

POLITICS OF THE DAY

WHEN WILL WAGES RISE?

Stocks have risen in value, wheat is booming, Republican editors are hysterically happy, but the wage-earner is looking in vain for an increase in his pay.

Prosperity is here, but, somehow or other, the men who work for a living don't seem to be getting any of the benefits. And in addition to the fact that wages are low there comes the added fact that work is scarce. When the wage-earner finds no difficulty in securing a place to labor, and when he receives a decent wage in recompense for that labor, then, indeed, will the Republican hilarity over good times have cause for existence.

Consistency demands that the Republican employers of labor should prove their faith in the return of prosperity by meeting the demands of labor for a reasonable wage with a prompt and cheerful response. A failure to do this is either a confession of the falsehood of their claims or of the fact that they are oppressors of the poor and speculators in human lives.

Starving miners, who ask, not fair wages, but simply pay enough to keep themselves and families alive, are met with injunctions and armed guards; are evicted from their miserable homes and are denied the liberty of free speech and peaceable assembly. Republican consistency is only equalled by Republican rapacity, inhumanity, falsehood and greed.—Chicago Dispatch.

Tariff and Prosperity.

Prosperity for the people, so far as it has come at all, has come through the beneficence of Providence in granting the United States an abundant wheat crop. The good price for wheat results from the fact that the world's crop of this cereal is some 200,000,000 bushels short of the average. It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good, and this country profits from the loss sustained by foreign countries.

Prosperity for the trusts comes through the action of the Dingley tariff. The sugar trust, on the basis of 2.3 cents per pound, gets an increased differential from 29.3 under the Wilson bill to 78.3 under the Dingley bill. The glass trust gets an average increase of 30 per cent. The meat trust gets an increase from 20 per cent. to 48.78 per cent. on beef, and an increase on preserved meats from 20 to 25 per cent., and on lard from 10 to 21 per cent.

The following lines of business, which are organized more or less compactly in the form of trusts, all get very large increases: Oilcloth Trust, Sandstone Trust, Dental Tools Trust, Felt Trust, Lager Beer Trust, Lead Pencil Trust, Patent Leather Trust, Watch Case Trust, White Lead Trust, Barbed Wire Trust, Boiler Trust, Boot and Shoe Trust, Borax Trust, Broom Trust, Brush Trust, Button Trust, Casket Trust, Celluloid Trust, Coal Trust, Crockery Trust, Cotton Trust, Duck Trust, Cotton Thread Trust, Electric Supplies Trust, Marble Trust, Match Trust, Paper Bag Trust, Plate Glass Trust, Pocket Cutlery Trust, Pulp Trust, Rubber Gossamer Trust, Rubber Trust, Safe Trust, Sanitary Ware Trust, Sandpaper Trust, Sash, Door and Blind Trust, School Furniture Trust, Shot and Lead Trust, Smelters' Trust, Soda Trust, Water Machinery Trust, Trunk Trust, Type Trust, Writing Paper Trust.

There is no argument necessary. Facts speak louder than words.

Not a Revenue Producer.

There is a dead silence on the part of the Republican press on the subject of the Dingley tariff as a raiser of revenue.

Great hurrahing over the providential dispensation which has given wheat a high price will not convince the people that McKinley contrived to create a famine in India and a short crop of wheat abroad; nor will it divert attention from Republican legislation, which is the true test of Republican ability to manage the affairs of this nation.

When the Dingley bill was under discussion its Republican advocates urged that it would produce a revenue the first year of its existence amounting to at least \$15,000,000 a month. Up to date the receipts show that it has not brought to the Government treasury half the monthly amount estimated, a scant \$7,000,000 a month having been received.

There is something radically wrong with the Dingley tariff bill, and if the deficits not made good in some unforeseen manner, the Republican money mangers and tariff tinkers will find themselves in an exceedingly awkward predicament.

With appropriations for the year amounting to \$528,735,078, the deficit threatens to be something of a stumbling block to the bragart bulldozers of the party in power. Evidently too much attention was paid to filling the pockets of the trusts and too little to the construction of a revenue-producing measure when the Dingley bill was formed.

