids fair; if existing conditions continue, to become such, and when that time comes the laboring man who is not on the right side of that question will in all probability be "treading mortar" for one or the other of the at present great political parties, neither one of which is or will be guided in the interest of the workingman.

The weal or woe of labor is firmly joined to the financial policy of this nation. When money is scarce the laboring man is idle; when it is plenty he is at work. The great question to be decided in the future is How to prevent a scarcity of circulating medium. There is only one remedy: that is the issue of money directly to the people. Just so long as bank combinations and broker's syndicates are allowed to even in part control the circulating medium, just so long will there be frequent recurrences of panics in greater or less degree.

There is one thing that the people of this country have to learn, and that is that banking and monetary syndicates of whatever name, whose capital stock is cash in hand, have no interest in common with any one people. Their flag is of the ebon hue. They acknowledge allegiance to no nationality under the sun, and their one and only code of ethics is the acquisition of money. It matters not to them whether it be in American eagles, British sovereigns, Spanish doubloons, or any other standard coin. Their creed is Money. Their law is the power of Money, limited only by quantity. Their politics to fleece the people of Money to any extent they will bear. This comprehends the religion, law and politics of Wall and Lombard streets. It is not national. It is not patriotic. It embodies a system nothing short of treasonable in principle, when gauged by the results. It is treasonable because its operation practically nullifies our constitution, which guarantees to all men "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," all of which are abridged in some degree by the action of this powerful factor in national life; and the nation that bows its neck to the yoke of the money power passes to the first stage of governmental transition.—Weekly Unionist.

STAND UP for Nebraska. Down with the boodle ring.

Take THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT.

THE SPHINX.

The Sphinx sits ever by the stream of life. Even as he sits amid the pyramids Within the narrow valley of the Nile. The questions ever:—What are Life and Death? Who put us here? What keeps us? To what end? These questions ask we and no answer comes. Man builds his creeds; and each creed disagree. With all the rest; the old ones fade away And new ones come instead; creed follows creed. Till in the endless maze we grow confused And turn and face again the silent Sphinx. The brutes about us mock us with their forms Saying: "You sprung from us—the stream can rise No higher than its source. Hold, hold proud man. Amid your dizzy dreams. Do not forget Your kindred here, for you are one with us. The earth, our mother, puts her silent force Upon us and restrains us to herself, Saying: "You are my children, you are made From out my elements. You rose from me. From me drew sustenance; and unto me You must return. My iron hand of law Is on you. You cannot escape from it." The far-off sun looks at us from his throne, Saying: "I am your father. You have drawn Your life and light from me; the energy Coursing in thrills electric through your frames, You gained from me the very tints you wear Upon your souls, these also come from me All these must be surrendered once again." The stars gaze on us from the shores of space Like seacons o'er the sea, and seem to say: "We are the emblems of the universe, The blossoms of eternity, but you Are merely worms and like the worms must die" And then, our creeds all melted from our minds, As melts the dew upon a summer morn, We turn and look once more upon the Sphinx, That sits like a mysterious question-mark Before the portals of eternity. That silent sits, and nothing says at all. —J. A. Edgerton, in Open Court.

AMONG OUR EXCHANGES.

England controls Wall street, Wall street controls Cleveland, Cleveland controls the democratic party—well it seems to have lost all control of things and is going to run just about as fast as it can.—Eagle, Weeping Water.

Has anybody heard of their paying any pension money before it was due? They have paid interest to the bondholders several times before it was due. The bondholders have held it over the gun-holes in a good many ways of late years.—Eagle, Weeping Water.

Don't hoard your money. By so doing you intensify the present stringency and run the risk of having it stolen from you. If you don't trust the bankers, and will take your money out anyhow, take it to the post office and buy money orders payable to yourself. This will keep the currency in circulation and you will be absolutely safe for 12 months, when the money order must be renewed.—New York Voice.

New York had a little premonitory pain last week in the shape of a riot and the police reserves were called. Next day Brooklyn had a spasm of the same kind, and the police injured quite a number before the streets were cleared. The good people are not uneasy, because they have confidence in the police and militia. It don't amount to anything—only a few thousands of starving people demanding work or bread—a matter of no account.—Coming Crisis.

