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THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE

INDUSTRIAL UNION

DEVOTED TO SOCIAL, FINANCIAL, AND POLITICAL ECONOMY.

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The Brookhaven (Miss.) Leader announces that its publication office will hereafter be Jackson, the capital of the State. The Leader is a sound Alliance paper, and is now the recognized organ of the Seventh District Alliance of that State.

A GRADUATED income tax went into effect in Germany at the beginning of the new year. It is about the same as that demanded by the Alliance, except that it begins by taxing smaller incomes than American farmers would think proper.

A WEEKLY statement of business failures with elaborate comparisons have heretofore been printed in Bradstreet's, a leading financial paper, but for some reason they have been omitted in the last two issues. Doubtless the rapid increase and unfavorable comment has led to their discontinuance.

SENATOR STANFORD has re-introduced his land loan bill of last session. It is subject to the same objections of an unlimited amount of the loan upon an unlimited quantity of land that obtained in the first bill. The Alliance demands a limitation upon both the amount of the loan and quantity of land. Because of this and a few other objections, the Alliance can not support the measure.

It is learned from the United States treasurer's report, that during September, 1890, \$12,030,617.30 was paid out to anticipate interest that was not due until July 1, 1891. The worst feature of the transaction, however, was the anticipation of \$3,060,100.80 of interest on Pacific railway bonds, that the government will in the end be swindled out of completely. Not satisfied with being paid out of the interest, the Secretary of the Treasury pays it six months in advance.

THE BROADEST PLAN.

It is with pleasure that THE ECONOMIST presents its readers in another column with an article intitled "A Plea for a Broader Plan," from the pen of J. M. Joseph, president of Iowa State Alliance, in which is presented views not entirely in accord with the past teachings of this paper. The article is clear and well written. Brother Joseph is an able and sincere man, and he takes a position occupied by many of the ablest men in the reform movement.

The proposition that because the gross addition to the wealth of the nation in only $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, therefore that amount is the true measure for the remuneration for the use of all kinds of wealth, including money, does not seem conclusive, because it forces all forms of wealth upon the same plane of desirability and usefulness. The facts are that for the ten years ending 1890 agriculture gained in wealth only .3 per cent per annum, while the average gain of all other occupations was about 6.7 per cent per annum, and when those who use money (not those who lend it) are separated from those who depend entirely on their labor the difference will be the greatest. Two and one-half per cent may represent the average, and that is all. Any arbitrary attempt to force the earnings of all kinds of wealth to a common and inflexible level must be unjust, because it interferes as much with those who hire wealth as with those who let it.

The statement that "the economic law of interest is the same as the law of price, applied to commodities price falls as the volume rises; the interest rate is the only proper gauge to the volume of money; this is the real starting point in the scientific consideration of the question of volume of money," is not tenable and cannot be sustained. The fact is that interest is purely an effect and not a cause for any changes in the volume of money, that it is not a uniform and invariable attendant upon simple increase or decrease in volume, that it is simply a gauge or measurement of the effects of time upon the control of a certain portion of a monopoly (which the money of the country is where the volume is fixed and inflexible). If the proposition in question be re-

versed, it will approach nearer the true statement. That is to say, if the volume of money be increased, the rate of interest will also advance. The history of this nation for the past fifty years has shown this to be true. The reason is that during a period of contraction, money is increasing in value and there are two reasons for hoarding; one is the natural increase in purchasing power of the hoarded money, and the other is the power of money to oppress by its scarcity, whereby wealth may be extorted

from the needy regardless of cost. This is only another form of expression for a money corner. In such times interest is no inducement; it may run up to 188 per cent, as it did for a few days on Wall street in 1890, but it amounts to nothing; no one in such squeezes makes any money on interest, and time loans if made at all are made at the lowest rate, from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 per cent, and none made outside of the money centers where it is known that the money lent will immediately return to the pile manipulating volume and prices. Interest is a matter of the smallest importance at such times.

During a period of expansion money is losing in value and must seek investment. It takes greater risks and asks greater interest. Borrowers pay higher rates because they see investments where it can be made profitable. In support of this the current interest rates since 1865 are a striking example. One per cent per month at bank is as common now as five per cent per month was twenty-five years ago. The government, which is the best security, and gets the lowest interest rates, paid twenty-five years ago, when there was \$50 per capita in circulation, 10 per cent, and now with less than \$10 in circulation capitalists are anxious to make a loan to the government at 2 per cent. This phenomenon of interest having a tendency to go up and down with the volume of money as it is expanded or contracted, only applies to a moderate degree of expansion or contraction, and when either is pushed to an extreme the tendency to keep company may cease or become reversed. That is to say, that contraction when pushed beyond a certain point ceases to reduce interest because the lender refuses to make any loans and holds his money during panicky times, perhaps

in the face of offers of very high interest, and expansion when pushed beyond a certain point ceases to increase interest because the borrower will not hire money when inflation has so impaired its value as to threaten a climax of panic. No greater absurdity was ever proposed than the doctrine that interest should or even can control the volume of money. It has much more bearing upon the speed at which it circulates than upon volume.

The sub-treasury plan was not offered by the National Alliance as a financial system entire and complete. It was simply offered as a remedy to meet the evils that flow from an inflexible volume of money meeting a demand for its use which is subject to great annual fluctuations, and this remedy was offered in a shape to produce the least possible disturbance of present usages and conditions. It has not from the first been changed or contracted in the least, nor has it been broadened so as to include the elements of its own destruction, which it made to "include the whole system of credit money."

It will not do to condemn the credit paper system as wholly bad. One fact is significant, the use of credit paper rapidly increases with modern development and material progress. The abnormally high price of cotton during the war stimulated the use of substitutes, and it may be that the foolish and selfish idolatry of those who have been instrumental in restricting the money of the country to gold and silver have stimulated the growth of a substitute in the shape of credit paper which in time may supplant the use of money entirely. The fact that 92 per cent of the business of the entire country last year was done with credit paper, coupled with the fact that 96 $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent of the business of New York city was credit, and that every step taken from there toward the strictly agricultural districts decreases the per cent of credit paper used, and also diminishes the prosperity of the people, are worth consideration. And further, it is estimated that three-fourths of the credit paper used in business transactions is without interest, and, in fact, there is very little that does bear any interest whatever, and that exchange, which is frequently transacted, is less than

half as much as any kind of actual transportation for the money. It is sometimes easier to guide a river around the base of a mountain to a desired point than to attempt to dam it up and run it over the top. All money may soon be regarded as a relic of barbarism, and the true reformer will seek rather to use the forces that modern development of material progress presents already dressed and prepared than enforce his preconceived ideas and prejudices at the expense of a complete stoppage and reversal of the wheels of progress.

A careful examination of the effects of the sub-treasury system as simply the means of providing flexibility, and not a system of money lending or warehousing, will show that flexibility is of all things the most important; that not only does every corner, trust and pool depend upon the inflexibility of the volume of money, whereby money corners are made possible, but interest is made the goad whereby the officers of government are made to act as servants in enforcing the mandates of concentrated wealth. With flexibility the lowest interest on money would be secured, on account of general stability, and for the same reason the highest prices would be realized by the producer.

THE EXTENDED BONDS.

The United States bonds that were continued at 2 per cent are now at a premium of 5 per cent, and are difficult to obtain at that rate. This is a matter that every one, especially the farmers of America, should consider carefully. Just why a bond bearing such a low rate of interest should command such a premium, while nearly all other forms of indebtedness are at a discount or convey a much greater interest, is a question well worthy the attention of all. The farmer knows that in nearly every case where money is borrowed on mortgage security a bonus is paid in addition to the rate of interest named in that instrument. This is really a discount on the mortgage, which rarely exceeds in amount one-half the value of the farm.

There must be some good reason for so wide a discrepancy in the investment values of these two forms of indebtedness, since those engaged in this particular branch of business are controlled by facts and experience, and never by sentiment or theory. They may sometimes err in judgment, but all their calculations are based, as a rule, on a sordid desire for gain. Among the probable factors that enter into this premium are their use as a basis for bank issues, the certainty of payment of principal and interest, their being non-taxable, and their acceptability as collateral security. To a majority of people these furnish a satisfactory solution of the problem, and no further investigation is made. While such conditions that may obtain in a loan of this character are

taken into account by investors, there are and must be some weightier influences that control the transaction. Bankers declare that national bank issues are no longer profitable, which if true would eliminate that factor from those which conspire to produce this premium. The gain arising from being non-taxable and the payment of interest in advance would not exceed 1½ per cent, which added to the interest named in the bonds, would give a return of only 3½ per cent per annum on the investment. Here, then, is the situation: The most experienced and shrewdest financiers of the country prefer a government bond netting but 3½ per cent interest to a farm mortgage bearing from 8 to 12 per cent, and in many instances even more. May not the reasons for this be found in the rapidly increasing power of money over the products of labor? The certainty of payment when based on the taxing power of government as against the uncertainty of payment when dependent on the prosperity of the people, together with the intimate relations which exist between the financial department of government and the owners of national obligations? Is it not

which there would be asked no concessions of principle on the part of either. Each of these conventions looked upon the lottery as the most deadly enemy of good government in the State, and nothing was more natural than that these two bodies should unite their forces under one banner for its demolition. From this meeting grew the compact so extensively known in the State as the "Lafayette compact." This compact was between men who had always worked together in harmony in the same political party, and it was understood that there were to be no concessions made that would coerce any one on a matter of principle. As this compact nothing was done but the bringing about an understanding before the campaign, that would remove all danger of friction between friends of the same cause. Under this compact the anti-lottery Democrats were to make the fight under the leadership of a man whom the Farmers Union should name, and the several State offices were to be so divided between the two organizations that personal ambition of individuals should be made secondary to the interests of the question at stake. It would seem that Tets and Clayton and the entire Order in Louisiana can now stand united and do battle against the Louisiana lottery, and for the demands of the Order, and win the fight. Mr. Tets writes:

IN LOUISIANA.

The election in Louisiana comes off in April, and political matters in that State are getting very interesting.

The following letter from J. A. Tets and circular from the People's party chairmen give a fair idea of the complicated situation. It is unfortunate that the circular contains so many objectionable personal allusions, which should always be avoided. But this document proves that the warning given by THE ECONOMIST, that the politicians would betray the Order if they had a chance, was timely, and has been demonstrated. It would seem that Tets and Clayton and the entire Order in Louisiana can now stand united and do battle against the Louisiana lottery, and for the demands of the Order, and win the fight. Mr. Tets writes:

Let us now take a look at the nature of State politics that we may the better understand why a compact like this was necessary, and why it must be made inside the ranks of the Democratic party, and not by an independent political movement. Louisiana, like most other Southern States, was cursed by a "reconstruction" government at the close of the late war—that is, the carpet-bagger from the North, who came like the vulture to prey upon the carcass of a vanquished State, together with a class of home scalawags who could get the confidence of the ignorant negro vote, set up a system of robbery and jobbery that placed the intelligence and virtue of the State in anything but a happy condition. After years of struggle the intelligent and tax-paying element of the State got control of the State government by combining all the white people of the State in one solid body known as the Democratic party. This monopoly has quietly controlled in its own interest most of the politics of the State ever since it has had a foothold here, and its managers hoped to be able to again fasten it upon the State for a quarter of a century, but the people were awakened to a realization of the hideousness of the monster in time to begin a crusade against it. The Farmers Union of this State was the first organized body of men to condemn it in open State session, and did so more than two years ago. This action of the Farmers Union no doubt was the cause of a general uprising among the better element of the people all over the State, and this uprising took an organized shape under the name of Democratic anti-lottery congress. There was a wide division in the ranks of the Democratic party that without the election machinery the least division in the ranks of the white party of the State would again place the State under the rule of the same kind of a gang that ran it in the days of reconstruction. This election machinery is in the hands of the Democracy to-day as it was in the hands of the Republicans before Grant recognized the Nicholls government in the famous "Louisiana returning board" contest. There is no chance in this State to make the fight with white ranks broken while there are men who are only waiting for this to reorganize the negro for another reign of corruption and jobbery. With such monopolies as the lottery in charge of the State government, and the election machinery in its hands, the Farmers Union could hope for no success in anything

it undertakes politically. To get any reform for this State it is necessary to get it through the Democratic party, as that is the party that owns the machinery, and without the machinery the Union can make no progress. The compact placed the head of the government in the hands of the Order and the Union selected one of its purest and most conservative men to represent it.

THE ADDRESS TO THE VOTERS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

The address to the voters of the State of Louisiana, signed by Paul Canone, chairman campaign committee, and T. A. Clayton, chairman executive committee of the People's party, is as follows:

What difference does it make to the reform voters of the State whether McEnery or Foster is governor? The reform movement and the Ocala platform will be as bitterly opposed by the one as by the other. Both of them will use whatever influence they may possess, to send a straight bourbon Democrat to the United States Senate, pledged to the support of national banks and all the interests of Wall street. Both of them will use the State patronage to perpetuate its existence.

This ended the farce and the curtain rose on the tragedy—a tragedy as heartless, as shameless, and as cruel as the annals of politics in this or any other State can furnish. Foster has shown in the St. Mary primaries to what methods he will stoop, in order to control a parish. If elected governor, at what will he stop when he desires to control the State?

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When the office-seeking anti-lottery politicians, with honeyed words and pleasant smiles on their lips, but with black treachery and deep hypocrisy in their hearts, cajoled the sincere and conscientious farmers at Lafayette, the chief arguments to wile them from the reform platform that they had pledged themselves to support were the necessity of preserving the Democratic party intact. In order to defeat the lottery amendment, and the tremendous advantage the farmers' movement would derive in 1866 from having possession of the State government, as would result from the Lafayette compact. The anti-politicians to-day proclaim to the world, that, in order to defeat the lottery amendment, the Democratic party in the State must be split wide open; and that it is sufficient for a man to have been honored by the Farmers Union, to make it impossible for him to be elected governor of the State. In September last, the Winn Parish Comrade published an article referring to the alleged exemption of East Feliciana from the compact, from which the following is an extract:

If the lottery amendment is defeated at the general election, that ends it, no matter who is governor. If the amendment is carried, and Foster elected, he will, by virtue of his oath of office, be bound to afford full protection to that clause of the constitution, however distasteful it may be to him. To the supporters of the Ocala demands, the difference between Foster and McEnery as governor is the difference 'twixt tweedle-dum and tweedledee. Foster and his friends have displayed their treacherous dislike to the farmers' and laborers' cause; McEnery and his friends have not attempted to conceal theirs.

Read the two Democratic platforms! What do you find? Clap trap about the lottery from the antis! Formerly it was: "Stay inside the Democratic party and vote for our delegates to beat the lottery!" Now it is: "Split the Democratic party and elect us to office! That is the only way to beat the lottery!" The machine Democrats say: "We are the Simon pure democracy! All other brands are frauds! Vote our ticket and please yourselves about the lottery! We are your friends! Put us in power again, and we will show you what we will do for you!" The political Codlin and Short, blarneying for the farmers' vote as usual! Truly did John Pickett write:

The politicians have had their conventions and have shown once more how vain it is to expect any good from them. The people will soon have their convention, in which the offices will seek the men, in which there will be no mock nominations, no enforced acceptances. In that convention you must be represented; for the ticket nominated there you must vote. Not for promised rewards, not for expected offices, but for the honor of your State, for the welfare of your homes, for the freedom of your children!

