

trees," says Mr. Burson, "cannot be estimated in dollars and cents. A forest tree has a much greater value than the few cents the lumberman will pay for it. Every tree performs a part in the amelioration of our climate; it does much in the distribution of our rainfall. As our forests are disappearing we notice greater climatic changes. Our damaging floods and destructive drouths can largely be charged to the woodman's axe. Cutting the forests off the upper water courses, leaving no longer a network of moss and roots to absorb the moisture and feed it out slowly into the brooks and perennial springs, causes the rains to pour down from these naked hillsides in swift deluges, swelling brooks to rivers, washing away all vegetable mold and destroying life and property. In the summer time these rivers shrink to shallow creeks in sterile valleys, with no sparkling waters gushing from everlasting springs. We see portions of the Old World almost depopulated by deluges and drouths caused by the indiscriminate clearing of hillsides and water courses. Travelers who have visited Greece, Italy and Spain, who have traveled along the Mediterranean from Greece to Gibraltar, through a country that was once the paradise of the East, covered with luxuriant vegetation, green meadows and beautiful gardens, with cooling springs and rippling streams, shady dells and noble forests, say that all that sea-girt coast has undergone a metamorphosis that is almost incomprehensible. The forests have all been cut down, causing thousands and thousands of square miles of vegetation to disappear. Professor Marsh, in writing of that country, said that the abundance of vegetation that maintained, in by-gone centuries, a population scarcely inferior to the whole Christian world, today is entirely withdrawn from human use, and is reduced to a desolation almost as complete as that of the moon. He warned us that another era of equal improvidence would reduce our earth to such a condition of impoverished production, of shattered surface and climatic excess as to threaten the extermination of the human species.

Renew The Forests.

"All this havoc is due to causes set in action by man, and yet where the ancient foreigner cleared square rods the American lumberman clears square miles. In many countries in Europe the advantages of forests have been learned in the school of necessity, and now the study of forestry is taught with as much thoroughness and care as the study of other sciences, while the cutting and replanting of trees are regulated and enforced by systematic and careful legislation. But the goal of the road that we are continuing to pursue will not be recognized until our summer drouths reach those of the African Sahara. We

see, with the eye of futurity, no more forests, no more lumber with which to build houses, barns, cars, furniture, wagons, carriages, ties, poles or posts. We hear the wailings of posterity, and their bitter accusations for the greed and thoughtlessness of their ancestors. Yet the calamity that awaits us can be averted through prompt action of our general or state governments. Or, should the fact be more generally known, that forest tree growing can always be made a financial success, capital would be more largely invested along that line; new forests would be planted on the denuded lands, and, instead of drouths, famines and floods, vegetation would continue to bloom, cooling springs would gush anew from mountain and hillside; our valleys and plains would be covered, as of old, with a mantle of green, and comfort and prosperity continue to reign."—Kansas City Star.

THE FOOL CROP.

The larger the grain crops in Nebraska the smaller the fool crop. In seasons of drouth and disaster there are political fool triplets born every second, and there is no need, then, of political artificial fools such as Coin Harvey is endeavoring to evolve by his financial lectures during his present proselyting sojourn in this state.

The crop of corn is inimical and dangerously antagonistic to the crop "Coin" is endeavoring to cultivate. The fact that Harvey is speaking in every county in the state is an admission that there is prosperity in Nebraska and that there must be mouth-made calamity and predicted disaster put up as an off-set or the voters will desert Bryanarchy. Men who in 1896 made forecasts of financial stringency and blue ruin which would follow Bryanarchy's defeat must have unlimited effrontery to appear again as prophets and ask attention and credence from the same people. Every prediction has been demonstrated false.

EXPOSITION AT OMAHA.

The Greater American Exposition at Omaha is now in full bloom. The Filipino village alone is worth the cost of going to and returning from Omaha.

And the Cuban and Hawaiian exhibits are very interesting and instructive. All together the grounds, buildings and management are more attractive than they were in 1898.

THE WOLF TRUST.

Mr. J. Sterling Morton protests, in his newspaper, THE CONSERVATIVE, against the female wolf trust which is devouring the substance of the people of Nebraska. The state pays a bounty of three dollars each for wolf scalps. This makes wolf-breeding a profitable industry. Fifteen thousand scalps have been turned in and paid for this year, and there are thirty counties yet to hear from. It must not be supposed that the trust has wolf kennels where the breeding takes place, and where the scalping is done at leisure. No; nothing so foolish as that. The agents of the combine know the places where wolves breed naturally and without expense to the trust. They take good care not to kill any wolves out of season, and not to kill any females knowingly. The principles of protection to home industry are skillfully applied, and the results are most flattering. Labor is in demand, wages are high, employment steady, and profits satisfactory. A steady increase of the herd is confidently anticipated unless the outcry against trusts becomes so strong that the legislature shall feel obliged to adopt repressive measures. But this is not apprehended at present, the trust being strongly represented in that body, and having a pretty large fund for distribution among the lobby. This is not the first time that a cash premium has been offered for wolf-breeding in the United States, and it is probably not the last.—New York Evening Post.

Changes in the Principal Items of Resources and Liabilities of National Banks as Shown by the Returns on June 30, 1899, and Compared with the Returns on April 5, 1899, and July 14, 1898.

ITEMS.	Since April 5, 1899.		Since July 14, 1898.	
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
Loans and discounts.....	\$88,819,688.86	.....	\$340,472,928.92	.....
U. S. bonds.....	.....	\$16,687,420.00	43,041,760.00	.....
Due from national banks, state banks and bankers, and resident agents.....	2,945,730.71	.....	162,774,035.99	.....
Specie.....	.....	7,340,506.70	21,144,915.24	.....
Legal tenders.....	6,102,512.00	.....	1,422,988.00	.....
U. S. certificates for legal tenders.....	.....	1,230,000.00	.....	\$1,795,000.00
Capital stock.....	.....	2,397,243.00	.....	17,151,418.00
Surplus and other profits.....	2,464,001.82	.....	9,350,109.04	.....
Circulation.....	.....	4,470,887.50	9,492,084.00	.....
Due to National and State banks and bankers.....	56,602.07	.....	212,588,025.28	.....
Individual deposits.....	84,934,088.70	.....	498,800,349.39	.....
United States government deposits.....	.....	10,859,445.99	23,443,954.59	.....
Bills payable and rediscounts.....	937,002.94	.....	.....	6,415,171.09
Total resources.....	69,695,744.48	.....	791,158,459.67	.....

Total number of banks June 30, 1899, 3,583; April 5, 1899, 3,583; July 14, 1898, 3,582.

CHARLES G. DAWES, Comptroller.