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# The Conservative.

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A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION  
OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIOLOGICAL  
QUESTIONS.

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#### GOLD GET OUT.

If all the farmers, merchants, bankers, manufacturers and other laborers in Nebraska who have absolute, abiding and fighting faith in the gold standard as a basis for American business should today withdraw from Nebraska, how many farms, how many mercantile houses, how many banks, how many manufactories would be left running in the state?

On the other hand, if all the merchants, bankers and manufacturers in Nebraska who believe in and advocate the free coinage of silver at sixteen to one should withdraw their capital and quit Nebraska what concerns would stop running?

Is it not perfectly within bounds to say that at least seventy-five per cent of the active capital in the state of Nebraska belongs to and is managed by the citizens who are for a gold dollar standard and against the free coinage of silver?

#### NOT A STOCKHOLDER.

There is a vast amount of twaddle evolved every year in American newspapers and by orators of the spell-binding brand about the innate and inalienable right of suffrage. Every year it is declared with more or less vehemence, that every citizen has the right to vote on any and all questions of government in his immediate precinct or ward. Every year we are surfeited with flabbergastic eulogiums upon the priceless right of voting. This doctrine of universal and unlimited suffrage has been preached so persistently

that many citizens think that by their votes the rights of railroad owners, bank properties and in fact of all corporate capital should be determined. But in spite of all the exhortations in favor of balloting upon all things and in all places by all the people, railroad, telegraph, telephone, building and loan companies, banks and insurance companies have insisted that in the election of their boards of directors only stockholders should vote.

Now those corporations have been organized for gainful purposes, for making money. And they obviously conclude that to submit their affairs to the vote and management of a lot of fellows who have paid in no money and have no financial interest in them would result in ruin.

Government is a corporation but it is organized not for making money. Its

#### GOVERNMENT IS A CORPORATION.

functions are to protect life, property and civil and religious liberty. The service rendered by government to the citizen is only that care and defence of his property, his liberty and his life. And for that service this corporation, called government, demands compensation in the form of taxes. Every man should pay some tax for this tremendous and vital service that the state renders him. He should pay a head tax if he has no property to pay upon. And any man who does not pay some tax should be declared not a stockholder in the corporation called government. Thus he should be deprived of the exercise of balloting in a corporation to which he makes no contribution for its maintenance.

The so-called poor man gets more out of government that is essential to his

#### THE SO-CALLED POOR MAN.

own and his family's happiness than the so-called rich man can possibly get. The latter may be deprived of liberty, of property, and even of life and his family not suffer for money or that which it will buy. But the man without personal and real estate must have liberty in which to earn bread for his household and his life is essential to the daily food of the family. These the state protects. For that protection he should pay a head tax.

Each December the law should provide that, every adult male in the commonwealth shall pay at the office of the county treasurer a poll-tax of at least two dollars. For that payment he should get a receipt, a stockholder's cer-

tificate, and at the ensuing elections of the next year he should exhibit to the officers of the election that certificate and upon it be permitted to vote. None but those who have contributed at least that much should be allowed to vote for directors in the corporation called government.

This will not be popular preaching among politicians. But at bottom and in truth it is the advocacy of justice. Why should persons who put not one penny into the public purse—but who are nevertheless protected in all their civil rights by the laws which are enforced by the agents of the state, who are paid out of that public purse which is filled by the people—be permitted to vote, to direct, to determine, possibly, the policies of a state, a county, a city, or a republic? Only stockholders can rightfully vote. Only stockholders who have paid up their assessments in any corporation should be permitted to cast ballots.

Too many fond parents are constantly striving to secure something of value in fortune or reputation for the sake of their children, instead of exercising a vigilant solicitude and discipline to determine what those children shall be mentally and morally. The father and mother who wish to found success and honorable usefulness in their offspring can best accomplish that end by selecting the practical knowledge and the standard of right and wrong, which those children shall acquire and adopt, with conscientious and deliberate judgment.

What shall my son be mentally and morally? Not, what shall my son have in this world?

#### SMALLPOX.

Because in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, New York, Nebraska, Kansas, and other states there is a mild type of smallpox prevailing THE CONSERVATIVE publishes this week interesting, instructive and useful information concerning vaccination and smallpox and its symptoms and treatment.

Parents should read this knowledge carefully and act discreetly so as to prevent any possible epidemic of the disease in any part of the United States. Health officers must be vigilant and imperative. The people must obey them. Severe penalties await those who disobey and those penalties will be enforced.