

# THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

I. M. RICE - Editor and Proprietor.  
MARK ZARR - Foreman.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 1907.

## JAPAN LEAPS TO GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP.

(Wilshire's Magazine.)

The extraordinary rapidity with which Japan has passed beyond the modern capitalistic stage of society is one of the most interesting social phenomena of the present time. Incidentally it throws a new light upon the generally accepted Socialist theory that every group must necessarily pass through well defined stages of social evolution.

From slavery to feudalism, from feudalism to capitalism and from capitalism to socialism has always been regarded as the orthodox succession of stages to the cooperative commonwealth.

Japan, however, provides the exception. Her development shows that it is not always necessary to travel steadily through each successive stage. That it is not necessary even that classes must succeed each other in a certain rotation as wielders of political power.

Japan has not passed through the capitalist stage. It is more correct to say that she has taken it in one jump.

The capitalist class, as a class, have never held political power in Japan. Its real rulers have been and now are the feudal aristocracy, the samurai, a class corresponding closely to the military feudal barons of the middle ages.

It is this class which has been instrumental in launching Japan into what may be described as state socialism, or state capitalism, whichever term the reader chooses. The capitalist class proper has not even played a subordinate part in the transition. They oppose it instead.

One year ago Wilshire's published a leading article on the "Mutation Theory Applied to Society," contending that, as it had never been shown that certain species suddenly generated new forms utterly different to themselves, there was no reason why the phenomenon might not apply to the movements of society also. That it was possible for society to "mutate" and that progress by the "slow and painful process of evolution" was not always indispensable.

We present Japan as an example of this possibility. Her transition from feudalism to government ownership of industries has been practically instantaneous. No capitalist class within her borders has fought its way to economic and political supremacy through long and arduous struggle. The process that has occupied other nations for centuries, has taken her but a generation to advance much further. Feudalism has "mutated" into an advanced capitalism, or a preliminary stage of socialism—the reader can again choose the term.

While we can tell nothing what-

ever of the causes for mutation in the lower forms of life, the case is different here. There is no difficulty in determining the causes for the sudden leap of Japan. The national existence was at stake. It was a case of life or death with little time for deliberation. Quick action was imperative. It was to mutate or die, and Japan mutated.

As Mr. Charles Russell says in his excellent article in the July "Everybody's." "These wise, keen-eyed people watching intently the trend of the daily progress of the world, knew well enough that the real struggles for world power are commercial, not military."

Mr. Russell might have added that this conclusion was an afterthought in reality. What Japan first perceived was that national independence apparently rested on the possession of modern weapons. Afterwards she came to see that these in turn rested on industrial development. The first innovations borrowed from other nations were not industrial but military. Japan imported modern rifles, cannon, warships and explosives as a starter. Then she engaged military specialists, officers, and drillmasters for her newly organized army. Afterwards came the ordinary commercial products. Then the machinery to make them, and finally the Japanese began to manufacture the machines themselves and place the product of them on the world's market.

It is related that in 1853 when Commodore Perry visited the island kingdom, his ships brought many ingenious industrial devices as presents for the Mikado, but they excited little interest. A small locomotive and a few hundred yards of rail were among them we are told. The Japanese nobility had these rails laid in a circle and amused themselves riding around on the engine for weeks, before the idea occurred to them that it was possible to lay the rails in a straight line and thus get somewhere. Now Japan has just perfected a plan for the nationalization of her extensive system of railroads.

But Japan saw at once from the fate of India and her neighbor China, what her certain fate would be if she neglected to provide for defense against benevolent assimilation. And as the first line of defense was evidently to be found only in the weapons with which the aggressors were armed, Japan lost no time in providing herself.