THE SEVENTH DEMAND.

The following remarks were made by Senator Turpie in submitting joint resolution of the Indiana legislature, instructing the Senators from that State to vote in favor of submitting an amendment to the Federal Constitution providing for election of United States Senators by the people. This conforms to the seventh demand of the Ocala platform, and Senator Turpie's argument will be read with interest by members of the Order:

The question by whom Senators should be chosen does not seem to have been much considered by the framers of the Constitution or by the constituents to whom it was submitted for adoption.

That they should be chosen by the legislatures of the several States was determined almost of course; there was a great deal in the history of that time which led even unconsciously to such a conclusion.

It does not seem that there was any debate or division upon the topic as to who should choose United States Senators. The alternative of a choice by the people or the legislature of the States appears not even to have been presented. They did not fail to provide for the contingency that a matter then regarded as of minor moment might become, as this

it undertakes politically. To get any reform for this State it is necessary to get it through the Democratic party, as that is the party that owns the machinery, and without the machinery the Union can make no progress. The compact placed the head of the government in the hands of the Order and the Union selected one of its purest and most conservative men to represent it.

What difference does it make to the reform voters of the State whether McEnery or Foster is governor? The reform movement and the Ocala platform will be as bitterly opposed by the one as by the other. Both of them will use whatever influence they may possess, to send a straight bourbon Democrat to the United States Senate, pledged to the support of national banks and all the interests of Wall street. Both of them will use the State patronage to perpetuate its existence.

Alliance in the State, and who were pledged to fight to the bitter end the Alliance movement and the Ocala demands!

A scramble for office! An unseemly struggle for power! Both sides playing on the prejudices of the people in the attempt to disguise their selfish ends; both sides careless of the welfare of the commonwealth; both sides deaf to the appeals of the enslaved wealth-producers!

Citizens of Louisiana! Tens of thousands of you daily see your wives and little ones suffer from the results of long years of Democratic and Republican misrule! You cannot remain blind to your true interests; you cannot continue to do the bidding of the office seeker and the party hack, you cannot fail to take advantage of this opportunity to cleanse the Augean stables of State politics, with a flood of clean ballots bearing the names of pure and honest men. Our friends in Kansas achieved victory over united Democrats and united Republicans. Here the Republican party is as hopelessly divided as the democracy. Shall we neglect to use this division in the ranks of the two parties, responsible for the national banks and the railroad robbers, for the lottery and the future gamblers, for the pension sharks and the protected manufacturers, for the unpaid factory hands and the tax-ridden farmers, and for all that stream of corruption and oppression that has its source in Wall street, and is carried into every State of the Union through the channels of the Republican and Democratic parties?

The politicians have had their conventions and have shown once more how vain it is to expect any good from them. The people will soon have their convention, in which the offices will seek the men, in which there will be no mock nominations, no enforced acceptances. In that convention you must be represented; for the ticket nominated there you must vote. Not for promised rewards, not for expected offices, but for the honor of your State, for the welfare of your homes, for the freedom of your children!

The world is fast losing respect and confidence in our reform cause, owing to the alliance with the Democratic party South. The alliance flirtation with the Democratic party South should cease, and in getting high time for the alliance to turn to the breeze her own colors, and let them wave for weal or woe. Let us be independent and man our own ship. The people as a majority are all right. They have thought over the matter, and are ready to make a change in abandoning the old party affiliation, and stand upon and vindicate the platform of the Alliance.

On the 7th of May, last, the Vidette published these words from John Pickett. On the 6th of August, last, John Pickett voted to declare the Farmers State Union a faction of the Democratic party, and to adopt a strictly pure Democratic platform. On the 17th of December, this same John Pickett, a member of the national executive committee of the People's party, and A. D. LaFarge, the State lecturer of the Farmers Union, a member of the national Alliance at Ocala, and the chief engineer of the Lafayette compact, obtained the reward promised for their valuable services to the democracy, by being tendered and permitted to accept nominations on a Democratic State ticket, along with men who had ruined and degraded the head of the

in our age, of great concern. So such things were left by their provident wisdom to the disposal of future advise- ment and after amendment.

This is called a government of the people, republican in form, and very justly it may be so called in comparison with many others, especially those in vogue at the time of its establishment. Such a

centrifugal force indigenous to all forms of government, so alien to the spirit

of a free democracy, has always been greatly favored by modes of communica-

tion such as those now existing between the Senate and the people, modes some-

what devious, indistinct, indefinite. To

make the path of this communication

straight, to make it a public highway, an

open course, unbroken and uninterrupted

from the polls to the Senate chamber, is

to inflict a grievous wound upon central-

ism, and will help to drive monopoly from its noxous lair.

To grant to the whole body of electors in a State this

Senatorial franchise, if you will allow me

the use of such expression, must induce

and awaken an interest much enlarged,

by this means, be checked and

thwarted. A redistribution of power,

that is what this amendment proposes.

It relates to readjustment of power as at

present apportioned. There is a certain

element in our system which to-day is

demanding a larger share of power, as is

evidenced by the action of the learned

and honorable Senator from Wisconsin

[Mr. Vilas] in introducing the resolutions

of his legislature this morning. They are

demanding a larger share, and I may be

permitted to say they deserve it. This

decentralization is always competent by

the voluntary suffrage of the people of

the States, under the forms of law.

In accordance with this policy of distri-

bution we have been provided with three

departments of the government, the leg-

islative, executive and judicial.

Of these three under the present form

which is controlled by the people? Surely

not the judiciary. This whole province

of power touches but once its putative

source and origin, at the time of appoint-

ment, and then only in the most indirect

manner. Thereafter it is forever inde-

pendent of, and, indeed, irresponsible to,

the people as such.

Just as certainly it is not the executive.

The head of this department is chosen by

electors, who are themselves chosen by

the people; but when elected, and after

his induction, the President and the

chiefs of the great administrative sec-

tions appointed by him are not at all the

subjects of popular regulation or direc-

tion.

There remains, then, only the legisla-

tive, whereof the people have control of

but one branch, the House of Represen-

tatives. It will be thus seen that in this

tripartite distribution of powers now exist-

ing no division thereof is allotted to the

people.

The amendment submitted by the Gen-

eral Assembly of the State of Indiana, if

approved, would grant to them wholly

and directly the control of the legislative

department.

Ought not at least one department to

be so ordered and bestowed?

It was said in the discussion, very elab-

orate, which attended the issue of the re-

jection or approval of our present Con-

stitution, that Senators in Congress were

the representatives of the States, of the

sovereignty of the States. No change is

intended in this relation. The Senator

would yet continue to be the representa-

tive in a special manner of his State. The

only modification proposed is that of the

electoral body which chooses the Sena-

tor. This would consist of the whole

number of voters in the State, who would

vote for United States Senator in the

same manner as they now vote for gov-

ernor and other officers.

There is nothing in the proffered

amendment which could detract from the

position or influence of members of this

body; on the contrary, these would be

enhanced. The States as such would

lose nothing of dignity, sovereignty, or

power. Far is it from my purpose to de-

tract anything from the character or au-

thority of the States.

The separate autonomies of the States,

as distinct sites and centers of intellect-

ual, social and civic culture, and of vari-

ous interests, customs, laws and institu-

tions, diversified as the climate and soil

which characterize them, have been the

chief elements in our national greatness.

They have given us a very different pol-

icy and a vastly superior career to that which

might have been induced by the dull and

deadening uniformity of a system of cen-

tralization, destructive of local self-gov-

ernment, gathering to one head and focus-

Again, certain shares and substrates

of governmental powers have been granted over, subject to numerous corporations; that of eminent domain (a right of sovereignty) that of perpetual succession (an attribute of sovereignty)—both often enjoyed and exercised by these corporate lessees with the very least regard to the public welfare.

Some touch of the hand of innovation, not too conservative, seems needed here—in to retrace the lines, become somewhat dimmed and blurred, of a plan designed to be republican in fact as in form. The nearness of the mass of citizens to the seat of power, like the measuring eye of the master builder, would rectify these faulty lines in our political fabric. The influence of the people should become more active, co-operative, not so passive and advisory.

Congress, in the two branches thereof, would be thus brought closer to the people, and this immediate proximity would yet retain great functions in our federal polity, the very greatest, far superior to those of Congress or any of the departments. It has been too common to make use of language from which it might be inferred that the power granted to the three departments of the government were forever lost to the grantors, incapable of resumption, whereas it is very certain, both from the theory and practice of the republic, that the people are not only the source, but the ultimate depository of all powers, both those

granted and those reserved.

The States may at any time, upon a

vote sufficiently unanimous of an adequate number, three-fourths thereof, resume any part of the powers granted to these classes more adverse to popular influences would by degrees recognize the ultimate political truth. All legislative grants and franchises, as well as public offices, are public trusts. Those who hold them are not owners or proprietors, they are only trustees, they are merely tenants at will, at the will of the people.

Under the beneficent environment of this new senatorial franchise even those classes most adverse to popular influences would by degrees recognize the ultimate political truth. All legislative grants and franchises, as well as public offices, are public trusts. Those who hold them are not owners or proprietors, they are only trustees, they are merely tenants at will, at the will of the people.

And thus it may be known of all men that the founders of this Republic did give to the purely democratic element an indisputable ascendancy; that they granted to this popular tribunal a jurisdiction from which there can be no appeal; that in fullest faith, in confidence unshaken, they have committed the destinies of their country to the arbitrament of the conscience and the judgment of a free people. What is said above relates to rights granted; it has no relation to national rights, sometimes called inherent—rights belonging to the citizen as a man, a person, or human, common to all. These rights, as they are not confined neither can they be taken away by any legislation.

Under the provisions of this amend- ment there would be an actual approach—a contact; not a partial sympathy; not an oblique connection or relationship between the servant and those served.

But we may well entertain the opinion that this scant allowance of direct power was chiefly due to the occasion—to the conditions of that time—especially to the fact that upon the one engrossing issue of national independencies the legislatures and the people had been by the heat of war fused, welded together, inseparably.

Besides this, the federal government, although officially framed by the adoption of the Constitution, was still a thing of the future. Its tendencies were not wholly perceived; its effects were yet somewhat unfelt, unmeasured. But at this time, after more than a century of national existence, we begin to see indications that the general government, in some of its independencies and appendages, has a kind of existence, separate, distinct, very little amenable to the popular will.

The more ancient departments of the executive branch in this distribution of power have become the haunts of a long line of precedents, traditions, and usages. Although it is the theory that the administration actually and practically changes in accordance with the suffrage of successive elections, yet there are some official points and places that do not change which appear to be unchangeable or incapable of change. We have a beginning practice, members of the House were chosen by the people of the whole State upon a single ticket; but this no longer obtains. Wherefore, were this amendment in force, the Senator would be chosen by and would represent the whole mass of voters, the Representative would, as he does now, in a special sense represent the people of the district or portion of the State from which he is sent, and wherein he usually resides.

These can be interpreted only to mean that the wise founders and fathers of this system did not purpose to grant any powers absolutely to the federal government or to either of its departments, but ultimately to vest all powers and franchises in the people of the several States.

Article V, relating to amendments, found near the close of the Constitution, is a testamentary devise to the people of the vast residuary estate wholly uninhabited. In this clause is placed the vital principle, the living soul of the whole dispensation. So any man must conclude who will carefully reflect upon its comprehensive forecast and explore the spacious scope and range of its intended

consequences.

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ment or to either of its departments, but

ultimately to vest all powers and franchises

in the people of the several States.

The functions and forces of constitutional

reform have hardly yet been broached.

During one hundred and fifteen years we

have found fifteen amendments. It may

be that the time approaches for a new ar-

ticle with other sections upon additional

subjects. If Congressional statutes and

commissions are found incompetent to

cope with existing evils, within the wide

province of constitutional reform may

yet be shown a way more excellent.

The department of the judiciary, with

its numerous appointees; many of them

perpetual incumbents, clerks, marshals,

masters, and commissioners, dealing

daily with the persons and property of

the citizen, yet not answerable even in

the most remote manner to the people,

shows a somewhat similar divergence.

Not even a constitutional amendment

can deprive any State of its equal suffrage

in the Senate without the consent of the State.

To correct the illegitimate tendencies in our system adverse to free institutions, to avoid the necessity of too frequent resort to extraordinary legislative action, the best method is now by this measure suggested—an increase of direct popular representation in the national legislature.

This would cause the character of the people to be transposed more perfectly into the modes of government. This would cause the needs, wants, aims, and aspirations of the masses of men in our free communities to be more faithfully reflected, more clearly imaged forth in the laws of the country and their administration.

Congress, in the two branches thereof, would be thus brought closer to the people, and this immediate proximity would yet retain great functions in our federal polity, the very greatest, far superior to those of Congress or any of the departments. It has been too common to make use of language from which it might be inferred that the power granted to the three departments of the government were forever lost to the grantors, incapable of resumption, whereas it is very certain, both from the theory and practice of the republic, that the people are not only the source, but the ultimate depository of all powers, both those

granted and those reserved.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

rate permanently by selling wheat and cotton or any other products in Europe or elsewhere. The trade balances for the past thirty years is the conclusive proof of this fact. We do not sell to Europe for money, but trade for products.

While we accept the barbarous and unscientific custom of setting aside specific property for a redemption fund, let us at least be broad enough to make room for the law of natural selection. Under conditions of equal freedom, the community whose necessities were greatest would make the deposit of products and furnish the public with the medium of exchange. With such a national system, industry would swell the volume of money until average interest would fall to the level of profits. There would be no rushing of products to market in advance of the wants of consumers, nor would there be any undue inflation, for there would be no object in putting interest below the profits of industry. Each industrial center would become a money center to the extent of its own needs, but no further. Under the present system industry is not only prostrate; it is powerless; without means of self-defense, compelled to pay tribute to the credit-selling money center by the robber's rule, "what the traffic will bear," which means all the profits of production in excess of bare subsistence.

Any plan that contemplates working in harmony with Wall street and Lombard street on the theory of "periodical disturbances," caused by "moving the crops," is a foregone failure. There can be neither peace nor truce with these credit-selling centers.

The issue is as plain as the sun at high noon—it is simply this: Shall the people use their own credit at the lowest cost, or shall they continue to buy credit at the highest price the money centers can exact?

The financial system of to-day is a relic of barbarism, four centuries behind the march of human progress. The specie basis has been a fiction from the beginning. It has always fallen and failed on the day of trouble. Money as a labor-saving machine is far behind other labor-saving machines.

It is time all classes of people take high ground on this great question, laying aside the jealousies of locality and occupation. Let us not suffer this sub-treasury plan, which contains the possibilities of a great and beneficial system, to dwindle to the insignificant proportions of a contrivance set up for the special benefit of classes and localities. Let us set the plan high enough and broad enough to include the whole system of credit money. Let it stand upon the broad basis of the non-perishable products of industry, not disguising the ultimate purpose of reaching a system wherein all the property of all the people will render the withdrawal of anything from use as a special fund unnecessary.