Too Much Politics in Pensions.

There never has been any hostility to pensions for Federal soldiers who were disabled in the service of the country where the disability was actually incurred in the service or was the result of the service. No one who has not studied the question has any conception of the amount of fraud and rascality that is perpetrated in the

granting of pensions. The trouble about it has been that the pension office has been made a political machine and operated as such in a great measure ever since the war.—Louisville Post.

Crowding Silver Too Far.

The fall in the price of silver is urged by the advocates of gold monometallism as an argument against bimetalism. The argument is all the other way, and those who are not blind partisans are beginning to see the logic of the situation. The advocates of gold have pushed their cause too far, and threatened the destruction of \$1,506,000,000 worth of coined silver held by India, Mexico, Brazil, South America, China, France and Austria, to say nothing of the United States. Is it not evident that Europe has a deep financial interest in bringing about some plan to prevent the wiping out of this value?

The New York World, a strong gold organ, asks the pertinent question: "What is to become of the commerce of the silver countries—England's best customers—if their money is to be wiped out? Mexico has already put a stop to foreign trade for this cause. Must not all the other silver countries do the like if the decline continues?" It is evident that there is such a thing as "crowding the limit." England may discover this fact when she loses her trade with all the silver-using countries.

Hanna's Wrath.



Hanna (to Major Dick)—You careless, stupid, reckless fellow! Did you see that? That's the way you use postal money orders should never be used in such cases? They are apt to come back and make serious trouble. I shall forgive you this first mistake. But hereafter don't attempt to execute any of my general orders in detail without consulting me as to the details. You are not as old in this business as I. Look how I handled the middle-roads, gold Democrats, gold prohibitionists, anarchists—even Herr Most, and never got caught. It will cost me a nice figure to clear this up, for the subsidized press is bleeding the life out of me. But, thank heaven, I have plenty of "stuff" left over to do the work.—Ohio Farm News.

Crime of '73 Illustrated.

It is remarked that the administration is afraid to oust John Sherman, though it has not much use for him. And John threatens to make speeches in Ohio, too. He will, though, be more of an object lesson than an orator. People will not pay much attention to what he may say, but they will look upon him as a physical exhibit of the crime of 1873. Mr. Sherman is one of those who have not outlived their sins. Although about twenty-four years have elapsed since Mr. Sherman failed to tell his colleagues about the devilment concealed in the mint bill, the failure has not been forgotten. As the distressing results of that act strike upon the country with greater and greater force, as the years pass, the sufferers get anxious to know who was the original sinner. It will be an unfortunate day for the Democrats if the Hannaites suppress Mr. Sherman.

Prosperity Howlers Hedging.

Some of the Hanna organs which have been spilling over on the subject of prosperity see the necessity for "hedging" a little. One of them says: "It will not be a boom era, but something steady—a period of steady and substantial growth." That will not do. The people want a boom. They want a swift ride to prosperity. They have been a long time in the trough of the business sea. They were promised prosperity immediately on the election of McKinley; but things got worse. Then they were to have it on the inauguration, but it did not materialize. Then Congress was to fix it, but the number of idle men has not decreased, and thousands of those who have employment have had their wages reduced since the adjournment of Congress. Nothing but an immediate boom will redeem the promises of the advance agent.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Playing with Edged Tools.

Those mine owners who imagine they have scored a great victory by securing permanent injunction of a sweeping nature against the United Mine Workers of America are likely to see their mistake after the hour of their triumph has passed. There is a growing public feeling that the injunction,

as a weapon to be used against labor organizations, is not to be handled carelessly. In the Pittsburg case Judge Collier makes a temporary injunction against the striking miners permanent, after calling the coal strike, "the wonder of the century," because of its freedom from violence. One naturally asks: What next?—Boston Transcript.

Only the Tariff Considered.

Every student of economics knows that in the history of every vigorous nation all short periods of depression in trade have been followed by longer periods of renewed activity. Yet if this country shall be more prosperous during the next three years than it has been during the past three every prejudiced tariff advocate will assert the opinion that all that is needed for still greater prosperity is more tariff. All other influences that go to make a country prosperous will be ignored. Unprecedented crops at home and famine and crop failures abroad, less foolish speculation, a frugality learned by bitter experience—all will be futile in comparison with the laws made by an omniscient Congress.—Philadelphia Record.

