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ISSUED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY M. K. TURNER & CO., Columbus, Neb.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: One year, by mail, postage prepaid, \$2.00; six months, \$1.25; three months, \$0.75. Single copies, 10 cents.

When subscribers change their place of residence they should at once notify us by letter or post card, giving their former and present post-office, so that we may be able to reach them.

Advertisements: All communications, to secure attention, must be accompanied by the full name of the advertiser, and cannot be returned to the advertiser unless a return address is given.

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Who Pays the Pension Money?

The clamor of the anti-pension howlers deceives many people into believing that pension disbursements impose burdens upon the tax payers of the country. Nothing can be further from truth.

There are no pensioners in the country the revenue system would be substantially the same, for it is founded on our policy of protection to American industries, and the generally accepted belief that the government should control the production and sale of whisky, beer, tobacco and oleomargarine.

So much for generalities. Now let us see whether the money actually comes which is used to pay pensions. The report of the secretary of the treasury for 1890 shows that was collected last year:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes From customs, From internal taxes, From profits on coinage, etc.

Bank taxes, patent office and other minor fees, tax on seal and other minor items, total \$358,618,284.00 was paid out again; \$106,936,825.05 was for pensions.

That is, less than twenty-five per cent of the entire revenue collections were disbursed for pensions. Let us take these figures as a basis and go still further into particulars.

The largest single item is that of \$12,006,705 for internal revenue collections. Much more is collected from this one source than would pay the entire pension roll, with all the arrears which have been accumulating for twenty-nine years.

The report of the commissioner of internal revenue shows that this was divided up as follows: From distilled spirits, \$41,687,375.00; From tobacco, \$3,983,991.06; From fermented liquors, \$2,008,334.74; From oleomargarine, \$786,291.72; From banks, not national, \$153,720.09; Total, \$42,528,696.57.

The tax on distilled spirits is ninety cents a gallon. A gallon of whisky contains a little less than a proof gallon of spirits, but for convenience we will say that it is the same. Therefore, every man who drank a gallon of whisky last year paid ninety cents into the treasury, of which one-fourth or twenty-two and a half cents, went for pensions.

As he paid an average of ten cents for a drink, and there are about seventy average drinks in a gallon, he paid the barkeeper who sold him the stuff, fully \$7.00 before he contributed twenty-two and a half cents to pensions.

The tax has been eight cents a pound on smoking tobacco, \$3.00 a thousand on cigars and fifty cents a thousand on cigarettes. Therefore, a man has had to pay into the pension fund two cents for every pound of tobacco he smoked.

Or, if he preferred cigars, he has had to smoke three cigars a day for a year which cost him not less than \$54.00 before paying \$3.00 into the treasury, of which twenty-five cents went for pensions.

If he drank beer he would have to swallow thirty-two gallons before paying \$1.00 into the treasury—of which twenty-five cents went for pensions. As a barrel of beer contains about 500 glasses, he paid the saloon keeper \$25.00 for every twenty-five cents that went for pensions.

Recognition of Indian Allis.

Colonel W. F. Cody and Major Burke are in Washington endeavoring to secure immediate compensation for the friendly Indians whose property was destroyed during the late troubles at Pine Ridge.

The Indian claims were not taken up until a conference lately with Senators Manderson and Paddock. Senator Manderson called together the members of the Indian committee and laid before them the necessity of an immediate appropriation for the payment of property destroyed by the friendly Indians.

Colonel Cody's action in the matter is largely due to a desire to advance the interest of his Wild West by securing some of these Indians for his show, but that fact does not detract from the justice of the Indian's claim to indemnity.

And action on the part of government in the same direction with reference to the white settlers who were damaged should have prompt attention. Colonel Cody, on the question of indemnity for the Indians says:

"There is no doubt of the justice of this demand and of the sound policy of securing the immediate recognition of it. The Indians do not understand delay. Each and all of these chiefs who left their homes to evince their friendship to the government, and whose property was destroyed by the Braves, were assured that the government would promptly recompense them for their loyalty."

Many of them have gone back home, feeling that there was no recognition of their faithfulness. If we are not to have in the spring a recurrence of the troubles of the winter, I believe it is of the highest importance that the matter should be promptly attended to.

The western senators generally, I believe will assist, and by my conversation with members of the Indian committee, to which Senator Manderson with great kindness introduced me personally, I believe that the matter will pass the senate."

P. P. Winox, a banker of Norfolk, Neb., is an open advocate of first mortgage bonds on land as the basis for national currency; the currency to be redeemable in gold and silver.

He says the results would be: Interest reduced to a maximum of four per cent; interest a uniform rate throughout the country; the revenue not less than a hundred million dollars a year.

Our paper worth its face in gold or silver anywhere in the world. He suggests a government savings bank paying small interest, issuing certificates that could be cashed on demand.

The statements bankers, it seems to the JOURNAL, could not favor some such system as a foundation based on the doubly solid foundation of land security and the promise of the government.

Hon. L. Gerrard, of this city, president of the Columbus State Bank, (whose views we published at length several months since, and which have attracted wide attention) remarked to us at the time that it might seem strange to some that being a banker, he should favor the reduction of interest by a system of finance that would give the country a greatly reduced rate of interest, but farmers out of control of money sharks, and prevent the cornering of the currency, but such is the fact, and he is enthusiastically in favor of government loans on landed security.

Speakers of reciprocity, the Lincoln Journal says, it will remember that...

Even the ultra silver men speak well of this nomination. They know that Mr. Foster does not share their views to the extent of free and unlimited silver coinage, but they know also that he, like the late Secretary Windom, is a warm friend of silver and that the real difference between his opinions and theirs is only one of methods for the accomplishment of a common end.

It is a policy of reciprocity, the Lincoln Journal says, it will remember that treaty with Mexico ten years ago and that the democrats managed to defeat it. So the idea of reciprocity is one that the democrats have always fought from the beginning to the end.

They (the democrats) are resorting to their usual methods of obstruction. When they cannot block the legislative wheels by filibustering motions they break a quorum by leaving the house in a body.

That Mr. Cleveland is, in sporting parlance, "playing for a position," is the opinion of the political observers here, and that the statement published here last week to the effect that he had decided not to be a candidate next year was merely a part of his game to feel the pulse of his party in order to see what effect his recent silver letter had had upon his prospects, is equally patent.

There is no longer any doubt about the fate of the free coinage bill at this time. It has been reported adversely to the house by the committee on coinage and its most ardent friends have practically abandoned hope of its being voted upon, and they are very bitter against some of the democratic leaders, whom they charge with having been stampeded by Cleveland's letter.

Wm. Timmons, postmaster of Haverly, Ind., writes: "Electric Bitters has done more for me than all other medicines combined for the bad feeling arising from kidney and liver trouble."

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Castoria is an excellent medicine for children. Mothers have repeatedly told me of its good effect upon their children. It is a harmless substitute for Paregoric, Drops, Soothing Syrup, and Castor Oil.

The Constant Company, 71 Murray Street, New York City.

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