The Alliance Echo (Mexico Texas) says:

There is but one power under the heavens that will keep the farmers from winning in their fight for liberty, and that is to become divided and defeat themselves. Our enemies are aware of this fact, and to this end they are bending all their energies, and for this purpose alone were the Fort Worth, St. Louis and Corsicana meetings held. Farmers, however, have seen the point and will let them severely alone. It will

THE FEBRUARY MEETING.
Views of Noted Men on the Objects and Purposes of the Meeting and the Work to be Done.HON. THOMAS E. WATSON, OF GA.
HEADS THE LIST WITH AN ABLE PAPER.

Yours of yesterday asking my views in reference to the February meeting received. The importance of that gathering can hardly be exaggerated. In my poor judgment, it is a final effort upon the part of the people to preserve those principles of political freedom upon which our republic is founded. It is a grand attempt to harmonize and mold into organized strength the separate elements which are now in a state of revolt against the misrule, the corruption, and the classism of the day. It is the reassertion by the people of their right to be recognized by the government, to have their grievances heard by the government; to have the unjust laws from which they suffer removed by the government, and to have equality and justice once more put in control of that government. If the importance of the meeting be great, then the responsibility resting upon those who choose the delegates is equally so. Theirs is the fight. Theirs is the grievance. Theirs the happiness of success or the misery of failure. To the great body of the people it is not a question of sentiment, it is a question of food and clothing, of home and fireside, of freedom or financial servitude. It is a question as to whether they and their children shall be outcasts, homeless and helpless, or whether they shall have fair reward for labor, fair prices for produce, and a fair chance for livelihood, in a land big enough and good enough to furnish us all with the comforts of home. As to the responsibilities of the delegates to their constituents the issue is the plain one of duty. The delegate who goes to that convention knowing that his people favor independent political action in support of our demands, and who nevertheless intrigues to keep down such action, who schemes to delude and mislead the convention as to the feeling of his constituents, is a man whom it were a waste of time to call infamous. As to the work to be done by the convention, my judgment is that the component elements of the meeting will soon satisfy each other of their capacity to harmonize upon certain leading and distinct principles of reform, and that a platform should be framed, plainly setting forth those principles. I think a great number of details would be a mistake.

Again, they have induced Congress to pass laws to contract the volume of currency in circulation from over \$50 per capita in 1866, to less than \$12 per capita in 1892, thereby more than doubling the volume of the money in their possession and, at the same time, decreasing the volume of all other property and products at least one half. Resulting, in ten years from 1879 to 1889, in 95,531 business failures, aggregating \$1,419,000,000. The homes and property of the masses to day are in jeopardy by reason of the insufficient supply of money. The industries of the nation are seriously crippled; the further development of our productive areas are brought largely to a standstill; the laboring classes, by the hundreds of thousands, are out of employment because employers can not get the money with which to pay for daily labor.

To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid people:

We have a nation of 64,000,000 people, an area of 3,400,000 square miles of the richest land in the world, a national wealth of \$65,000,000,000, an annual volume of business of \$130,000,000,000, an intensely active energetic people; government annual expenses of over \$1,000,000,000, and only \$2,082,568,000, as a circulating medium with which to

begin a revolution, peaceful, but irresistible, which will never stop until its purposes are accomplished. And those purposes are as pure and lofty as those for which Washington fought. The Alliance as an Order in the hands of firm men, will continue to be the reserve force from which the People's party will draw its strength; will continue to be the school house, the educative branch of the great reform movement. The great philosopher, Buckle, never made a profounder remark than when he said that the reason so many reform movements failed, was "because the leaders let the political movement outrun the educational movement." This will always be so. The Alliance has been a magnificent educational machine. It will continue its work. So long as our political movement does not outstrip our educational work, the People's party and the Alliance will be allies—inseparable and unconquerable. If the People's party is guided by wisdom it will never let the political movement get beyond the point to which the people have been educated. These gentlemen, are my views, respectfully submitted in obedience to your request. It is needless for me to say they are given in no spirit of instruction or dictation.

People's Party Platform.
BY E. H. BELDEN (MERLINDA SISINS).

Believing that the second Declaration of Independence, which is to be promulgated at St. Louis, Feb. 22, should embody the combined wisdom of the people, we venture to contribute the following thoughts:

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for the common people to unite in self defense against encroachments upon their equal rights, to which the laws of God entitle them, it is reasonable that they should declare the causes that impel them to such action.

We hold these truths to be self-evident and of divine command, that all men should labor, and that they

should be protected by the government in the honest fruits of their labor, in order to preserve life, liberty and happiness. That whenever any government refuses or neglects this, its highest duty of protecting the equal rights of the weak against the strong, it becomes the duty of all

good citizens to unite in securing these safeguards, thereby insuring happiness to themselves and safety to their children.

While all history demonstrates that the common people are disposed to suffer while evils are sufferable, yet, when a long train of abuses and usurpations evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right—it is their duty—to throw off such oppression and to provide new safeguards for their future security.

The history of the law-making power of this country is unparalleled in its criminal neglect to protect the common people. Their inherent rights have been surrendered, while unscrupulous men have been given power to rob labor of its just rewards.

To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid people:

The great producing classes are struggling against their fate. Under the present system of monopolistic greed and avarice they are doomed to death. The pathetic appeals of the farmers for justice and equity, the protest of the laboring classes against the tyranny of combined capital, and the revolt of every section of the re-

public against the domination of Wall street, show the threatening nature of the oppression fastened upon us by plutocratic rule. Our government is becoming Russianized and our people are becoming pauperized. Fortunately reform is still a possibility, but a few years from now it will be only a dream, and a peaceful revolution by the ballot will be out of the question. In this hour we present the following declarations and demands:

It is conceded that the currency is the life-blood of the nation. Instead of Congress exercising its constitutional right and duty to issue a full legal tender currency direct to the people in sufficient quantity to transact their business on a cash basis, they have permitted the money power to secure exceptions to its legal tender qualities, by which the value of gold was increased many millions, making one currency for the bond-holder and another for the plow-holder and soldier. At their dictation Congress established the national banks as middle men through which the people have had to obtain their money from the government, costing them a high rate of interest, while the banks have paid the government but one per cent for the money, and at the same time drawing interest on their bonds deposited with the government as security, which advantages have compelled labor to give them a profit of nearly \$6,000,000,000 during the past twenty-five years.

Another great evil in the power of the banks to contract the amount of currency in circulation in the fall when the farmer has to sell his product, thereby decreasing the price, and to increase the volume of currency at other seasons when he buys his supplies, thereby increasing the price. Again, the rates of interest were increased to 25 per cent premium. Again, in 1873, the money power of Europe and America, by deception and intrigue, induced Congress to demonetize silver, a metal that is used by over three-fourths of the world's population, and which has stood as a legal tender and unit of value from the beginning of the government, thus creating a gold standard of payment which has benefited all creditors and those of fixed incomes by adding 25 per cent to all debts, both public and private. Therefore, to destroy this 25 per cent premium on gold and make it an honest currency, we demand:

That the amount of circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.

Under the "credit strengthening" act of 1869, they induced Congress to make the bonds payable in coin instead of lawful money as specified on them when purchased, by which over \$600,000,000 was taken from the people. Fearing this steal would be held unconstitutional, in 1870, they got the bonds refunded into ten, fifteen and thirty year bonds, which should have been paid at maturity.

By these, and other acts, their value was increased to 25 per cent premium. Again, in 1873, the money power of Europe and America, by which one Congress has taken over \$1,000,000,000 out of the hands of the people, we demand:

That one industry shall not be built up at the expense of another, and that all revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the State or nation honestly and economically administered, and that all duties on the necessities of life be abolished.

Believing that the best interests of mankind are more important than the dollar, we demand:

That Congress shall pass laws with such penalties as will effectually prevent the adulteration of food.

In lieu of an income tax, and as over two-thirds of our entire wealth escapes assessment and the farmers pay 80 per cent on what is assessed, we demand:

That all mortgages, notes, shares, stocks, bonds (not exempt), checks, drafts, orders, book credits, bills of exchange, certificates of money or jewels on deposit, and all affidavits showing money or jewels over \$50 on hand, shall bear a government stamp, the amount to be fixed by Congress.

Speculators are permitted to govern the price of labor's products at will. Hence we demand:

That Congress shall pass such laws as will effectually prevent the dealing in futures of all agricultural and mechanical productions.

Realizing that the President and Vice President of the United States are often elected by a minority vote of the people, and that United States Senators frequently secure their election by purchase, and to prevent

conduct all this business. This is 3 cents on the dollar for our national wealth, and 1 1/2 cents on the dollar for our volume of business. But if you deduct from the present volume, the bank, the United States Treasury, State and city tax reserves and currency lost or destroyed, there will be left for active business work less than a cent on the dollar for our national wealth; 1/2 cent on the dollar for our volume of business. If you still further confine the money to gold and silver, it gives for active work less than 1/4 cent on our national wealth and less than 1/6 cent per dollar for our volume of business. The December, 1890, report of the comptroller of currency shows that checks, drafts, certificates, and such evidences of money, to the amount of over 92 per cent of the business, were used in 1890, aggregating the enormous sum of \$13,000,000,000, in banks alone to supplement the use of our legal money. Book credits and notes were several times this amount. These \$13,000,000,000 of checks and drafts helped the rich bank corporations, but was no help to the people, who were confined to less than \$12, per capita, in currency, to do business with. Hence we demand:

Equal pay for equal service, and that all under the age of sixteen be removed from the treadmill to the schoolroom.

And now, finally, turning with deep sorrow from the past, with its centuries of monarchic despotism in which the masses have yielded up their lives in a vain struggle for existence, we are confronted in this land, dedicated to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, with a despotism of wealth and combined capital the most heartless and destructive of any recorded in the annals of history. We awake to find that 31,000 men already own over one-half of the nation's wealth, with 9,000,000 mortgaged homes, with over 3,000,000 women working for starvation wages, and over 10,000 children dying annually of starvation, while the youth of our land are marching into the jaws of crime, insanity and pauperism.

In this hour of peril, with malice toward none and charity for all, we present this indictment accompanied by our demands, and declare that this great contest shall never cease until equal rights, equal privileges and equal burdens are secured to us and to our children forever.

The time is for action!

We appeal to the clergy to help save the mothers and children, to help secure to the youth an equal chance in the race of life. We appeal to all

Christians to exemplify the Master

by helping to secure good will to men. We appeal to all farmers, wage-earners, merchants, shop-keepers and others whose interests are identical, to help establish a government in which an injury to one shall be the concern of all.

And, finally, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for assistance and for the rectitude of our intentions; we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.

INTERVIEWS.

Hon. O. M. Kem, 226 Delaware Avenue, says:

In Nebraska the Alliance is in a healthy condition and the people are steadily growing. We have no less than eighteen hundred sub-Alliances, paid up and entitled to State representation. I am in possession of authentic information upon this point. It is not a guess, but the State secretary, last report, has adopted the Australian ballot law, and elected on the People's independent ticket one regent to the State University.

Again, Congress and the legislatures have permitted capital to organize into monopolies, combines and trusts, whereby small industries are bought up or forced out, and, as a result, exorbitant prices are charged for manufactured products, and also for rates of transportation and communication, in order to pay dividends on watered stock, while the rates of wages and the price of the farmer's raw material are decreased.

The People's Party in Nebraska grows apace. Of course the veriest tyro in politics knows that the Farmers' Alliance is not a party. It is an organization. Therefore the political action of its members is strictly their private affair. If they chose to endorse and support at the polls new men and measures under a new name they only exert the highest privilege of American citizens; and this in no way conflicts with the fundamental principles of the Alliance organization. My county has the first one in the State.

to come out squarely for independent political action ad hominem, a third party man. [Mr. Kem, here drew particular attention to a People's party medallion hanging from his watch chain.] Last fall a year ago we polled one-third of the total vote of our State. In the last election one-half, though fully sixty thousand men stayed away from the polls. It is safe to claim seven-tenths of these as Alliance, and the reason for their failure is plain. The strongholds of the Republicans are the towns and cities. In them their partisans without loss of time can register their entire voting strength. In the country precincts where we outnumber them ten to one, it is not uncommon for a farmer or laborer to be forced to go twenty miles to exercise his prerogative. The consequences are that 20 per cent of our people did not respond at all in the last election. You may say for me that if there is not a People's party national ticket in the field in 1892, that Nebraska will be much disappointed. She is eagerly looking forward to placing herself on record then.

I hope to introduce some special bills along the line of reform this session. I stand by the body of the Cincinnati and Ocala platforms. Details all may differ in that is not vital. I am in favor of a system of government banking and government ownership of railroads. Also a graduated income tax, and the placing of silver on a parity with gold by the law. I am opposed to a tariff that votes cities and townships to private corporations, and protects the few to the detriment of the many. I am in favor of a law prohibiting, as far as it is possible, any organization or syndicate of men controlling any of the necessities of the whole people. You will observe that this embraces not only personal requirements, but transportation, expressage, water works, telegraphy and finance.

In commenting on the bill recently introduced by Senator Sherman to protect, as he terms it, "the Stars and Stripes" from being brought into contempt, the People's Journal, of Anderson, Ind., very aptly says:

This is one of Russian Czar's kind of edicts and should be shelved at once. No Democrat or Alliance man in Congress ought to vote for it or speak against it. It is designed simply and solely to get up a spread-eagle sham battle between Democrats and Republicans in Congress so that no actual business can be done by that body, until just time enough to pass the appropriation bills with a rush.

No intelligent responsible citizen of the United States is going to insult the flag of his country, or permit it to be done. Some drunken rowdy or half crazy creature is occasionally guilty of such an offense against decency, but our statutes against malicious trespass are amply sufficient to punish such irresponsible miscreants.

We don't want any time wasted with such stuff. It is an insult to the intelligence and patriotism of the American people to parade a bill which implies that the machinery of the criminal law must be put in motion in our own country to protect our flag.

Just what the object of this bill is, will, like the greater part of the legislation in which Senator Sherman is most interested, be disclosed further on. One thing is certain, it means no good to the common people.

DON'T FORGET.

Don't forget that the lessons begin in January. Many a lodge is slowly wasting away and dying from inaction. These lessons are to supply mental food in palatable form. They are arousing great interest in the lodges where they are used. Talk the matter up in your lodge, and be ready to begin the third week in January. If your president or lecturer does not take THE ECONOMIST, carry your copy to the lodge and show them the lessons as soon as they appear. Call in the stragglers; set everybody to work. City people have their clubs and meet weekly to study subjects of interest and do literary work. Why should not the farmers?

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST
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The publishers of this paper have given a bond in the sum of \$50,000 to the President of the Farmers and Laborers Union of America that they will faithfully carry out all subscriptions and other contracts.

The following is the resolution unanimously adopted at the national meeting in St. Louis:

Whereas THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST our adopted official national organ, has so boldly and fearlessly advocated our cause and defended our principles; therefore,

Be it resolved by this National body, That we heartily approve the course it has pursued and recommend that every member of the Order should subscribe and read the paper as one of the best means of education in the way of industrial freedom.

Reaffirmed at Ocala as follows:

Resolved, That this Supreme Council renews the NATIONAL ECONOMIST and its associates in said cause, and will do all we can to urge them onward in the good work of education.

Address all remittances or communications to:

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,
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N. R. P. A.

NOTICE.

TO ALL SECRETARIES:

Please send names and post-office addresses of all German-reading people in your community, that we may send them sample copies of German Alliance paper and other Alliance literature. THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, 239 North Capitol street, Washington, D. C.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the great conference of producers to be held February 22, 1892, will meet in the city of St. Louis, instead of Washington, D. C., as previously announced.