Why the Tariff on Coal.

Will not some one rise up and explain to the people what particular advantage at this crisis in the coal trade is the 67 cents a ton duty imposed by the Dingley law on importations of bituminous coal? The miners are called on to go to work at 54 cents a ton by the operators, some of whom declaimed that such a tariff advance was necessary to the payment of living wages. What protection is there in a 67-cent-a-ton duty with the miners getting only 54 cents a ton for mining?—Pittsburg Post.

Bread Going Up with Wheat.

Dollar wheat means a good many things besides happiness for the farmer. It means, for instance, an increase in the cost of a loaf of bread. The increase will be felt first by the bakers, but it must ultimately be felt by the consumer. The price of flour has responded at once to the rise in the price of wheat, and has gone up in proportion.—Boston Herald.

Hotter than Coal Heat.

According to Lord Kelvin, there are only 200,000 tons of fuel in the world for each person alive to-day. This alarming fact is pointed to by Chairman Dingley as his reason for the increased tax on coal, but Dingley fails to take into account the unlimited supplies of heat in another and lower world which should be of personal interest to the robber barons.—Louisville Post.

Good Returns for Farm Labor.

The people of the West are going to realize good prices for their products, particularly grain, while the Southern cotton crop will be large, but under existing conditions will bring fair returns. The Louisiana sugar crop promises to be excellent, and the rice crop will give a considerable yield.—New Orleans Picayune.

Brief Comment.

That cheek Major Dick gave to the Populist seems to have been something in the way of a dicker.—Chicago Dispatch.

The prediction of Senator Aldrich that the new tariff would fall some \$40,000,000 per annum short of meeting the expenses of the Government is in a fair way of being borne out.—Brooklyn Citizen.

Mark Hanna is quoted as saying some time ago that "no man in public office owes the public anything." In so far as Mr. Hanna has had any power in the matter, he has seen to it that the public got nothing, except the worst of it.—Binghamton (N. Y.) Leader.

Mark Hanna denies the report that President McKinley will "swing around the circle" in Ohio making campaign speeches for him. It is pleasant to know that there is a limit to the President's display of gratitude toward his campaign manager.—New York World.

The colored voters who had always voted the Republican ticket as a matter of religious duty are thinking over the matter and considering whether it would not be better for their interests in the long run if they showed a little independence for once.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

What would the Federal courts do if the coal miners were to apply for some of those most extraordinary injunctions? There is a broad suspicion to the effect that they would be promptly and firmly refused. Government by injunction goes by favors.—New York Evening Journal.

Those persons who are finding fault with President McKinley for appointing so many of his relatives to office evidently overlook the fact that Napoleon used to make a specialty of that sort of thing. McKinley has been boomed on Napoleonic lines for many years past.—New York Journal.

The revival of prosperity through the bounty of nature in this country and falling crops elsewhere comes despite restrictions on trade for the benefit of plutocrats. The "rake off" for the favored few provided for by the Dingley iniquity is merely a fly in the ointment of the country's content.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The public at large would be much interested to learn the name of the man who supplies the (laughter) and (much applause) interjections in the "leave to print" speeches in the Congressional Record. As most of these speeches were not spoken, who laughed and who applauded? Was it the compositors who set the speeches in type?—Indianapolis News.

The mosque of St. Sophia at Constantinople was built over 1,000 years ago, and the mortar used is said to have been perfumed with musk. The musky odor is still perceptible.

TOPICS FOR FARMERS

A DEPARTMENT PREPARED FOR OUR RURAL FRIENDS.

Sow the Kind of Wheat that Is Best Adapted to the Soil—Advice About Clipping Horses—Removing the Corn Tassels.

Selecting Seed Wheat.