The same rapidity of decision marked her course afterwards in grappling with industrial problems. Here is how Mr. Russell describes her dealings with the tobacco trust:

Once we enjoyed an abundant

trade with Japan in these things (manufactured tobacco and cigarettes) for we had taught her to want them, and then joyously we supplied her want at high prices. Thus in the end Japan served copiously to swell the hard-earned treasures of the American tobacco trust, for the Japanese were industrious consumers and the trust could charge what it pleased, having the trade by the throat. But when the trust had established branch houses and offices and works and invested in them \$12,000,000 the Japanese government concluded that it might as well have the goodly profits as let the tobacco trust have them, so it went into the tobacco business on its own account. It bought factories and stores and passed a law establishing itself in a practical monopoly of the tobacco trade, for no makers of cigarettes, cigars or tobacco, were allowed to sell their products until they had been offered to, and declined by an agent of the government. It then put an import duty of 250 per cent on cigarettes and tobacco. Thereupon the American cigarettes vanished faster than their own smoke, and the defeated American tobacco trust was glad to sell to the government (for what it could get) its business and branch houses.

All this occupied but a very few years. There was no wearisome discussion of the trust problem, no fatuous Bryans to waste precious time talking impotently about the destruction of the trust. The Japanese government, impelled by immediate necessity, that knows neither law nor lawyers, saw at once that the only thing to do with the trust was to own it and forthwith took possession. A similar policy is now being applied to every other industry in Japan. They have had no time to grow into trusts.

Japan has been forced to "mutate" through outside capitalistic influences. Her feudal aristocracy, naturally desirous of maintaining their national existence, and at the same time retaining their power, merely forestalled a capitalistic regime by establishing government monopoly with themselves as the government. It was the only possible thing they could do and retain political supremacy.

The example of Japan must perforce be followed by her rivals in trade, as it is impossible for individual capitalists to compete against a government. Her "mutation" will react on them and force them towards the mutating point also.

In this way the ground will be cleared for the final struggle for possession of the government between the actual producers and the ruling class, for whoever controls the government controls the industries also, this final struggle being the necessary condition through which government ownership by a class must be transformed into socialism or collective ownership by all.

### U. S. Department of Agriculture, Weather Bureau. Bulletin Q.

"CLIMATOLOGY OF THE UNITED STATES," BY ALFRED JUDSON HENRY, PROFESSOR OF METEOROLOGY.

The above is the title of a work just received by the local weather bureau office. It contains 1210 printed pages and embodies a study in detail of all the meteorological observations taken and recorded in the U. S. from 1830 to present date. It is a monumental work. As a climatic authority it is invaluable. As no citizen can escape the effects of climate so everyone is interested to a greater or lesser extent in its vagaries. Its vagaries, however, up to date, though not under control, and not entirely known, have to a large extent been scientifically tabulated and put in such pleasing shape, that it is not stretching the imagination to state that this great work paves the way to a clearer conception of this great science of meteorology.

Does any citizen desire to ex-

periment with a new seed, or plant, he will find information as to its most appropriate habitat. Does a citizen desire to change the climate for himself or some dear one for health's sake, herein will be found full information. Does anyone desire to start a new manufacture of things useful or otherwise, be he captain of industry or small capitalist, or co-operator, he will find the information sought for. In every pursuit of life we cannot escape the weather, and he who runs may read and acquire knowledge that may mean success or failure in accordance as he follows out the deductions so patiently, laboriously and accurately tabulated. This work is built up on a foundation of natural law, and one by one its fundamental principles are being deduced from the most accurate observations ever compiled by the citizens of any nation in the world. It is almost encyclopedic in its particular scope.

The local official in charge of this station will be pleased to give any and all citizens access to this almost unlimited mine of meteorological and climatic information.

JOHN J. MCLEAN.

### Department of the Interior. SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 3.—The Commissioner of the General Land Office.—Sir: Referring to the circular of instructions to special agents of your office, approved by me on January 29, 1904, relative to their duties under the act of February 25, 1885 (23 Stat., 321), entitled "An act to prevent unlawful occupancy of the public lands," you are advised that said circular is hereby amended and modified as follows:

Strike out from said circular paragraphs 5 and 6, and insert in lieu thereof the following:

It shall be the duty of the special agent on receipt of any charge or complaint or upon information being acquired by him from any source, that an unlawful inclosure is being maintained by any person or persons, association, or corporation, to at once proceed to secure sufficient data, including a description of the lands inclosed, with reasonable certainty, not necessarily by metes and bounds, nor by governmental subdivisions of surveyed land, but only so that the inclosure may be identified and the person or persons guilty of the violation, as nearly as may be, and by description if the name can not, on reasonable inquiry, be ascertained, and to at once submit such case, with the data thus obtained, to the United States attorney for prosecution.