BEN TERRELL,

Chairman of Committee.

In connection with the above the following extracts from a letter written by H. E. Taubeneck, member of the committee, to Mr. Terrell, are of interest.

The city authorities and the mercantile club have taken the responsibilities in their own hands. First they offered us the exposition building, with six or eight large rooms for committees, free of charge. Next they appointed a committee of three to secure reduced hotel rates. Mr. Morgan, of Arkansas, was added to this committee. They will make a list of all the hotels in St. Louis, with the rates opposite each hotel. This list will be published in a few weeks, then our friends can go to whatever place they like. In regard to railroad rates, we will secure one fare for the round trip. It was left in the hands of the St. Louis traffic commissioner. Also all editors of reform papers will receive transportation for advertisement. St. Louis is the only place outside of Louisville which is able to take care of a large colored delegation in the way of hotel accommodations. It has been suggested that the executive committee of each organization select one hotel for their headquarters, and that the committee be in St. Louis two days before the 22nd of February, to take charge of their own delegates.

OFFICIAL.

To the Brotherhood of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union.

We believe that the great principles upon which the demands of our Order are based are correct. We believe that these principles are founded in equity and justice. We believe their recognition and adoption in our governmental

policy would conserve the highest interests of the public weal. We believe that the just equipoise between the great industries of our country, which is absolutely essential to our existence as a free people, has been destroyed. We believe that the political power and wealth of the country are being appropriated and absorbed, through discriminating and vicious legislation, by the few, to the detriment and ruin of the many. We believe that as a people we are fast drifting away from the landmarks of the fathers of the American people.

Corporate power, centralized capital, and all their allied political forces, will be held up in formidable array to intimidate us. Relying on the justice of our cause, the invincible power of right and the favor of God, let us meet them with the only weapons left us—manhood and ballots.

Prompted by these painful convictions, we have solemnly appealed to the sense of justice and patriotism of the American people. Ignoring past party differences, men of all sections and of all shades of political opinion have magnanimously and patriotically aligned themselves under the Alliance banner and espoused a common cause—the cause of a common country, the cause of humanity and justice.

We expected opposition, persistent, bitter and powerful opposition. We expected that every expedient that could be devised for demoralizing and dividing us would be employed. We expected that the formidable evils against which we had entered battle would intrench and fortify behind party lines and employ the machinery and enginery of party power against us. We expected that our righteous demand for an open field and an equal chance in the race of life would be ignored and spurned. We expected that our earnest plea for justice would not be weighed in the scale of reason nor met with fair and manly argument, but that we would be ridiculed, maligned and persistently misrepresented. In all this we have not been disappointed.

Now what is our duty as Alliance men? Plainly, it is to stand loyally and manfully by our principles, vote for no man nor party who oppose our principles, extend the hand of friendship and fellowship to any man or party who favor our principles. Place principles above parties. Place measures above men. Place country above section. Place love of home, of family, above the illusive and treacherous rewards of party service. Place right above wrong.

Let duty—the grandest word ever uttered in the dialect of mortal tongue—duty to God, duty to country, duty to home and family, be the sublime standard of our action in all things devolving upon us as citizens. Let us be diligent and faithful in all our duties as Alliance men. Keep up and strengthen the organization. Encourage the wavering, strengthen the weak and confirm the strong. Continue to educate the people in the great principles of justice, equity and truth. The crucial test of our manhood and our loyalty to principle is upon us. Stupendous effort will be made by our enemies to so direct and destroy our organization. Appeals to sectional pride or prejudice will be made. Let us answer that our Order knows no North, no South, no East, no West. The disaffection or disloyalty of an occasional traitor in our ranks will be urged as evidence of decay. Let us answer that no human organization that ever had an existence was exempt from these. Party fealty and party spirit will be invoked to force an abandonment of our principles. Let us answer that we will stand by that party that will stand by us, and that we are not so blind as to expect relief at the hand of any political party that opposes our principles and seeks to destroy our organization. Weakness in numbers, and our disorganized condition as a political factor will be paraded to prove our help-

lessness. Let us answer that the old Saxon spirit and courage which met this base argument in two of the mightiest revolutions of modern times, and gave to the world this great country, has not yet died out in the hearts of the American people.

Corporate power, centralized capital, and all their allied political forces, will be held up in formidable array to intimidate us. Relying on the justice of our cause, the invincible power of right and the favor of God, let us meet them with the only weapons left us—manhood and ballots.

"Equal rights to all and special privileges to none" is all we ask. A just and honorable people would ask for nothing more. A just and honorable people would be content with nothing less. Be not deceived by plausible devices involving a compromise of principles, or a betrayal of the high purposes of our Order. Beware of gift-bearing Greeks.

Fraternally, L. L. POLK,
Pres. N. F. A. and I. U.
Reform Press please copy.

SOMETHING NEW.

Yes, something new for the sub-Aliances. Forty lessons on popular subjects, so arranged that every sub-Aliance can do the work, will be published in THE ECONOMIST during the year 1892. Be on the lookout for these lessons. They will add great interest to your Alliance meetings. They will call in backsliders and bring you new converts.

sidered by any rule of finance as a reserve for the payment of debt. It is simply a convenience for the people, and has never been looked upon as a real part of the Treasury balance. The amount deposited with national banks has been loaned out to their customers, and has been in the channels of business for years—so long, in fact, that to demand payment would bankrupt the country. The \$100,000,000 in gold that has been kept in the Treasury for the alleged purpose of redeeming greenbacks, can not be disturbed, if the arguments and statements of both Republican and Democratic statesmen can be relied on. There are floating about somewhere, liable to come in at any time for payment, about \$34,000,000 of national bank notes that are being retired. In addition to this there are about \$6,000,000 of 4½ per cent bonds that are advertised to be paid on presentation, making in all about \$40,000,000 floating liabilities and not a dollar in the Treasury to meet them with. If this is a healthy condition for the United States Treasury, there are a great many business men who are much better conditioned than they are willing to admit.

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER.

Yes, and it always will be. Ignorance is weakness. The weak are always pressed to the wall. The world is in the hands of the strong and wise. A study of the lessons which begin in January will show what knowledge has done for the capitalist; also what ignorance has done for the poor. Let us learn wisdom before it is too late.

AMONG the reform members of the Fifty-second House THE ECONOMIST note gatherer called upon with a view to securing personal expression touching prospective legislation, the present session, etc., and found absent from the city for the holidays are: L. W. Turpin, Alabama; C. L. Moses, Georgia; L. F. Livingston, Georgia; W. W. Everett, Georgia; T. E. Winn, Georgia; W. A. B. Branch, North Carolina; B. F. Grady, North Carolina; H. A. Williams, North Carolina; S. B. Alexander, North Carolina; G. W. Shell, South Carolina; E. T. Stackhouse, South Carolina; J. W. Lawson, Virginia; J. F. Epes, Virginia; Clark Lewis, Mississippi; S. R. Mallory, Florida; W. M. McKaig, Maryland; G. W. Cooper, Indiana; Kittel Halvorson, Minnesota; W. A. McKeighan, Nebraska; J. H. Beaman, Mississippi; J. D. Richardson, Tennessee; J. D. Washington, Tennessee, and Senators Irby of South Carolina, and Lyman D. Casey of North Dakota.

THE report of the Treasury Department shows a deficit for the month of December. The revenues were \$28,500,000, and the expenditures not far from \$31,000,000. This deficit reduced the cash balance in the Treasury to \$30,405,749. This amount was made up of \$14,000,000 in subsidiary coins and \$12,656,927 on deposit with national banks. Until about one year ago this subsidiary coin was classed in the Treasury Department as "unavailable." The same is true to-day, as it is only a legal tender for small amounts, and can not be con-

sidered by any rule of finance as a reserve for the payment of debt. It is simply a convenience for the people, and has never been looked upon as a real part of the Treasury balance. The amount deposited with national banks has been loaned out to their customers, and has been in the channels of business for years—so long, in fact, that to demand payment would bankrupt the country. The \$100,000,000 in gold that has been kept in the Treasury for the alleged purpose of redeeming greenbacks, can not be disturbed, if the arguments and statements of both Republican and Democratic statesmen can be relied on. There are floating about somewhere, liable to come in at any time for payment, about \$34,000,000 of national bank notes that are being retired. In addition to this there are about \$6,000,000 of 4½ per cent bonds that are advertised to be paid on presentation, making in all about \$40,000,000 floating liabilities and not a dollar in the Treasury to meet them with. If this is a healthy condition for the United States Treasury, there are a great many business men who are much better conditioned than they are willing to admit.

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THE GREATEST NEED OF THE REPUBLIC.

What is it? The classes are oppressing the masses. Capital is seeking to control labor; the few are striving to govern the many, and they are succeeding very well. Everybody

knows that the legislation of this country for the last twenty-five years has been almost entirely in favor of the classes and against the masses. How are we to change this? How are the people to take possession of their own? How are they to regain their rights? They must learn to understand the condition of the country and its needs. They must have opinions of their own and be able to defend them. They must know what they want. They must also know how to get it. Every voter should understand the industrial conditions of his own country and of the leading nations of the world. He should study the relations of the people to the aristocracy, both at home and abroad. He should study the relations of capital and labor, the effects of reducing the volume of the currency, the effects of cheap and dear money upon the producer, the effects of co-operation; in short, he should study legislation in all its branches until he knows what laws will be beneficial to the people and what will be injurious to their interests. Just such subjects as these will be discussed in the lessons which begin in THE ECONOMIST in January. The greatest need of the republic is intelligent voters. A careful study of the lessons presented will make intelligent voters.

IT is not extravagant to state that no man has ever entered the United States Senate with so wide a reputation for political success as does David B. Hill. Will he be able to impress upon the people as wide a conviction that he is a statesman?

HOW SHALL WE MAKE OUR ALLIANCE MEETINGS MORE INTERESTING?

That question is often asked by Alliance workers. Try the lessons which are to be given in THE ECONOMIST during 1892. They will furnish work for every one who is willing to work. Talk it up in your Alliance and be ready to begin as soon as the lessons appear. You will need your best worker to take charge of the lessons as instructor. Be thinking it over, so as to be sure to select the right one for that post.

GROVER CLEVELAND wrote a message which has been much discussed, as opening up a campaign of inexhaustible bitterness, and dealing with but one question. Governor Campbell has, by a stroke of literary genius, included three subjects in a message of three sentences, and has exhausted discussion on all. Thus the Democratic party has a broadened list of availables on the ground of individual eccentricity.

THE following is the apology made by the associated press for the appointment of ex-Congressman Perkins as Senator from Kansas:

The undersigned have been appointed a committee to issue an address setting forth the objects and purposes of the great conference of producers which has been called to convene in St. Louis, on the 22d day of February, 1892.

The call for said conference originated with the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union at Ocala, Fla., in December, 1890, as follows:

"This body gives its sanction and call for a meeting to be held about February, 1892, to be composed of delegates from all organizations of producers upon a fair basis of representation, for the purpose of a general and thorough conference upon the demands of each, and to the end that all may agree upon a joint set of demands just prior to the next national campaign, and agree upon the proper methods for enforcing such demands.

It is stated that over 54,000 neighborhoods are under the present system receiving mail at postoffices where money orders and postal notes are not issued. The extension of this system to these communities is especially desirable, as the patrons of such offices are not possessed of the other facilities offered in more populous communities for the transmission of small sums of money. Such a law would be a boon to every newspaper as well as the patrons

of the office. It would put an end to the increasing nuisance of postage stamp currency, and be a source of gratification to those who are now compelled to make use of them. In these localities there are no banks as a rule, and the only means of sending money through the mails is currency or stamps. This is not only troublesome and unsafe, but exceedingly expensive, since silver has been substituted for postal currency. This recommendation should meet with unanimous approval.

HON. T. E. WATSON (Georgia) and family have the sympathy of THE ECONOMIST and a host of friends in the siege of grip which they have experienced since locating in their new residence in Washington.

IT is not extravagant to state that no man has ever entered the United States Senate with so wide a reputation for political success as does David B. Hill. Will he be able to impress upon the people as wide a conviction that he is a statesman?

This shows the call to be regular, and to be supported by millions of people scattered throughout every section of this broad land. A movement of such great extent and popularity involves great forces and must wield great power; its causes, objects, purposes and methods, therefore, are important subjects of consideration.

The causes are many and depend on combinations of circumstances that have been transpiring for years; many of them are to-day unnoticed, and to attempt even a list of the causes would be almost an endless task, but prominent among the causes for this great movement, causes which should fill with alarm and concern every loyal citizen of this government, are: The rapid accumulation of the wealth of the nation in the hands of a few, and the general impoverishment and discontent of the masses; a financial system that furnishes a volume of money which at one season of the year is so redundant that money is worth in the metropolis only 1 per cent on call, while at another season it is so inadequate that money ranges as high as 188 per cent on call, thereby entailing great hardship and distress upon all classes as a result of instability of prices. The general and widespread belief on the part of the masses that the government is administered in the interest of a favored class (whether this be true or not, the fact that such belief exists is a matter of public concern) in spite of the wise and just provisions of the Constitution. Boss rule methods and the distribution of millions of corruption money by political organizations; the depressed condition of all productive pursuits; the menace to free government involved in the shameful abuses of aggregated wealth, using combinations of transportation companies to control legislative and judicial proceedings; the foreign in-

The object of the coming meeting is, under the blessing of God, to confer and agree upon the wisest, fairest and most just means of relief in the interest of the whole people, and to announce a declaration of principles upon which all are agreed to stand and demand laws to carry out. For this purpose every organization of producers in this broad land is invited to send delegates and participate in the deliberations. For the love of our country, for the sake of your family, in view of your duty to prosperity, and pursuant of your responsibility to God, come! and let this be the second Declaration of Independence for the American people in which instead of throwing off the yoke of a tyrant king they liberate posterity from threatened industrial tyranny and slavery.

The purpose of the meeting will be developed when the delegates of the people assemble. It is idle to suppose that they will adopt a set of demands without making adequate provision to enforce them. It is not for this committee to say what the purposes will be, but it is the duty of this committee to urge the intelligence, wisdom and virtue of the land to participate in the deliberations and abide the results of that meeting.

C. W. MACUNE,
HERMAN BAUMGARTEN,
THOMAS W. GILRUTH,
JOHN P. STELLE,
Committee.

FIVE or six pages of congressional news and views each week is what the readers of THE ECONOMIST may now expect. That department will consist of a summary of the proceedings of Congress; the vote of each Member of Congress on all important measures; a synopsis of the speeches made; interviews with the Members of Congress on all current questions; a history whenever it can be obtained of the motives that prompt the introduction of proposed measures, and many other features both interesting and instructive.

PRESIDENTIAL SKETCHES.

"Biography is the only history."

THOMAS JEFFERSON.