It is found that a change of feed, even that from an adjoining farm, is an advantage. Wheat grown upon strong limestone soils in a cool climate has more vitality and will yield more to the acre than when sown in a warmer climate. For this reason a change of seed every few years is desirable. If home-grown seed is to be used, select the very best, and then run it through the mill several times to get only the largest and most perfect grains. There are two leading varieties of wheat, the white and the red. The white wheats make the best quality of flour. They require a good soil, thorough preparation of the ground and early seeding. The usual yield is from twenty-five to thirty bushels to the acre. The red wheats are more hardy and are most in demand. The leading kinds are Fultz, Mediterranean and Fulcastor. Our leading wheat growers sow mostly the Fultz and the red Mediterranean. The Fultz has a short, stiff straw, that stands up well. The improved Mediterranean is a very valuable wheat, especially for rich clay soils that have recently been limed. On such soils crops have been grown the past season averaging forty bushels to the acre, upon fields of twenty acres in extent. The editor would advise each farmer to sow that wheat that best suits his soil. Have plump, clean seed; seed six pecks to the acre, and take the month of August to get the wheat ground in proper condition for drilling early in September.—The American.

Clipping the Horse.

It might be thought that clipping would have a tendency to increase the risk of colds and chest diseases in the horse. Such, however, is not the case; on the contrary, it reduces the probability of such affections. The greatest sufferers are those that, after a hard day's work, are brought into the stable wet with perspiration or from rain, and having a heavy coat of hair, take a considerable time to dry, notwithstanding careful dressing, a performance which is too generally neglected. To thoroughly dry a horse in such condition is too hard work to please most groomers, consequently the horse gets a chill, and his respiratory organs become affected. A clipped horse is readily dried, and when afterwards clothed, passes the night comfortably, and is not so liable to "catch cold" as the horse that rests in a coat damp, if not sodden, with perspiration or rain. Clipped horses should always be well clothed when not at work, and special care should be taken to preserve the temperature of the skin for the first few days after they have undergone the operation of having their natural hairy covering reduced by the clipper.—Portland Transcript.

Removing Corn Tassels.

We have never believed that it would pay to detassel corn in order to save the plant vigor and strength required to perfect the male blossom. It would in the first place involve too much labor, and we could never see that the stalks from which tassels had been removed were any more prolific than others. What used to be known as topping corn, which means cutting off all above the ear, is a certain injury to the crop. It used to be done to let the sun reach the ear. But the ear needed all the foliage that the stalk was deprived of in order to perfect its grain. Besides, it has long been recognized that these thin topplings of corn have far less sweetness and nutrition than has the larger part of the stalk below them. At earing time the richest part of the stalk will be the middle, and as close to the ear as possible. Give a cow a cornstalk and she will always begin in the middle, eating both ways till she comes to less nutrition, and casting out the butt and top ends as not suited to her taste.—Exchange.

Pear Blight.

Pear blight is one of those plant diseases that has been exhaustively studied and its exact nature fully demonstrated, and yet it has left us precisely where we were before as respects remedial measures. In a word, the only remedy when blight has stricken a branch is to cut well below the affected part and burn it; if the whole tree seems affected, to dig it out and burn it. I am not aware that any specific applications are of any use except as they may promote a more uniform and healthy development of the tree, thus giving it greater resistance and making it less susceptible to the attack of the blight bacterium. Particularly should undue stragulation of rank fertilizers be avoided, since they induce extraordinary growth which is liable to be soft and spongy, and often unseasonable, running into fall when the tree should be hardening the season's growth. The Seckel pear has the reputation of being one of the most resistant varieties, but it is not proof by any means, as your correspondent has testified.

Blight varies somewhat in different years. The reasons for this are unknown, but appear to be due to more favorable weather conditions some seasons than others. Discouraging as pear culture is, owing to the insidious character of blight, it will pay to watch trees carefully for the first appearance of disease, to cultivate, prune and care for them systematically.—Germantown Telegraph.

Oats and Peas for Soiling.