In the halcyon days which ever true populist believes that the future holds in store, when panics will be prevented by a sufficient volume of currency, when the banks will be stable because they will belong to the government, and transportation rates will be reasonable because fixed by the people's representatives, when there will be work for every willing hand and the system that creates millionaires at one end and tramps at the other shall be regulated to the barbarism of the past, when those golden days shall come, my brother, then you and I perhaps can rest on our laurels and feel that we have done our part; that we have helped humanity by living. But at the present time it behooves us to work. This movement is not going to move itself. Then, in the language of the classics, "Let us get a hustle on ourselves and keep the grand cause marching on.—J. A. Edgerton in Nonconformist.

THE STATE FAIR.

The Nebraska state fair promises to be larger and better this year than ever before. The buildings at the grounds are all being repaired and some of them enlarged. From all reports the exhibits will be larger than those of last year. The fair opens September 8th, but Monday, September 11th, will be the first day for public attendance. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week will be the principle days. Persons who are not able to attend the world's fair should come to the state fair as the next best thing.

Those persons who predict the defeat of home rule in Ireland if Gladstone should pass away before that measure is successful, seem to be imbued with a very poor idea of the situation over there. If the principle of home rule depended upon Gladstone's personal popularity alone, it never would have reached the stage it has. There is something stronger and deeper in home rule than Gladstone's personality, much as the "grand old man" is admired by his followers.

The St. Charles hotel at the foot of O Street is the most popular farmer's house in Lincoln. Only \$1.00 a day.

THE SITUATION.

It now seems almost certain that the senate will pass the repeal bill. It seems equally certain that no silver legislation will be attempted by the present congress. Probably there will be no other financial legislation than the passage of the repeal bill; as the bill for increasing the bank currency has been shelved, at least for the present. The remainder of the present congress—after doing Wall street's bidding—will be occupied in a sham battle over the tariff and in making billion dollar appropriations.

There is no need of disguising the fact that it is a knock-out blow for silver; that it leaves the country on an absolute gold basis, except for the silver already coined and silver certificates already in circulation. For the future, if there is no silver legislation in succeeding congresses, gold will be the standard and gold will be the basis for all our money. We might as well awaken to the fact—Wall street has succeeded and another large percentage of our circulating medium has been stricken down.

What the final result of such an action will be is not hard to foresee. It will result as all other contractions of the currency have resulted—in a still farther lowering of prices, in a still farther financial stringency to all but the moneyed class. It will result as a similar action resulted in England over half a century ago—in all the land passing from the hands of over one-half of the population into the hands of about one-fifth of the population. The history of America placed on a gold basis will be a repetition of the history of England placed on a gold basis. Mark the prediction.

The immediate effect will probably be different. As Col. Ingersoll says: "This is a banker's panic." It was created for a specific purpose. It is reasonable to suppose that when that purpose is gained, the power that created it can cause it to cease. After the money power has reached the point for which it set out—the gold standard and an additional issue of bonds—money will be loosed from the great centers, the financial flurry will disappear and there will be a revival of seeming prosperity. But it will be only seeming. And the successive years that we remain upon a gold basis will see the reduction of the masses nearer and nearer to a condition of practical serfdom.

An American aristocracy will be built up. It may not possess the titles but will possess all the power of the British aristocracy. Land will continue to pass out of the hands of the many into the hands of the few. A system of tenant farming, similar to that of England, will be built up. Every effort will be made to crush out organized labor. From the days of a political republic we will pass by easy stages to the days of an industrial despotism.

This is the plan of the moneyed interests and so far they have carried it out to the letter.

Will the people awaken soon enough to stop it? Or will they, by their apathy, repeat the history of European countries? It is now a question of industrial liberty or industrial despotism. The people must choose.

MR. J. A. EDGERTON has performed most of the editorial work on the present issue. He will be retained as temporary editor until the new editor is elected and takes his place.

Now the best timber should be selected in every county in Nebraska. If we gain enough court houses the state house is certain to come with them.