Though many years have passed, there is yet the glory of high renown around the man who was so democratic as to go to his inaugural alone on horseback, without a single guard or even a servant in his train, dismounted without assistance and ditched the bridle of his horse to palliades. This was the oldest son of John and Peter Jefferson, and our third President, Thomas Jefferson, who was born April 13, 1743, in the Shadwell homeestead in Albemarle County, Virginia. His father, Peter Jefferson, was a surveyor—and in due time justice of peace and representative in the House of Burgesses. He died suddenly when Thomas was only fourteen years old. Like George Washington, the burdens of life came early to his young shoulders. At seventeen he entered the college of William and Mary, where he studied fifteen hours a day. Upon leaving college his neighbors agreed that he was an agricultural genius. He experimented with soils and plants, which habit he kept up throughout his long life. In 1767, at the age of twenty-four, he was admitted to the bar. His practice rapidly increased, and in 1769 workmen began clearing the summit of Monticello, three miles from Charlottesville. On New Years day, 1772, he was married to Martha Skilton, a beautiful young widow, and Monticello became the paradise to Jefferson that Mount Vernon was to Washington and Martha Custis.

Events ushered the revolution, and we are in the great highway of American history, where we find Thomas Jefferson preparing a draft of instructions for the Virginia members of the congress which was to meet in Philadelphia in September, "in a plain brick building up a narrow alley," where sixty members represented the greatest statesmen, the most gifted orators and the commanding intellects of the provinces. On the following June, 1776, in Philadelphia, he prepared that charter of human freedom—the Declaration of Independence. John Adams, with his immutable convictions and supreme fearlessness, carried the Declaration through Congress. In the autumn Jefferson was appointed by Congress to represent, with Dr. Franklin and Silas Deane, the United States at Paris. It was a dazzling offer to a young man only thirty-three, but he declined the mission on account of Mrs. Jefferson's health. Work remained for him to do in Virginia. He was elected to the assembly, when he bent his heart and soul to making a sweeping reform in the ancient and tyrannous legislation, embracing the repeal of the laws of entail, the abolition of primogeniture and the bill for establishing religious freedom. He gave two years to the revision of the laws of Virginia. On June 1, 1779, he became governor of Virginia. His life was darkened in September, 1782, by the death of Mrs. Jefferson. From that time to the close of his own life he belonged to humanity. In November, 1783, he was once again elected to Congress, was once more appointed envoy to France. He was to succeed Dr. Franklin. His reply to Count de Vergennes is now famous: "You exceed Dr. Franklin?" "I succeed; no one can replace him." He worked with untiring industry for five years to secure a more generous compensation.

treaty between the two nations. The first news that came to him upon his return to the United States was that George Washington, the newly appointed President, had appointed him Secretary of State. Alexander Hamilton was Secretary of the Treasury. A little feud existed between the two secretaries. Hamilton was an aristocrat, loved England, and sought to mould the new government in its social and political forms to that of the mother country. Jefferson was a born democrat, believed in the common people, and desired that all political power should be left in their hands; was suspicious of a strong central government. Nearly a hundred years ago there was in the United States two parties whose dividing line was formed by their French and English sympathies. The first Secretary of State resigned his office, despite the entreaties of Washington, January 1, 1794. The philosopher and statesman retired to Monticello to experiment with his crops and dedicate his soul in architecture and books. In 1796 he was elected vice-president of the United States. The next four years form a stormy period for the country. French affairs were complicated with American politics. Again Hamilton and Jefferson are brought into deadly antagonism. John Adams, however, saved his country a war with France, while the noble deed cost him his second term of presidency. The bitter quarrel between Adams and Hamilton had demoralized the Federalist party, and the Republican party was born. The Federalists were called the "party of the gentlemen," while the Republicans called themselves the "party of the people." Thomas Jefferson was its organizer, leader and ideal, and in 1801, it made him President of the United States, near his fifty-eighth birthday. The purchase of Louisiana was the most remarkable public event of his first term. Another important measure at this period of his administration was the course he adopted toward Algerine pirates. His second presidential pillow was full of thorns—the trial of Aaron Burr, the English outrages on American shipping and the miseries of the embargo. He was glad to resign the administration to James Monroe, on March 4, 1809. His proudest ambition was to be a "plain American citizen;" but it must be admitted that his fervid democracy led him away from the golden mean sometimes. The seventeen remaining years of his life were spent at Monticello riding over his plantation, making improvements, but yet keeping a large interest in public affairs. The University of Virginia is a monument to his memory and a witness to his devotion to the cause of education in Virginia. While it is claimed that he was a religious skeptic, he regularly attended Christ Church, near the Navy Yard in Washington City, during the eight years of his presidency. In summing up his character we find his strongest passion was liberty, and his dearest pursuit was agriculture. At midday of July 4, 1826 (by just a few hours preceding the great New Englander, John Adams), he died at the age of eighty-three, of a disease superinduced by old age and the too-free use of the waters of White Sulphur Springs. His body was laid beside the most intimate and beloved of his classmates, Dabney Carr—under the oaks at Monticello.

THE SUB-TREASURY.
A Consideration of Some of the Objections to the Plan.
BY DAVIS H. WAITE.

In the Labor Wave of Omaha and other professedly reform papers, the sub-treasury plan is unfairly attacked, in that it is held responsible for matters that really have no connection with it. The actual merits of the plan are seldom discussed, and the evident intention is to kick up such a dust, that the trusts and combines, which the sub-treasury plan would destroy, may escape unharmed. The half-hearted and unreliable reform press usually assume that the proposed sub-treasury bill provides for the erection of a sub-treasury or government warehouse in every State of the United States, and based upon the principle of loan money upon real estate is not novel or experimental; there is hardly a State in the Union which has not carried this theory into practice in the investment of its school funds, which to the amount of millions of dollars, and in some cases for the past fifty years, have been loaned to farmers upon real estate security. In its administration this system has been without appreciable loss to any State; without the intervention of banks; without favoritism or monopoly, applications for loans being considered in the order filed, and the loan being obligatory if the money is in the treasury and the security in accordance with the law; without the necessity of appointing any new officials whatever beyond those required and established in every State for the proper management of its school department, without the construction in any State of a single palatial building; without the extravagant expense attending our present banking and loan system, the cost of school fund loans in the different States not exceeding one half of 1 per cent upon the amount loaned.

An entire change in our financial policy, the abolition of all banks of issue, and the right to issue full legal tender money to a specified amount based on the actual wealth of the United States, to be confined to the general government, and that money to be issued directly to the people, upon good security.

2. That the general government when required by the producer, shall warehouse the agricultural crops of the nation upon reasonable terms, and advancing money to the owners if requested, to the extent of 80 per cent of the market value of the crops so warehoused.

The above are the two great practical financial remedies for the unfortunate condition of the country, proposed by the People's party, by the industrial reform associations, and by the Farmers Alliance. In contributing to the columns of a reform paper, I will not waste your space by any argument to prove that the financial ills under which the country now labors are produced from a wicked contraction of the money circulation, forced by the money power, which is fast gathering into the hands of the few the wealth of the many. I shall assume it to be true, that money has been made scarce that it might become more valuable. That with this increased scarcity, actual and relative, the prices of products and the wages of labor have gone down below the cost of production, and that money all this while has acquired increased purchasing power, until all kinds of active business, at the loom, the forge, the field, and the mine, have become dependent on the money-loaner for the means to carry on business, and at rates of interest which swallow up all legitimate profit. These premises being acknowledged, it follows that the first proposed remedy, that the general government shall issue direct to the people full legal tender treasury notes, on good security, and at an interest not to

exceed 2 per cent per annum, is precisely the remedy which the situation logically demands. Our present banking system ignores landed security, and thus prevents loans of money upon the best and most tangible security which exists, one which can neither defalcate, nor run away, nor die. By this outlawry of real estate security, the better half of all security for loans has been wiped out, the amount loaned reduced, and the rates of interest upon the money actually loaned increased. This iniquitous discrimination against real estate and its owners, has contributed in no small degree to the present decline of land values and the constant depreciation of farming lands for the past fifteen years in the best agricultural States. The proposition to loan money upon real estate is not novel or experimental; there is hardly a State in the Union which has not carried this theory into practice in the investment of its school funds, which to the amount of millions of dollars, and in some cases for the past fifty years, have been loaned to farmers upon real estate security. In its administration this system has been without appreciable loss to any State; without the intervention of banks; without favoritism or monopoly, applications for loans being considered in the order filed, and the loan being obligatory if the money is in the treasury and the security in accordance with the law; without the necessity of appointing any new officials whatever beyond those required and established in every State for the proper management of its school department, without the construction in any State of a single palatial building; without the extravagant expense attending our present banking and loan system, the cost of school fund loans in the different States not exceeding one half of 1 per cent upon the amount loaned.

It is quite probable that the first reform proposition would accomplish all that would be necessary to restore the prosperity of the country. If this government should issue direct to the people upon real estate security enough money to perform the business transactions of the United States upon a cash basis (and that is the precise proposition of the Ocala demands and the People's party platform), then the immense indebtedness, public and private, now hanging over this nation, and estimated by the late Senator Plumb at not less than twenty billion dollars, bearing an average interest of 10 per cent, which indebtedness is constantly increasing under our present system, and without a change in that system can never be paid, because for years we have only been able to pay the interest by in-trenching upon the principal. The interest upon this vast indebtedness might be taken up with money costing only 2 per cent per annum, and thus there be saved to the people annually \$1,000,000,000 in interest, enough in a single year, with the confidence the new system would create, to wipe out all the difference between adversity and prosperity, and inaugurate a policy destined to rescue this nation from the jaws of ruin by providing ways and means for the ultimate payment of this immense debt.

The present system of warehousing the crops under the exclusive control of private enterprise for the past twenty years has been subject to such

capitalistic combinations, charges and commissions for freight and storage as have eliminated entirely the element of profit from the farming business. That the government warehouse plan would benefit the farmer goes without saying. For the government to do the warehouse agricultural business of the country to the extent of advancing 80 per cent of the market value of the crops stored, and at reasonable rates and charges, would enable the producer to tide over the hard times, and not compel him to sacrifice everything above actual cost in his business to the greed of capital upon the altar of a scarcity of money. And this plan is not novel or experimental. It only extends to the farmer the same privilege which the distiller has enjoyed for the past fifteen years, and the importer of foreign merchandise ever since 1789. The crying necessity of the government warehouse plan is because under our present financial system, with its enforced scarcity of money, and consequent depressed value as a rule of all other productions, the producer is unable to put in harvest or market his crop without pecuniary assistance. The national government, under both Cleveland and Harrison, has recognized the fact; and has not only flooded Wall street with government money, professedly to assist in marketing the crops, but has actually suffered a loss of over fifty million dollars in the payment of premiums for the privilege of anticipating the payment of bonds not yet due. The trouble has been that the people have not been the beneficiaries of this humane and generous policy of the government, but all its benefits have been absorbed in Wall street. The people, unable to loan money of private capital except upon extortionate terms amounting to practical confiscation, have been compelled, year by year, to make forced sales of their products, and, as is the rule in forced sales, have sold at less than the actual value. With money issued directly from the government to the people upon real estate security, the present scarcity of money would soon cease, and perhaps thereafter no urgent necessity might exist to compel that sacrifice which agriculture has endured for the past twenty years. I do not say that such would be the case, but common sense would seem to dictate that the reformer who seeks and deserves success should advocate no radical and sweeping change in public policy except such as the occasion imperatively demands.

The claim that those who oppose the Ocala demands, acknowledging the pressure and extent of the national evils which are crushing out the life and liberties of the people, should offer some other practical remedy for these evils, is both natural and just. The utter failure of those who insist upon it that all reforms shall be part of the tail of the orthodox Democratic or Republican kite to propose any practical remedy whatever, suggests bad faith in this particular class of opponents, or a mental state so feeble-minded as to prevent a consideration at one and the same time of an evil and its remedy. The statement that a loan of money upon real estate or agricultural products would be class legislation, is fallacious, because under the system all owners of real estate and their products are treated alike. The idea which necessarily accompanies the

statement, that government to avoid class legislation should loan money to all applicants, irrespective of the fact whether or not they can give security, is utterly impracticable, and has never found a place in the policy of any civilized nation; and the idea that this government if it goes into the warehouse business instead of confining itself to that safe and well tried part of the business, such as private enterprise has always practiced, shall purchase of first hands all agricultural and other products, and then take the risk of their disposal, is absolutely ludicrous, considering that the men who propose these wild and scatter-brained theories are bitterly and unreasonably opposed to methods of business and public policy, which stand approved by the principles of political economy and the practice of all nations; with the single exception, and that a most righteous amendment, that in the reform plan the government acts directly upon the people without the intervention of middle men, and this does away with that cursed money monopoly that so long has taken the grain and left to the working people the husks. The political issues of the day are becoming so plain and palpable, and exercising such a controlling influence upon the welfare of every citizen, that the people cannot much longer be hoodwinked by false issues. I believe the day is at hand when the prodigals will abandon the society of the hogs for that of their father's house, and be perfectly willing to swap husks for veal. God grant it.

Here let me say to our reader that I must pen a paragraph which may be smacked of egoism, and yet no such foolishness is intended. Now, when John Warren saw he could not interest me in the latest rehash of old party newspaper bile he quit the job, and then my turn came to impose upon him some experiences gathered at a series of Alliance meetings lately addressed by me as county lecturer. John was astonished at the recital. He was astonished that a "fool farmer" to borrow a Chicago newspaper phrase, should be capable of a two hour speech each evening for a week, apparently entertaining and instructing his audience. "Why," says John, "have you really learned the art of yawping before a crowd, like the professionals sent out from the county seat every two years to tell you how to vote?"

So I had to explain to my city friend that I had learned some things from study and experience which, as an Alliance man, I believe it to be my duty to tell my brother farmers. I described the dreadful sensation of standing before a public audience the first evening, how it felt as though one had plunged into deep water without being able to swim. With me it must be extemporaneous work or nothing. My hesitancy and incoherence would have been horrible if it had not been laughable. Thoughts would come without words, where the effort for expression would nearly choke me, or a "blankness" would envelop me, through which I must flounder by mumbling words without connection or meaning. Yet somehow I felt that my audience was kind, and it was that since the market privilege of naming prices for our products as well as for their own goods insured them, ordinarily, a fair profit, whereas farmers, as to that vital difference, continue as helpless as a lot of babes.

But I was not intending to say anything of this in the present Warren paper. Being in town with my butter and chickens, and having once more sacrificed, according to the custom of American farmers, my equal right with all other producers to name a justly remunerative price for my products, I then called on my friend John Warren and found he had a half hour of leisure to gossip with me. John Warren could report no novelty in lying or abuse on the part of the Chicago newspapers as respects Alliance matters. Surely, every day or two something of this still appears in some shape in editorials or alleged correspondence and news items, as if it might all be in satisfaction of a contract to supply the stuff in installments from now until next election. Perhaps that sort of thing may be expected to go on in that sort of way, the same stale stock being kept always on hand and professionally rewritten to meet the terms of the bargain. The Chicago stuff may not be worse than that which is furnished by the big newspapers of other cities. The samples I have seen from the Boston, Philadelphia and New York press are enough like the Chicago brand to have emanated from the same purchased Mephistophelian brains. It might be convenient for THE ECONOMIST to make a few choice selections, and print them for reference. For the passing moment, such "samples" may evoke pity and contempt, but later on we shall all have reason to laugh at the stupidity which prompted them.