Excepting clover there is no better soiling crop than a mixture of oats and peas cut green. It can be sown much

earlier than corn, and will be in condition long before corn is ready to cut for green fodder. The pea vines also make it a better ration than green corn at its best, as they supply the nitrogenous element in which corn is deficient. But as the main soiling crop corn will always have the preference, as more can be grown of it per acre than of the peas and oats. By sowing successively until the middle of May, oats and peas can be kept in best condition for soiling until corn fodder has got into tassel. But the latest sown oats and peas should all be used for green fodder as the excess of nitrogen in the soil will make the late oats rust and the late peas mildew so that they cannot be saved for grain. But if there is more of them than can be fed green, the corn and peas make excellent silage if put up just as the grain is beginning to form.—Cultivator.

Alfalfa Replacing Corn.

It is not likely that alfalfa, the clover which has succeeded so well in California, will ever become plentiful in the East. Our wet winters will rot the roots or at least decrease their vigor. On very dry, sandy or gravelly soil it might succeed here. But it seems to be especially adapted to hot and dry climates, and hence its success in the arid regions of the far West. As its root often goes several feet deep it is likely to change the character of the climate, for wherever alfalfa roots have gone water will also go. The alfalfa retains its greenness during the severest droughts. Of course it must be all the time evaporating moisture, and this also will have some effect in changing the climate. Hence in localities too dry for corn, alfalfa is taking its place as a feed for all kinds of stock. It is at the same time fitting the soil for growing corn and other crops.—American Cultivator.

Winter Carnations.

If carnations are wanted for winter blooming in the dwelling or greenhouse, they must be carefully cultivated now. Plants raised from cuttings this spring must have the flower buds nipped off as soon as they show themselves. Follow this treatment all through the summer. Keep the earth around the plants loose, mellow and free from weeds. By fall strong, stout, stocky plants will be had, and with proper management, a handsome display of choice flowers may be had all through the winter. The last of September they should be potted, taking a large mass of earth up with the roots. After they are nicely potted water freely and set the pots in a partially shaded place until they finally recover. The earth must be kept moist, but not wet, in the pots. They thrive best in a cool temperature—from forty-five to fifty degrees. They grow nicely in a well-protected cold frame.—The American.

Alsike Clover.

It is no wonder that alsike clover so often proves a disappointment to farmers who sow it, thinking that it will, like other clover, at least remain in the ground two full years. Alsike clover seeds, with its first crop. Then, unless the clover has been cut before it fairly got into blossom, the root will not sprout again, and the farmer is left with a bare stubble the remainder of the summer. Some permanent grass should always be sown with alsike clover. Timothy is one of the best, as it is a patient grass, growing a little beneath the clover early in the season, and then shooting up quickly and coming into head when the ground is cleared off for it to do so. The alsike roots, being dead, begin at once to decay in the soil. They are so rich in plant food that timothy sown with alsike always makes a better sod, and will last longer than when it is grown alone.

Weaning Lambs.

It is not always safe to separate the ewes and lambs suddenly, especially in warm weather, when any unusual condition in the ewe may lead to unexpected trouble. The rule must be a close oversight of the flock, one by one, and the drafting off of those ewes whose lambs may be safely separated from them permanently.—Sheep Breeder.

Farm Notes.

If weeds are annual they will soon disappear if not allowed to produce seeds; if they are perennial, keep them cut down so as to prevent them from making leaves. Leaves are the breathing organs of plants, and to frequently cut down the plants as fast as they begin to grow will soon put an end to them.

Currying the horses when they have become dry after their return from the day's work relieves them of itching due to attacks of insects and opens the pores of the skin. If they are well rubbed down and also given a brisk brushing they will feel better and also be in better condition for work the next day.

Four times as much can be produced on an acre by the use of wheel hoes and other hand implements than by the ordinary cultivation with horse power, as the hand implements will allow of growing the plants closer in the rows, and the rows need not be more than twelve inches apart, but in so doing the crop must be supplied with an abundance of plant food and carefully attended to.

In Michigan a law is in force which requires all orchards infested with injurious insects to be sprayed or disinfected. This law is enforced by three commissioners in each township, who are appointed on petition of ten freeholders. If the owner refuses to do the work the commissioners can do it and tax costs against him. Thus far the law works well, and its justness is recognized. No man has a right to grow weeds or breed insects to destroy his neighbor's crops or fruit.



Flour that Makes the Best Bread.