It shall be the duty of the special agent, and he shall be so instructed, to be alert and vigilant to detect the existence of unlawful inclosures in his district and to proceed in accordance therewith as hereinabove directed, and that he is not to construe his duties as requiring that, before proceeding in the matter of an unlawful inclosure, there must first be filed with him a formal complaint by some person or persons acquainted with the facts, but it shall be his duty, as hereinabove stated, to take the initiative himself.

In this connection you are further instructed, by direction of the President, to at once notify all of the special agents and receivers and registers of local land offices throughout the United States, and to give the widest publicity thereto that the provisions of said act of February 25, 1885, for the summary destruction of inclosures and obstructions existing in violation of said act will be rigidly enforced on and after April 1, 1907.

Respectfully,  
E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
Secretary of the Interior.

Get your property insured by I. M. Rice and you will be safe. His companies pay losses promptly.

## A Dollar Saved Is a Dollar Made

Furniture and Hardware, Household Necessities in the best Enamel Ware, Rustless Tin, Copper and Nickel Plated Cooking Vessels. Everything to furnish the home. My goods were bought before the raise. Come and get them at the old prices which are equal to a big discount. To see is to believe. Come and be convinced.

## FRANK FISCHER, Hardware, Furniture and Coal.

## THE STOCK EXCHANGE Valentine's Pure Liquor Center

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to you, and may you start it RIGHT by using the RIGHT KIND of WINES and LIQUORS. With us PURITY and BEST QUALITY means "RIGHT," and we guarantee our goods to be that in every sense of the word. And while all good Wines, Whiskeys, Cordials, etc., must vary according to vintage and age, they should be pure and free from adulterations under all conditions, which is what we claim. We desire the PUBLIC TO KNOW that we are neither BLENDERS, COMPOUNDERS NOR RECTIFIERS; also that we use the utmost care to purchase our goods from the most reliable houses in America, and just as we get them, they pass into the hands of our customers. NO SPURIOUS IMITATIONS or IMPURE LIQUORS OFFERED FOR SALE. WE HAVE THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT IN TOWN.

WHOLESALE DEALER IN PABST AND KRUG BEERS

W. F. A. MELTENDORFF

## Monthly Meteorological Summary.

STATION: Valentine, Nebr.

MONTH: December, 1906

TEMPERATURE		PRECIPITATION		CHARACTER OF DAY	
Max.	Min.	Mo.	Wd.	Mo.	Wd.
44	29	0	0	PC	PC
50	33	0	0	Clear	Clear
61	39	0	0	Clear	Clear
41	26	18	0	Idy	Idy
26	15	20	07	Idy	Idy
17	5	11	0	Idy	Idy
39	5	21	0	Idy	Idy
32	7	20	0	Idy	Idy
50	6	28	0	Idy	Idy
53	34	44	0	Idy	Idy
53	27	27	0	Idy	Idy
53	14	14	0	Clear	Clear
53	8	24	0	Clear	Clear
52	16	16	0	Clear	Clear
18	12	12	05	PC	PC
45	13	29	0	PC	PC
41	26	34	0	Clear	Clear
38	24	31	0	Clear	Clear
41	21	31	0	Clear	Clear
38	22	30	0	PC	PC
41	26	34	0	PC	PC
51	28	40	0	PC	PC
53	25	39	0	PC	PC
37	21	39	0	Clear	Clear
33	17	29	0	Idy	Idy
55	23	39	0	Clear	Clear
39	21	34	0	Idy	Idy
37	17	29	0	Idy	Idy
21	14	18	0	Idy	Idy
40	17	29	0	Idy	Idy

ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE. (Reduced to sea level; inches and hundredths.)  
Mean 30.15; highest 30.99, date 1. Lowest 29.76, date 12.  
Greatest daily range 44, date 10. Least daily range 6, date 30.

TEMPERATURE.  
Highest 64°, date 3. Lowest 5°, date 6.  
Greatest daily range 44, date 10. Least daily range 6, date 30.