The reader may think the words I am writing quite silly, seeing the hand which traces them is now in the sixties. I have a purpose that is not personal. I desire to encourage others, the young men of the Alliance especially, to undertake public speaking. The harvest is big, but the capable volunteer workers are few. My brothers, the capacity will come with the effort. You feel tongue-tied for want of the practice which breaks the spell. The art of off hand speaking, so helpful to every cause, can be acquired with a little practice by any average man. The Alliance offers ample opportunity, and its arsenal is full of material for propagandism, except that there is no money. Hence I urge this volunteer work as indispensable.

Our members are mostly poor. If they "chip in" to pay traveling fare and provide entertainment, which they will, that is all a volunteer speaker should dare ask. The professional speakers of the towns and cities, with rarely an exception, are and will be against us. These men will meet us at every step as the hired attorneys of the monopolies, or as politicians with personal interests to serve. We can readily drown them in argument, since the logic and equities are all on our side. One chief danger will arise from their professional experience in the use of the tricks of oratory to "show the worse to be the better reason." Our men, therefore, must qualify themselves to confront these expert apologists of monopoly by the time the season opens, and the prayer of all of us shall be for "more power to their elbows."

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE ECONOMIST receives many letters containing good suggestions and valuable information. The following extracts are collated from recent dates:

Frank P. Cook, Fresno, Cal.: There are different ways of organizing persons in organizations. There are two general forms of organization: One in which the few govern the many; the other in which the majority of all govern the whole organization. The science of organization is one as yet but partially developed. In proportion as it is perfected, I believe governments (whether of organizations, States or nations) will become more democratic and benign, and tyranny will fade out of existence. I believe that Democracy—the government of an organization, (whether it be that of a society, State, or nation), in harmony with the common will of a majority of all the members of it, is the most simple and perfect form of organization. It is possible to come at in business affairs, and that good government will never rest upon a secure foundation unless we attain the true democratic form. It is the form which is in harmony with universal law. The paragraph you quoted

that read is a preface, the necessity and importance of which you will perceive as you read on. At the present time, in state of our boasted, but really pseudo democracy, we are using almost exclusively the first general style of organization mentioned—in which the few control the many—of which there are variously defined forms. In our organizations and orders we are using it, as well as in the organization of States and nations. By this style of organization, men who are placed in high stations are tempted to do wrong. They are given exceptional power and opportunity to advantage themselves at the expense of others, to prove false to those who placed them in high position. You have been long in high position in our Order, and you must have felt the truth of what I have said—you must have seen these temptations. And your course, so far as I am acquainted with it, and the clear, determined editorials of THE ECONOMIST of December 5, '91, give a sound feeling of assurance, that you have been true to your conscience, your fellows, and your God, as the phrase goes, or to death, if you prefer this latter form of expressing a great truth. And in my heart wells up a deep feeling of thankfulness to you (and our other officers) for your earnestness, fidelity, and truth as a man in every position you have been placed, may you always be strong enough to overcome every temptation. I do most heartily endorse the view set forth in the last paragraph of the editorial "Echoes from Indianapolis," to the effect that the true work of the Farmers' Alliance is educational—the education of all the people of the nation—not only as to the points specified in the editorial, and those which the Order has declared itself, but also upon the further point of the art and science of organization. I also want to commend the next succeeding article in THE ECONOMIST of the same date, especially its first two sentences. If we face one danger more insidious and deadly than another, it is that of a mush-room growth. In conclusion I want earnestly to call your personal attention to a thought which I presented near the close of a long article published in THE ECONOMIST—the idea that the educational methods of the Order might be improved. Do you think that this is possible? My proposition was this: That all political federations now outstanding, formulated by the Supreme Council in the name of the Order, or that might be so formulated, should be submitted to the whole membership of the Order for discussion in sub-alliances, with power of the membership, by majority (of those voting, or all belonging) to adopt or reject. My objects in proposing this change in our methods are: (1) To make independent political discussion a regular part of the work of the Order, as much as to the use of the ritual, one for failure to perform which and in the absence of some good reason for such failure a sub-alliance should be suspended. (2) To increase confidence among ourselves. No doubt we have both observed that there is no way so effective to interest people in an organization as to give every one something to do, and no way so sure of promoting coherence among them as to adopt such methods as in themselves constitute an assurance to every one that the will of the majority will rule at all times. The light of actual majority rule dissipates doubt and distrust.

The following telegram, received by the Hon. Thos. E. Watson, of Georgia, explains itself:

Despite sleet and rain storm prevailing here since yesterday, a large and enthusiastic meeting of McDuffie's citizens endorsed your position in speakership contest by rising vote with cheer, and pledged themselves to be as true to you as you have been to your pledges to us.

Resolution indorsing People's party passed unanimously. Stand firm, the tenth district will sustain you. You are nearer the hearts of the people to-day than ever before.

C. H. ELLINGTON.
W. A. HESS.

JOHN A. WILKINSON,
Committee of citizens.

A. E. Miller, Secretary, Dennis, Kans. At a regular meeting of our Alliance resolutions of approval of the course taken thus far by the Hon. W. A. Peffer, in the Senate of the United States were unanimously adopted, and I as secretary was instructed to forward one copy to you, with the request that they be forwarded to

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST. Knowing as we do of the vile slander and abuse which has been heaped upon the advocates of our principles, and especially upon Senator Peffer, we take this means of expressing our profound appreciation of the good work already accomplished by the honorable Senator, and earnestly hope that he will receive renewed courage to advocate and contend for our principles. I give below the resolutions as adopted, hoping that you will kindly publish them.

Resolved, That we the members of Fairview Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, No. 104, do hereby extend to the Hon. Wm. A. Peffer our entire approval of the course thus far pursued by him in the Senate of the United States.

Resolved, That we express to the Hon. Wm. A. Peffer, our confidence in his honor and integrity of purpose, and wish him God speed in his efforts to secure equal and just legislation for the laboring classes of this country; and be it further, Resolved, that the secretary be and is hereby instructed to forward one copy of the above resolutions to the Hon. W. A. Peffer, and also one copy to Brother Macune, with the request that he publish them in THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

J. B. Werner of Kansas: My conchuson is to continue and deepen the interests of the Alliance move to adopt some co-operative business feature that would interest very nearly every member, more or less, financially. This may be somewhat difficult in some instances for want of proper capital, but the large majority seem more or less in debt, and even the exceptional few out of debt don't realize much margin on what they may have to sell. Now some plan that would have the best features to help them along financially would be a great invigorator.

Resolved 5. That we ask each sub-Allyance in the United States to unite with us in carrying out this resolution, as there is no consistency in asking the Democratic conventions to admit us with our demands back from whence we come.

Resolved 6. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST for publication, asking other reform papers to copy the same.

Froit in Sleeping Cars.

Indianapolis Journal

An operating official who knows about sleeping cars, their cost and profit, remarked: "Sleeping cars pay big money, and when one knows the cost of operating them it is no wonder.

A new car costs, good, strong and modern, any way from \$8,000 to \$10,000, although you hear of them worth twice that sum. However,

these costly cars don't get outside the shop. Well, the railroad companies pay three cents a mile for the privilege of hauling them, and the car will average 300 miles in twenty-four hours the year round, or \$9 a day earnings. Say it earns \$3,000 a year, a low estimate, it will pay for itself in three years. Now, a ten-section car has

twenty berths, selling local at \$2 a berth, making the earning capacity per night \$40, not counting the day earnings. Of course, sleepers don't carry full loads every night, but if they did not average ten passengers a day we would not haul them on our road.

Now, we pay for ice, water and fuel, and insure the cars; that is, we repair them when wrecked or injured. The sleeping-car company pays a porter \$25 a month at most, a conductor \$90, and has to furnish linen and soap. It is not difficult to see how the sleeping-car companies pay dividends."

Railway Building.

The Post, Washington, D.C.

Railroad building during the year now closing has been much more active than there seemed any reason to expect at the beginning. The Railway Age, of Chicago, which has compiled the statements, shows that new track has been laid in forty-three States and Territories, on 249 lines

and branches, to an aggregate of 4,168 miles, which increases the railway system of the United States to 171,000 miles.

The year of greatest railway building was in 1887, when nearly 13,000 miles of new lines were added. Since then the falling off in construction has been very rapid. In 1888 it dropped to 7,066, in 1889 to 5,706, but 1890 showed a slight increase over the preceding year, the figures being 5,730. The four years preceding 1886 constituted an era of diminishing railroad building even more marked than that of the last four.

E. F. Bowman, president, Furnace, Ga., sends resolutions passed by Villanow sub-Allyance No. 2230:

Whereas the leaders of the Democratic party are forming clubs and demanding the Ocala demands; and whereas certain leaders of the Alliances of Georgia have declared their intention to stand by a majority of the Democratic convention, and whereas such assertions will cause Western brethren to lose confidence in the Alliance of Georgia; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the secretary be and is hereby instructed to forward one copy of the above resolutions to the Hon. W. A. Peffer, and also one copy to Brother Macune, with the request that he publish them in THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

Resolved, That we express to the Hon. Wm. A. Peffer, our confidence in his honor and integrity of purpose, and wish him God speed in his efforts to secure equal and just legislation for the laboring classes of this country; and be it further,

Resolved, that the secretary be and is hereby instructed to forward one copy of the above resolutions to the Hon. W. A. Peffer, and also one copy to Brother Macune, with the request that he publish them in THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

Resolved 2. That we cordially invite all whose interest is identified with ours to unite with us in the great reform move for more money and cheaper rate of interest.

Resolved 3. That we denounce as enemies all those who desire to unite either of old political parties.

Resolved 4. That we pledge ourselves to support the move on foot in 1892 by the people, provided they do not depart from the Ocala demands.

Resolved 5. That we ask each sub-Allyance in the United States to unite with us in carrying out this resolution, as there is no consistency in asking the Democratic conventions to admit us with our demands back from whence we come.

Resolved 6. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST for publication, asking other reform papers to copy the same.

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twenty berths, selling local at \$2 a berth, making the earning capacity per night \$40, not counting the day earnings. Of course, sleepers don't

carry full loads every night, but if they did not average ten passengers a day we would not haul them on our road.

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The Public Ledger (Oxford, N. C.) says:

The Alliance Herald (Montgomery, Ala.) says:

The State secretary of the Alliance re-

ports the Order in the best possible trim,

gradually increasing in membership and

with an average of three new sub-Ally-

ances a week. The brotherhood is solid

on its demands and unwavering in deter-

mination to see them enacted into law.

The Public Ledger (Oxford, N. C.) says:

The Alliance Herald (Nelson, Neb.) says:

Other governments have and do loan

money to their people. Our government

owned one-fifth of the stock in the old

United States banks, and thus was part-

ner in loan institutions for forty years,

during the first fifty years of our exis-

tence as a nation. Jackson loaned out a

"surplus" of about thirty millions to the

States. Cleveland loaned out sixty mil-

lions "surplus" to pet banks, and they

have a large part of it yet, paying no in-

terest for it. The Pacific railroads were

loaned sixty-four millions of the govern-

ment credit, which they will probably

never repay.

The Tecumseh (Neb.) Republican

says:

More and more of the great masses of

the people learn to comprehend the

duties, function and powers of the gov-

ernment as their general agent. What

right has that general agent to force the

THE REFORM PRESS.

The Discussion of Current Topics from Organized States.

The Alliance Dispatch (Windfield, Ind.) says:

There are two arguments in favor of the sub-treasury plan, made apparent by the conditions of this year, that can not be overcome by the cry of "crank," "impractical," "unconstitutional," etc. These conditions are the insufficiency of money with which to remove the crops, when necessity compels producers to place them upon the market in a lump, which not only makes low prices necessary in order that the money may go round, but holds out a very tempting inducement to the speculator to take advantage of the farmers' necessity, and the overtaxing of the passing moment. They are the growth of the teachings of that harsh master, experience, in the great universe of production the farmer gets not his share of profits—that he bears many times his share of the expense—that he is toiling for oftentimes a bare subsistence, while others who toil not reap his earnings.

The Akora (Marshall, Ill.) says:

There is now no longer any doubt that our President and his cabinet and the entire influence of Wall street have decided to shape all future silver legislation upon the advice of London merchants and European capitalists. Silver must not be restored, says President Harrison's message, until European countries are ready for it. Truly, we thought we had a country of our own, independent of Great Britain.

The Farm Record (Ava, Mo.) says:

Whatever may be urged against the sub-treasury bill, of this fact there can be no question, i.e., that it would enable the farmer to secure money from the government at a low rate of interest. As all other classes of citizens could not borrow money from the government, the opponents of the measure insist that the law would be a discrimination in favor of the farmer. Such is not true. It is admitted on all hands that the prosperity of the country depends on the success of the farmer. He is the foundation upon which all other interests must build. If the farmer thrives other legitimate interests flourish. Now this being admitted, it necessarily follows that legislation which directly benefits the farmer indirectly helps all other business interests, and it can not, therefore, be considered as class legislation. The mercantile interests would be benefited just in proportion to the measure of prosperity the farmer would derive from the law.

The Weekly Arbor State (Beatrice, Neb.) says:

The Farmers' Alliance is a great educational organization. Its principles will save the nation if its members will but learn what they are and then vote right. The People's Advocate (Pittsfield, Ill.) says:

Educate the people this winter for the great political work that will be before them the coming year. Organize your Alliances and bring up all the questions that are to day before the American people. talk them over, reason them out, and when you are convinced in your own mind of the correct solution of them don't be afraid of talking them to your neighbor, as you may be able to convince him.

Let the education proceed, as the only way to carry out reform measures is through education, and the best way to become educated is to have the different sections discussed pro and con.

The Public Ledger (Oxford, N. C.) says:

The Kingsbury County Independent (De Smet, S. D.) says:

The Farmers' Alliance is a great educational organization. Its principles will save the nation if its members will but learn what they are and then vote right.

The People's Advocate (Pittsfield, Ill.) says:

The papers say the Alliance has been

losing ground. That is true, and the

reason it hurts is, that so much of the

"ground" is the old homestead acres

gone into the mortgage pot.

The Interstate Alliance Echo (Kansas City, Mo.) says:

The movement to secure "equal rights to all, and special favors to none," inaugurated by the Alliance, is bearing fruit.

The powers that are at Washington seem to have "caught on," so to speak, and have recommended a free mail delivery system for rural districts, if he who lives in a town has a right to

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

The Discussion of Current Topics from Organized States.

Another spell of hard time. We rise to remark that this sort of argument is as flimsy and as pretentious as any of them concerning the Alliance movement of which the old party press are at present so full. The States in which farmers are

relatively in greater straits and in greater comfort are Kansas and California. In Kansas the farmer is staggering under mortgages, with interest legacies sapping his life; in California, with a variety of crops gathered at all seasons, for which he has no competitor in the greater part of the populous area of the United States, he is prosperous—oftentimes wealthy. Yet Kansas stands first in numbers and power in the existing agitation, and California, sparsely settled though it stands second.

The moral is that causes which the farmer in the present movement lie deeper than the conditions and fluctuations of the passing moment. They are the growth of the teachings of that harsh master, experience, in the great universe of production the farmer gets not his share of profits—that he bears many times his share of the expense—that he is toiling for oftentimes a bare subsistence, while others who toil not reap his earnings.

