

THE NEBRASKA PARK AND FORESTRY ASSOCIATION.

At the last annual meeting of the State Horticultural Society at Lincoln a resolution was passed advising the organization of the above named society, as our state was the mother of "Arbor Day" and it was also necessary to keep up with other states which are organizing such societies.

The 15th of February, 1899, was proposed as a suitable time, as that was the charter day of the State University.

Pursuant to a call issued by C. S. Harrison, chairman of the committee, a meeting was called on the above date. Quite a number of the friends of the cause were present.

Dr. Bessey called the meeting to order. E. F. Stephens was chosen temporary chairman and A. J. Brown temporary scribe. Dr. Bessey stated the object of the meeting and moved the organization of the proposed society. The motion was unanimously carried and the society was organized.

The following officers were chosen for the ensuing year:

President: C. S. Harrison of York.

Vice-President: E. F. Stephens of Crete.

Secretary: A. J. Brown of Geneva.

Treasurer: G. A. Marshall of Arlington.

Directors: J. Sterling Morton, Nebraska City; Dr. C. E. Bessey, Lincoln; Peter Younger, Jr., Geneva.

On motion a committee of three were appointed to prepare by-laws and report at our next meeting. They were C. S. Harrison, Dr. C. E. Bessey and Prof. W. I. Hunter.

On motion the executive committee were asked to use their utmost efforts to enlarge the charter membership until the first annual meeting.

Moved and carried that the city and village improvement societies of the state be invited to meet with us and take part in our next annual meeting.

The first three articles of the constitution give the aim of the organization.

Article I.—The name of this organization shall be the Nebraska Park and Forestry Association.

Article II.—The purpose of this association shall be to awaken an interest in home adornment, village and city improvement and the planting of parks and forests.

Article III.—Any person may become a member of this association by the payment of \$1.00 a year or he may become a life member by the payment of \$5.00.

Thus our society has started out fronting a mighty work. Wonders have been accomplished in a few years. Our rich land seemed hungry for trees and our efforts have been generously rewarded. Few of our cities and villages have suitable parks. Much is to be done on this line. The pioneer struggles are over and the question of home adornment comes up. Too often the

wife and children have had no rights the hog and steer were bound to respect.

Again, nearly one-third of our great state is a treeless desolation. It should not remain so. In the most forbidding places along the eastern slope of the Rockies and in the northwest portion of this state the red cedar and ponderosa pine hold their own on dry and barren bluffs. We know they could be moved down into the valleys. To the west, in the most trying climate, in almost perpetual drouth and under a scorching sun the brown cedar and the pinon flourish.

From experiments under and west of the 100th meridian we know what can be accomplished on the treeless plains.

Recent investigations show that the respiration of an evergreen is only one-tenth as much as that of a deciduous tree. So evergreens must be our main reliance. We know the United States government is ready to cooperate with the state. As there has been a tremendous revival of forestry interest all over the land, our own state, ever foremost, should not lag behind.

This work should be kept out of politics. Only a few years ago, in Oregon, an attempt was made to establish a state forestry department and it was killed before matured by the rush of applicants for a position. We want the best men in the state as members of this society and whatever work the state may do should be done through them.

Nebraska pays out large sums for irrigation and retains no interest in the ditches. We believe the state should foster timber planting on an economical basis and retain an ownership of them as so many state parks.

Many of our states are doing this—saving old forests and planting others. Thus the good accomplished will be owned by the people.

But at present our chief reliance must be on the interest awakened among farmers and private owners; also among improvement societies. We want members. We want you as a charter member. Send your \$1.00 to our secretary or treasurer.

BRYANARCHY.

In his address before the late trust convention Mr. Bryan showed his utter unfitness to merit the trust of the people and assume the trusts of the presidential office when he declares: "I want to protest against this doctrine that the trust is a natural outgrowth of natural laws. *It is not true.* The trust is the natural outgrowth of unnatural conditions created by man-made laws."

It is not true—not one word or idea in the above exclamation. There is nothing that is unnatural, not even the grossest immorality. All that is finds its origin in natural conditions, murder, arson, infanticide, stealing, swindling,

rape, abortion, bestiality—an insult to beasts by the way. The quicker demagogues and reformers stop prating about natural and unnatural the more creditable it will be to them and the better for their blind followers.

If the trust is not the "natural outgrowth of natural conditions," nothing is not—even man himself. If trusts are not the natural result of the struggle for existence, then trusts are myths constructed by a diseased brain, which in itself is natural. Trusts being nothing more than business organizations for individual preservation and labor unions exactly the same thing, why does not Mr. Bryan step into the arena in favor of free and independent labor? He dare not. He attacks the organized capitalists because it is the cry of the hour, but keeps silent on organized labor because it is the sick child of the political nursery.

Mr. Bryan is defied to show in what any man has an iota of obligation to any other man, country or humanity, unless he himself incurs the obligation, and only so long as it is utilitarian self-preserving in the broadest and most intelligent sense.

Equal rights to nature is false and every man not a fool or a rascal knows it. Equal rights to opportunity, according to individual ability, is "natural law," but he who has no ability to maintain self has no rights, either on earth or in Heaven—for he is the victim of his own evil through natural condition.

FRANK S. BILLINGS,

Grafton, Mass.

If high prices are not the most objectionable and dangerous features of trusts they are certainly responsible for "all this howl about trusts," as H. O. Havemeyer once put it. The way to stop the most of this howl is to compel the trusts to lower prices. The most obvious and certain way to compel lower prices is to abolish those tariffs which shield trusts from foreign competition and enable them to raise prices and make exorbitant profits. It may be found, as suggested by Professor Clark, at the Chicago trust conference, that nearly all tariffs foster trusts; if so the greater is this remedy and the more need of its immediate application. Undoubtedly an attempt will be made by the next congress to apply this simple but sovereign remedy to the tin plate and other trusts. The congressman who refuses to support such a measure will have trouble in explaining his position to his intelligent constituents.

This subject is discussed by the president of the New England Free Trade League in a letter which we publish in this issue.

Socialism is the union of men for individual preservation.