MEAN FOR THIS MONTH IN  
1889 39° 1892 22° 1895 27° 1898 23° 1901 22° 1904 21°  
1890 32° 1893 26° 1896 34° 1899 24° 1902 19° 1905 30°  
1891 31° 1894 30° 1897 21° 1900 32° 1903 27° 1906 20°

MEAN FOR THIS MONTH FOR 18 YEARS 27°  
Absolute maximum for this month for 18 years 72°  
At a date Minimum for this month for 18 years -34°

PRECIPITATION.  
Total this month 0.40; snowfall 1.8.  
Greatest precipitation in 24 hours 0.21, date 4-5.  
Snow on the ground at end of this month 0.

TOTAL PRECIPITATION: THIS MONTH IN  
1889 0.84 1892 0.45 1895 0.15 1898 0.37 1901 0.93 1904 0.16  
1890 0.32 1893 0.83 1896 0.46 1899 0.40 1902 1.28 1905 0.10  
1891 0.42 1894 0.65 1897 1.03 1900 0.15 1903 0.15 1906 0.40

WIND.  
Prevailing direction NW; total movement 6379 miles; average hourly velocity 8.6; maximum velocity (for five minutes) 23 miles per hour from NW on the 21.

WEATHER.  
Number of clear days 9; partly cloudy 12; cloudy 10; on which 0.1 inch, or more, of precipitation occurred 4.

NOTE: "T" indicates trace of precipitation; "-" below zero; "PC" partly cloudy.

JOHN J. MCLEAN, Observer Weather Bureau.

Four room house to rent; also, 3 rooms over the Democrat Office for rent as an office or light house-keeping. I. M. RICE.

You can get a case of 24 bottles of Webb's soda for 75c, delivered to your house. Try a case. Telephone 117. 31

Dr. Shipperd, the dentist from Ainsworth, uses the new English method of extracting teeth, which does it practically without pain to the patient. See him Jan. 29 or 30 at the Donohoe hotel. 1-2

Frank Grooms of Sparks was through town the first of the week enroute for home, having been out on the Niobrara river visiting at the home of his brother Dick. He also bought some young horses of J. A. Adamson.

Jake Stetter buys cattle and hogs and anything the farmers have to sell. Office is where Lee's barber shop was, east side of Main street. If you want to buy or sell anything see me. No deal is too large and none are too small. J. W. STETTER, Valentine, Neb.

### NEW TIME TABLE, C. & N. W.

EAST BOUND  
No. 2, Daily except Saturdays... 9:45 p. m., Pass  
No. 6, Daily... 4:35 a. m., Pass  
No. 82, Daily, except Sunday... 4:00 p. m., local  
No. 116, Daily... 5:20 a. m., local  
WEST BOUND  
No. 1, Daily, except Sundays... 6:50 p. m., Pass  
No. 5, Daily... 1:47 a. m., Pass  
No. 81, Daily except Sunday... 9:40 a. m., local  
No. 119, (doesn't carry passengers)... 11:45 p. m.

## LET US FIGURE ON YOUR LUMBER BILLS

## BISHOP & YOUNG, Cody, Neb.

### Order of Hearing on Petition for Appointment of Administrator.

In the County Court of Cherry County, Nebraska.  
To the heirs and to all persons interested in the estate of Jane Bowring, deceased:  
On reading the petition of Arthur Bowring praying that the administration of said estate be granted to himself as administrator.  
It is hereby ordered that you, and all persons interested in said matter, may, and do, appear at the County Court to be held in and for said county, on the 24 day of February, A. D. 1907, at 10 o'clock a. m. to show cause if any there be, why the prayer of the petitioner should not be granted, and that notice of the pendency of said petition and that the hearing thereof be given to all persons interested in said matter by publishing a copy of this order in the Valentine Democrat a weekly newspaper printed in said county, for three successive weeks prior to said day of hearing.  
Witness my hand, and seal of said court, this 15th day of January A. D. 1907.  
W. R. TOWNE,  
County Judge.

## GRANT BOYER, CARPENTER & BUILDER.

All kinds of wood work done to order. Stock tanks made in all sizes  
Valentine, Nebraska