The Watch Tower (Bradford, Ill.) says:

Nearly every person who has informed him: If on our national needs beyond the narrow walls of party prejudice admits that there is "something rotten in Denmark," and so rotten, too, that the patriarchy "smells to heaven." Yet they are undiscerned as to what is best to do to clean out these "Augean stables of accumulated filth. Some say stick to the party and clean out the party, while the logic of history and pending events fully proves that a party can not be reformed. Any old hen has sense enough

living, and more prosperity. That is the kind of discontent that has placed this great nation above all others in its push and enterprise. That is the kind of discontent that has raised the wages of workingmen from a mere pittance to a much better scale, so that a laboring man is now enabled to give his family many of the advantages that years ago were denied him. That is the kind of discontent that makes capital the great power that it is in the world, and it is the kind of discontent that should accrue all wage earners, as by it they will devise ways and means to better promote their welfare and happiness to the future.

The Rice County Eagle (Lyons, Kan.) says:

It looks now as though the "cranks" would compel Congress to pass a bill for the free coinage of American silver, at least. The Democratic and Republican leaders seem to be getting together in that direction, and may possibly consent to that much if pressed too hard. It is too early yet, though, to predict what will be done. On the one hand are the people demanding the demonetization of silver; on the other are the bondholders and the moneyed class, who, with Harrison, oppose it. In this dilemma they may be driven to pass a bill as above indicated. It is the people vs. the money kings of Europe and America, and the people should closely watch the proceedings of their servants.

The Tribune (Junction City, Kan.) says:

According to Secretary Foster's last report, \$748,000,000 are locked up in the United States treasury. This is about \$12 for every man, woman and child in the United States. How do the fellows who sneer at "per capita" like this show from the fountain head of Republican authority? Money that is locked up can not be in circulation.

The Alliance Union (Eureka, Kan.) says:

Steaks in New York sell for from eighteen cents to one dollar per pound. Fat cattle in Kansas sell at from two to four cents per pound. Who gets the difference? It looks to us as if it was the farmers and cattlemen who were looking into this business to find out why they should not have more profit on their cattle when such prices as the above are charged for beef steaks. In the East it is a common thing to charge twenty-five cents for steaks. Raise up, farmers, and stay with your guns. You are on the right track. Stay there and fight it out on the lines you are on if it takes two or more summers. Don't be side-tracked by the railroads, banks and loan companies. Finance, land and transportation are the questions, and must continue to be such until the producer gets his share of the products of his own labor. We have lived to see the day that the grand old Republican party has turned over the government domain to large cattle companies, and most of them foreign companies at that, and the effect of it all has been that they have loaded even our own country down with wild cattle, until there is not the cost of production in raising stock cattle in this country to-day. Some one will ask the remedy. Simple enough. Let the United States government tax those large companies until they help sustain the government. Like other people, they bring these cattle into this country after the first of one March and take them out before the first of the next March, and of course pay no taxes. Here they pasture them in the territory where there are no taxes. The farmers of this country can never compete with men that it only costs \$3.25 to raise a three-year-old steer, when the cost of producing a three-year-old cow here is \$15. Of course some one will say that the men that have fed those range cattle here have nearly all lost money. We understand that they have, and that Greenwood county has lost her whole corn crop in the last three years feeding those cattle, but the range cattle companies have not lost the money. Let Uncle Sam say, "Here, Mr. Company, just pay about \$13 per head a year for the use of our fine pasture." Make them pay it, and you will see the upland farmers of Greenwood county making a living once

The Alliance Tribune (Topeka, Kansas) says:

It is said the devil can never disguise himself without his cloven hoofs appearing somewhere. In seeking to honor John Sherman above any other American citizens by placing his portrait in the bank of England can only be significant of one thing that will stand out in the bold relief before the American people: That John Sherman has been of great service as the tool of the English money power—has been more potent in aiding English Shylockism in fastening upon this country the Sir Robert Peel system of finance—robbery, pure and simple, than any man in this country not excepting Alexander Hamilton. Millions of people in this country look upon John Sherman as the most despicable character—the greatest traitor to American interests that ever cursed our people, and millions more will realize in time that they have been deluded with protection and tariff reform, when their real enemy has been and is yet the English money power, with John Sherman its chief tool in this country. This old arch traitor and his followers have succeeded in making the United States a British dependency through the influence of the English money power, and practically reduced the American laboring people to the level of the English working people. The simple act of

more.

Every one is interested in this, the business man, the banker, the lawyer, the preacher, and even the loan companies. None of those people make any money out of those big cattle companies, they must make it out of the people, and for them to make even a living out of the people they must be prosperous. Let all join hands in this one thing at least, and see that justice is done. It is of more importance to every one that the small farmer prosper than for a few men to make their millions by grazing their cattle on government range free.

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would compel Congress to pass a bill for the free coinage of American silver, at least. The Democratic and Republican leaders seem to be getting together in that direction, and may possibly consent to that much if pressed too hard. It is too early yet, though, to predict what will be done. On the one hand are the people demanding the demonetization of silver; on the other are the bondholders and the moneyed class, who, with Harrison, oppose it. In this dilemma they may be driven to pass a bill as above indicated. It is the people vs. the money kings of Europe and America, and the people should closely watch the proceedings of their servants.

The Tribune (Junction City, Kan.) says:

According to Secretary Foster's last report, \$748,000,000 are locked up in the United States treasury. This is about \$12 for every man, woman and child in the United States. How do the fellows who sneer at "per capita" like this show from the fountain head of Republican authority? Money that is locked up can not be in circulation.

The Alliance Union (Eureka, Kan.) says:

Steaks in New York sell for from eighteen cents to one dollar per pound. Fat cattle in Kansas sell at from two to four cents per pound. Who gets the difference? It looks to us as if it was the farmers and cattlemen who were looking into this business to find out why they should not have more profit on their cattle when such prices as the above are charged for beef steaks. In the East it is a common thing to charge twenty-five cents for steaks. Raise up, farmers, and stay with your guns. You are on the right track. Stay there and fight it out on the lines you are on if it takes two or more summers. Don't be side-tracked by the railroads, banks and loan companies. Finance, land and transportation are the questions, and must continue to be such until the producer gets his share of the products of his own labor. We have lived to see the day that the grand old Republican party has turned over the government domain to large cattle companies, and most of them foreign companies at that, and the effect of it all has been that they have loaded even our own country down with wild cattle, until there is not the cost of production in raising stock cattle in this country to-day. Some one will ask the remedy. Simple enough. Let the United States government tax those large companies until they help sustain the government. Like other people, they bring these cattle into this country after the first of one March and take them out before the first of the next March, and of course pay no taxes. Here they pasture them in the territory where there are no taxes. The farmers of this country can never compete with men that it only costs \$3.25 to raise a three-year-old steer, when the cost of producing a three-year-old cow here is \$15. Of course some one will say that the men that have fed those range cattle here have nearly all lost money. We understand that they have, and that Greenwood county has lost her whole corn crop in the last three years feeding those cattle, but the range cattle companies have not lost the money. Let Uncle Sam say, "Here, Mr. Company, just pay about \$13 per head a year for the use of our fine pasture." Make them pay it, and you will see the upland farmers of Greenwood county making a living once

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tion. Ex-Presidents ought to be disabled from doing this mischief. The electoral college, so-called, is evidently a cumbersome and dangerous piece of machinery in every way. It has always been one of the weak spots of the Constitution. It appears to have been an absurd, bungling and inoperative attempt to abridge the direct control of the people over their own choice. The election of Senators by legislatures was a part of the same plan to abridge the right of suffrage; a right granted by one part of the Constitution to the people and by another part sought to be abridged, thwarted, or taken away. Continuance of these clumsy, dangerous and ill-advised devices tends only to impair in the minds of the people that sanctity which the Constitution must possess if it is to remain an efficient form of government. It is wise to abolish features of the Constitution which the progress of our institutions has rendered obsolete.

FAILURES FOR 1891.

The following table, taken from Bradstreet's, gives the number of failures in the United States for the past six years:

	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886
Eastern States	1,011	1,056	1,089	1,039	1,335	1,335
Middle States	3,002	2,841	2,912	2,561	2,349	2,489
South's States	2,412	1,651	1,962	2,098	1,910	2,170
West's States	2,602	2,602	2,755	2,607	2,310	2,536
N. W. States	1,254	1,132	1,145	1,185	923	1,011
Pacific States	1,182	1,039	925	892	821	926
Territories	143	71	118	94	94	111

at these disasters, and lose their courage for fear of worse calamities. According to the above statistics this condition is becoming intensified, and general distrust and discontent is rapidly spreading throughout the entire country. What are the causes that have led up to this unnatural situation? The blessings of Deity are as full and as complete as in times past, nature is as prolific and responds as readily to the efforts of labor as in days gone by, the people are as intelligent and economical as ever—in fact, every factor that has ever contributed to production or the comfort of the human race is not only as potent at the present time as ever before, but has increased in many departments in efficiency a thousand fold. There is but one element in all this intricate mass of economic conditions that, under any rules of reasoning, can be said to have changed for the worse; that element is money. If this could be restored to its old position, robbed of its present power for evil and filled with beneficence and prosperity as of old, then the same conditions would meet that gave comfort and happiness to the people in the past, and would no doubt bring about similar conditions in the immediate future.

NEW ALLIANCE DEGREE.

Pursuant to instructions from the Supreme Council at its last session, the executive board have been preparing the plans for a co-operative degree, and have them so far completed as to be prepared to announce the name, plan, objects and general scope of the work of this degree. The instituting of this degree was a most important step in the direction of putting into practical operation one of the grandest aims of the order, viz., mutual assistance in times of distress, which, if generally adopted by the membership, as it should be, cannot fail to prove a source of strength and assistance in building up and perpetuating the Alliance. Briefly stated, the degree is to be known as the "Alliance Aid degree," which may be instituted in every sub-Alliance where seven or more members wish to join. The object of the degree is:

1. To provide, on the assessment plan similar to that of the Masonic, Knights of Honor, and other benevolent orders, a fund out of which may be paid a sum not exceeding \$2,000 to the family of deceased members.

2. To establish permanent relief committees to look after and care for the sick and unfortunate of the Order.

3. To inaugurate a reliable bureau of information and exchange, where members can apply for employment or employers can obtain competent help, and assistance can be rendered in securing reliable information regarding different sections of the

country by those contemplating a change of location.

The national headquarters will be at Washington, and the work carried on through the State Alliance officers so far as possible.

A charter has been granted, instituting the degree, by the officers of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, under and by virtue of their own charter from the United States, which provides for a life insurance and relief department.

The brethren in charge were selected by the national officers, and will be under their immediate supervision at all times, and will also be required to give good and sufficient bonds, so there will be no question of responsibility.

It is intended to put organizers in every county and congressional district as rapidly as possible, and to do this officers of the State Alliances are urged to co-operate.

Expenditure in the same period rose from \$63,000,000 to \$132,000,000. The annual cost of education in the public school is \$16.51 for each pupil in attendance. The enrollment in colored schools in thirteen years increased from 571,566 to 1,213,092, an increase of 113 per cent. The colored school attendance increased more than four times as fast as the population among the colored peoples of the Southern States. The attendance of colored pupils in normal and high schools and colleges increased during the period of thirteen years previous to 1890, from 8,511 to 25,540. For the same time 216,000,000 was paid from the public taxes for the support of white and colored schools. The amount of expense of public schools for each man, woman, and child, has increased from \$1.64 to \$2.16.

A PEN PICTURE.

The Southern Alliance Farmers writes up the condition of affairs in Georgia so graphically that it is here partly reproduced as indicating the financial pressure in the most prosperous Southern State:

From one end of Georgia to the other comes a wall of distress. Almost nowhere confined to any one class, farmers and merchants alike seem tottering on the verge of bankruptcy. Every week we hear of strong firms going to the wall, while the sheriffs in the various counties are kept busy making levies and selling live stock, farm products and implements under distress warrants. The stock yards of the towns and cities are filled with horses and mules taken from farmers for debt, and numerous cases are recorded where animals that cost \$50 last spring sell upon the block for \$20. Only last Tuesday I stood on the public square in Watkinsville and saw a farmer's corn sell at 50 to 54 cents per bushel, his fodder at 61 cents, and other goods in proportion, and the most startling part of the sacrifice was that the poor man's last piece of bread was sold by the agent of a well-known minister of the gospel, and to pay an interest of 15 per cent on his investment, besides an ideal farm being greatly improved. Of course the agent simply did his duty, and it may be argued that his ministerial client, now located in a Georgia city not far distant from Atlanta, did not know the true state of affairs. But the preacher was certainly aware of a failure—and it seems to me that while he is preaching love, forbearance and charity from the pulpit, he should have taken the trouble to investigate the condition of the poor tenant before resorting to such extreme measures. He might have been contented himself with the legal rate of interest, and thus divided with the unfortunate renter the results of the unfavorable season, instead like Shylock of old, demanding the pound of flesh. The victim of this distress warrant was an honest, sober, hard-working man, who cleared fields and brought into cultivation land sodded with bermuda. Had this farmer been blessed with ordinary seasons he would have been able to pay even the extortionate rent demanded. But his crop was a failure, and, with a large and dependent family to support, he stood by and saw his last peck of corn and the entire fruits of a year's hard work sold under the hammer to pay a preacher, and a former presiding elder, 15 per cent interest on his investment. Now, if ministers of the gospel in this day grow so selfish and grasping, what can we expect of the outside world?

What will be the outcome of the financial depression now upon the country I know not. If some relief is not given the people, I would not be surprised to see one-half the merchants in Georgia go to the wall and thousands of acres of our best farming lands grow up in weeds. The planter can not pay his debts when he comes, and the

run him another year unless he is paid for the goods sold him last season. Wall street is closing down on the banks, the banks in turn are closing down on the cotton dealers, the cotton dealers are pressing the merchants, and the merchants are trying to collect from the farmers. The latter has sold his cotton, and it has not near paid him out. His lands, his stock, and the implements with which he works are now being seized, and they sell for a mere song. When the gold kings on Wall street are threatened with financial embarrassment the government unlocks the coffers and comes to their relief. But here we find hundreds of thousands of farmers tottering on the brink of ruin, and not a hand is raised to help them. When they ask for that relief extended to other classes, through their sub-treasury plan, they are met by jeers and ridicule; and I here state that many of the same men who have been ridiculing that demand in our Ocalas platform will be yelling for eve: "tuck-patch" currency before next spring rolls round. They are now beginning to realize the fact that their adversity or prosperity are linked with the farmer, and when they pull him down they must fall too. Now, had we our sub-treasury bill in operation this financial panic would not be known. Plenty of money, based on the imperishable crops and lands of our great land, would be in circulation, and we would now have an unexampled era of prosperity. But instead of this we find the currency of our country locked up in the coffers of the New York gold kings, who have it in their power to bring on a financial panic whenever it suits their ends, and force the farmers of the whole country to sacrifice their lands and crops for any price the creditors may choose to pay.

The only thing that can avert almost universal bankruptcy in Georgia, as well as all other agricultural States, is charity and confidence. Nothing can be gained by taking from the farmer the implements necessary to make a crop. It will be simply killing the goose that lays the golden egg. Let the creditor class, both North and South, be patient, and give the poor farmer one more chance. You can not turn him out in the road to starve, as did that minister his tenant in this county, for to do so would be to make Georgia one vast poorhouse. * * *

The hard times now upon us should the more firmly unite our Alliance brethren and nerve their hearts for renewed action. This financial depression is unnatural and was brought about by the gold kings in order to discourage farmers and wreck their faith in the Alliance. If they succeed in destroying the only power that stands between the tiller of the soil and his oppression it means the enslavement of every farmer in America.