The soft, fine white flour will not give as large an amount of muscle, bone or nerve-making food as the whole wheat flour, which constitutes in itself a complete life-sustainer. In selecting flour choose that which is dark in color and free from bran. The best bread flours in the market are of a yellowish-white tinge, rather granulated, and do not easily pack. They make a strong and elastic dough. Though not whole wheat flours, they are decidedly the best of the white brands. After selecting the flour the next important thing is to have a good, strong, sweet and pure yeast. The compressed cakes are good and convenient, and will do the work much more quickly than ten times the amount of home-made or baker's yeast. When setting bread to rise stand your bread-pan in another of warm water; cover the two so that the moisture will pass over the top of the dough at an even temperature of 75 degrees Fahrenheit.—Mrs. S. T. Rorer, in Ladies' Home Journal.

Apple Pie.

Take six to nine greenings, according to size. Wash them well before using. Pare, quarter and core them; cut each quarter into lengthwise slices about one-fourth of an inch thick and lay them in an earthen dish until the pastry is ready. When the under crust is ready, place the slices carefully around the edge of the bottom, and then cover the bottom with one layer of slices placed closely together. Be careful not to puncture the crust with the corners of the slices. Over this layer of slices put a cupful of granulated sugar, then lay the remainder of the slice over the sugar. Sprinkle two dashes of salt over the apples, and then grate over them about one-fourth of the yellow rind of a lemon and your pie is ready for the upper crust.

Twin Biscuit.

Two cups of sifted flour, two level teaspoonfuls of baking powder, half teaspoonful of salt, two tablespoonfuls of butter, three-quarters of a cup of milk. Sift together the flour, salt and baking powder, rub the butter well through, and then add the milk all at once. Mix with a knife to a dough, then cut through several times until smooth and glossy. This takes the place of kneading. Turn it out on a well-floured board, roll back and forth a moment to cover it with flour, then gently roll out to about three-fourths of an inch thick, place in a baking pan far enough not to touch in baking, touch lightly with melted butter and bake about twelve minutes.

Tomato Ketchup.

Mrs. S. T. Rorer, the famous cooking expert, gives this, her favorite, receipt for making tomato ketchup in the Ladies' Home Journal: "Use half a bushel of sound August tomatoes. Wash and cut them into pieces. Cook gently for half an hour, then press through a sieve. Cook again for one hour; then add one ounce of ground ginger, one ounce of mustard, one gill of salt, half a pound of sugar and one quart of vinegar. Cook to the proper consistency; add five drops of oil of nutmeg, and the same of celery, or a tablespoonful of celery seed. Bottle, cork and seal."

Fruit Tapioca.

Stew any kind of fruit till it is a nice marmalade, flavoring it with a little lemon juice and grated rind; when cooked place it in a deep dish and pour over it some tapioca boiled in milk till smooth, creamy and just fit to pour; then place the dish in the oven and bake for half an hour. Serve hot or cold, with clotted or whipped cream, or the whites of one or two eggs whisked into a stiff froth with powdered sugar and a flavoring of vanilla.

Ice Cream.

Scald one pint of milk in a double boiler; add one teaspoonful of flour dissolved in a little cold milk and cook for twenty minutes; beat together three eggs and one cupful of sugar, stir in a little of the cooked milk, and add to the contents of the double boiler. When the custard is just thick enough to coat the back of a spoon strain and set away; when cold add one pint of cream and freeze.

Of Value to Housekeepers.

A little borax in baby's bath will prevent the skin from chafing and from breaking out from the heat.

Kettles should be washed as soon as you are through using them, and not be allowed to stand until cold.

A damp cellar will cause many kinds of sickness, and great attention should be paid to the proper airing and draining.

Nuts when dry may be restored to freshness by soaking them in milk of milk and lukewarm water for several hours.

Knives should be gently rubbed with oil before they are put away for any length of time, to prevent them from rusting.

Many lung troubles come from superficial breathing. Deep, full breaths should be drawn and the lungs fully expanded.

In either hot or cold weather the windows should be open at night and the house thoroughly ventilated at all times and seasons.

A good knife should never be used for stirring potatoes or other vegetables when frying, as the heat destroys the temper of the steel.