THE St. Louis meeting will not be captured by cranks or become an unorganized mob as many fear. The Alliance and Knights of Labor have had too much experience to permit anything of that sort.

London's Great Fog.

London is still hidden beneath a fog of phenomenal blackness and thickness. The linkboys are making small fortunes by piloting cabs and other vehicles through the streets by the aid of torches or lanterns. There is no sign of the fog lifting and the city remains covered by the most dense pall remembered by the present generation of Londoners. Some faint idea of the density of the fog may be gathered from the fact that several people have been drowned and a number of others nearly drowned by wandering into rivers and canals after having lost their way. Eight bodies of persons supposed to have been drowned in this manner have already been recovered, and many people are anxiously inquiring for missing relatives or friends who are supposed to have met their death through the fog. At Leeds alone, according to a dispatch from that place, three men fell into the canal and were drowned.

THE NICARAGUA CANAL STEAL
Gets a Black Eye From President Marion Cannon of California.

President Marion Cannon has issued the following circular to the Order in California, under date of December 21, 1891:

Brethren.—It seems to me that the time has arrived when I should again speak to the membership of this great brotherhood throughout the Pacific Coast and warn them against the schemes of certain parties to attempt to force Congress to guarantee the canal scheme. Some time ago there was organized in San Francisco what is known as the "Traffic Association." It purported to have been organized for the purpose of obtaining some relief from the robbery practiced upon the producers of this coast by the grasping railroad monopolies entering this State from the East. "Hold" so far as it worked on this line, it had our hearty support. But this association had no more than fairly organized, when it was switched off upon the Nicaragua Canal scheme, and they appointed a committee to inquire into the matter, and said committee reported favorable to the bonds being issued by the government, and their report was adopted by the association, thus changing the object and intent of the association from one to give us relief from the pirate railroad corporations, to an institution to boom the great public highways of commerce; especially where we furnish all the money, and the private corporations get all the turkey. This is what made us so sick. We did expect this traffic committee would stand until we get relief. In the letter to the Chamber of Commerce, I used this language: "About the end of President Arthur's term, he entered into a treaty with Nicaragua to guarantee the protection of the canal, but before the treaty was ratified, Cleveland was inaugurated and after examining the patient, feeling the pulse, they shake their heads. "Bad case, very bad case. You are very sick," and proceed to prescribe another dose of government bonds. I tell you, gentlemen, this is what has made us sick. The very thing we complain of, and we don't propose to take another dose of the same medicine, even if we have to change the doctors. Let us see how this partnership business has worked where we have tried it. We went into partnership with Jay Gould, Sidney Dillon, Russell Sage, and Oakes Ames & Co. of the Union Pacific railroad. We furnished all the money to build the roads, and enough additional in lands and bonds to make all of them millionaires, from thirty to eighty times over, and how do these virtuous partners treat us now? They boldly proclaim their intention not to refund any of the money stolen from their partner, and even refuse any kind of a settlement unless we give them one hundred years at 1½ per cent interest. This gang has built up about fifty-six outside corporations, and as long as they pay dividends, their partner is not "in it" with them, but as soon as the stock is worthless, and pays nothing, these virtuous pards vote all the stock to their partner, and then (as in the Oregon Short Line) they will gobble up the bonds, and vote as directors that their partner shall guarantee the payment of interest to the earnings of the old Union Pacific. They receive money into one hand as a private corporation, and pay it into the other as a contractor with their silly old partner. Thus the whole thing seems to be a species of thimble-rigging, with this difference from the old style—the "little joker" is always found under the thimble. It makes no difference which thimble you lift up, it is there. But you may say that this company will have government directors to look after our interests. Why bless your innocent souls, we have had five directors in the Union Pacific board for twenty-seven years—say about seventy-five in all. Have you ever heard of them? Can you name a dozen? Can you name as many as God required to save Sodom from destruction? We occasionally hear of one who did not like to report "all right." But you will soon hear that he was "persuaded" to sign. There was one honest man on that board, his name was C. H. Snow, and he made a report March 5, 1869, but he was so lonely that he was "bounced" the first opportunity. The partnership in the Central Pacific was more infamous, if possible. A committee appointed to investigate its affairs reports it rotten to the core. The Patterson committee reported that if the road

had been honestly conducted they could have paid off the government debt of about \$70,000,000, and received a dividend of 6 per cent upon the capital invested, and reduced the freights and fares to the wail with their thieving rates of fares and freights, and while we subsidize the steamships with thousands of dollars every year, they enter into combinations to rob the producers. The Pacific Mail, after receiving subsidies from the government, receives bribes from Huntington & Co. of \$700,000 a year to keep up the freights and fares by sea. This amount, in addition to the subsidies, we pay every year in the enhanced price of freights. This canal would be a great benefit to the Pacific coast if two things were done, and only a curse without them: The ownership of the canal by the people and the abolition of the tariff restrictions on the ports of the Pacific States. If these two things are not done it will make Victoria the large seaport of the Pacific coast and enrich the British Empire at our expense, and the great merchants and manufacturers of San Francisco can have the privilege of laying back and getting rich off each other by trading jack-knives. No, you may depend upon it that the Farmers Alliance will never assist in building up any more private corporations to oppress them. If it can be built upon the conditions indicated, the Farmers Alliance will give it their hearty support."

From these quotations from public letters and documents, it is plain to be seen where we stand. We don't intend to go into partnership with any more private corporations to build up the great public highways of commerce; especially where we furnish all the money, and the private corporations get all the turkey power and purity of this great government.

Now, I say to this cabal committee, don't make the mistake of ignoring the modest wishes of the people. They do not ask the confiscation of the ill-gotten gains of any corporation, but we demand a fair deal in the future, and we intend to have it, and we are on the skirmish line now, and will not permit the enemy to intrench themselves behind additional bulwarks in the shape of Nicaragua canal bonds.

Ben Terrell in Tennessee.

Ben Terrell, of Texas, past national lecturer of the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, and now president of the confederated industrial organizations of the United States, will be with us in Tennessee from February 2 to 20, inclusive, and will speak publicly at all the congressional district unions.

The brotherhood in each county of these several districts should exert themselves to bring out large crowds. See that your county officers and sub-lecturers come, and let each member who reads this notice consider himself a committee of one to assist in bringing out a crowd. At each of these appointments the expenses and for the use of the speaker must be paid by contribution or otherwise.

At any of these appointments a division of time will be given any gentleman opposing the principles of the demands of the Alliance. Rules governing debates as laid down in Cushing's Manual must be adhered to.

Everybody invited to hear this gifted Texan, ladies especially. The hour of public speaking will be 11 o'clock a.m. and at the following time and places:

First congressional district—Jonesboro, Tuesday, February 2, 1892.

Second congressional district—Knoxville, Wednesday, February 3.

Third congressional district—Chattanooga, Friday, February 5.

Fifth congressional district—Tulsa, Monday, February 8.

Sixth congressional district—Nashville, Wednesday, February 10.

Seventh congressional district—Columbia, Friday, February 12.

Fourth congressional district—Lebanon, Monday, February 15.

Eighth congressional district—Jackson, Wednesday, February 17.

Ninth congressional district—Dyersburg, Friday, February 19.

Tenth congressional district—Memphis, Saturday, February 20.

The county Alliances in each county where an appointment occurs will please arrange for a house for the speaker and make any other arrangements that in their judgment may be necessary. I trust that every speaker will help to fill the meetings a great success.

Fraternal, R. W. Tuckerman,
State Lecturer.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

STATE ALLIANCE PRESIDENTS.

Proceedings of Meeting at Washington, D. C., January 7-8, 1892.

FIRST DAY.

January 7, 1892.

In pursuance to call of the national president, L. L. Polk, the State presidents convened in room 91, Atlantic Building, Washington, D. C., at 10 a. m.

The following presidents, and those representing the absent presidents by proxy, were present:

Major Mann Page, of Virginia.

T. W. Force, of Indiana.

T. J. Ogilvie, of Tennessee.

J. G. Dozier, of Mississippi.

L. Leonard, of Missouri.

Hugh Mitchell, of Maryland.

Marion Butler, of North Carolina.

S. A. Houston, of West Virginia.

E. C. D. Shortridge, of North Dakota.

H. L. Loucks, of South Dakota.

H. C. Snavely, of Pennsylvania.

P. D. Davidson, of Arkansas.

H. M. Gilbert, of Illinois.

L. F. Livingston, of Georgia.

C. P. Atkinson, of New Jersey.

On motion of Brother Loucks, of South Dakota, Brother W. F. Gwynne, of Tennessee, member of the legislative committee, was elected recording secretary.

National President L. L. Polk stated the reason for calling the State presidents together at this time.

By request President Polk read the following memorial submitted to Congress by the national legislative committee:

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 6, 1892.

To the Honorable, the House of Representatives and Senate of the United States, in Congress assembled:

Your memorialists, a committee elected by the Supreme Council of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, under its instructions and on its behalf, would most respectfully represent:

That the universal and unparalleled depression in all departments of our great agricultural industry, has impressed the farmers of the United States with grave concern and alarm. That despite their fruitful soils, the favoring conditions of climate, their faithful application and courageous industry, and irrespective of seasons or harvests, their farms and the products of their labor are constantly and steadily depreciating in value. That the inspiring hope of competency and comfort, as a reward for their toil, is vanishing in their earnest struggle for sustenance and the preservation of home. That patient, honest, and earnest investigation of this anomalous condition of affairs, has impressed the farmers of the country with the solemn conviction, that the evils which are thus clogging and paralyzing their energies are largely due to discriminating inequalities in our governmental policy, and which are the legitimate outgrowth of partial and unfriendly legislation.

Your memorialists would further respectfully represent:

That in their organized capacity, the farmers of thirty-eight States and territories of the Union, after long and earnest deliberation and remarkable unanimity, formulated and adopted a declaration of principles (an official copy of which is hereto appended), which they believe, if enacted into law, would restore agriculture to its true and just position among the great industries of the country, and would conserve the highest and best interests of the public good. That they respectfully, but most earnestly commend to the patriotic consideration and favor of your honorable bodies, the justice and wisdom of enacting such laws as will embody the principles enunciated in the declaration referred to.

Your memorialists would further respectfully represent:

That they are specially charged to ask the attention

of your honorable bodies to the great and urgent necessity for immediate legislative action for the financial relief of the industrial interests of the country. That they believe that the present financial system of the country is not only inherently defective, but that it is incompatible with the genius and spirit of our institutions, and is in conflict with the fundamental principles of our government. That they believe that the system, born of the terrible exigencies of a mighty civil war, purely as a military expedient and necessity, which, while it doubtless saved the life of the nation in war, has been demonstrated under the test of experience not to be the system for preserving and perpetuating that life in peace. That they believe that sacred and steadfast observance and maintenance of the powers and functions conferred upon the government by the Constitution for making, issuing and controlling the money of the people, is absolutely essential to healthful and symmetrical development in our material progress, and that these powers and functions can not in any manner be relinquished or transferred without violence to equity and justice and gravest peril to the safety and liberties of the people. That they believe that the exclusive right secured to the government by the Constitution, to make money, carries with it the unavoidable obligation and responsibility, to supply it in such manner and amount as to meet at all times, the requirements of the legitimate business of the country and our growing population and trade. That they believe that the exercise of the legitimate and rightful functions of the government in the control of money, would obviate a recurrence of the ruinous effects of undue contraction in the volume, as demonstrated in the present depressed conditions, which are paralyzing the energies of the people in all departments of industrial enterprise. That they believe that all money should be issued by the government to the people at a low rate of interest, and in sufficient volume to meet the legitimate business of the country on safe and valid securities, and that it should be a full legal tender for all debts. That they believe that silver should have all the rights in coinage and all the qualities of legal tender which gold possesses.

Your memorialists would further respectfully represent:

That those for whom you speak do not ask your honorable bodies to venture upon doubtful expedient or experiment, but respectfully and most earnestly present the deplored and alarming financial condition of the agricultural interests of the country, with the hope that a remedy will be speedily sought and devised through which they may be relieved from impending bankruptcy and ruin, and which will secure to our people and to posterity the blessings of a permanent, just and equitable financial system.

Respectfully submitted,

L. L. POLK,
C. W. MACUNE,
MANN PAGE,
W. F. GWYNNE,
L. P. FEATHERSTON,
National Legislative Committee.

The body took recess until after dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Meeting called to order by President Polk at 2:30. National Secretary J. H. Turner made his report.

Colonel Livingston, of Georgia, read a set of resolutions introduced by him in the House of Representatives, which were heartily concurred in.

The following resolution by Brother Page, of Virginia, offered and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the national secretary be requested to make a complete statement of all the business transacted between his office and each State secretary, and furnish the State presidents and chairmen of the State executive committees with a copy of same every six months.

The following States were represented by proxy: Tennessee by Ogilvie, Mississippi by Dozier, Florida by Livingston.

On motion of Brother Force, of Indiana, the chairman was requested to appoint a committee of three to draft an address to the absent presidents.

and the following committee appointed: Polk, Leonard and Gwynne.

Recess.

EVENING SESSION.

Meeting called to order at the headquarters of the Order, THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST office at 9 p. m.

On motion by Brother Loucks, the State executive committees were recommended to collect the national dues and forward them monthly or quarterly to the national secretary. Carried.

By common consent Brother Wardall presented the Alliance plan of insurance to the body. Meeting adjourned.

SECOND DAY.

Friday, January 8, 1892.

Meeting called to order at 10 a. m., at the headquarters of the National Alliance, The National Economist building.

The following resolution introduced by Brother T. J. Ogilvie, of Tennessee, after a full and free discussion and some amendments, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That it is the sentiment and desire of this convention of the presidents of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union that the delegates from the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union who attend the Industrial Conference to be held in St. Louis, February 22, 1892, use their influence and votes to establish and perfect fraternal relations with all the labor organizations represented in said meeting, with the Ocoee demands as a basis for a platform of principles, and that such platform be presented to the National Conventions of the Democratic party, the Republican party, and the People's party this year, with an earnest request that the principles involved be engrained into their platform for the coming national election of 1892, but that they carefully refrain from committing our Order to such affiliation with any political party or parties.

Your memorialists would further respectfully represent:

That those for whom you speak do not ask your honorable bodies to venture upon doubtful expedient or experiment, but respectfully and most earnestly present the deplored and alarming financial condition of the agricultural interests of the country, with the hope that a remedy will be speedily sought and devised through which they may be relieved from impending bankruptcy and ruin, and which will secure to our people and to posterity the blessings of a permanent, just and equitable financial system.

Carried.

By common consent the roll of States was called for the purpose of allowing the members present to explain the different lecture systems in vogue in their respective States, in order to ascertain the best method.

By Brother Shortridge.

Resolved that the chairman of this conference be hereby authorized to have twelve copies of the minutes of this meeting printed for the use of each of the presidents of the Order.

Carried.

Adjourned to 8:30 p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

Meeting called to order at 8:30 p. m.

Lecture system was discussed at length and the following resolution by Brother Polk adopted:

That we respectfully request the national president and chairman of the National Executive Board to place themselves in immediate communication with the presidents and chairmen of the various State Alliances to arrange if practicable for an annual State Alliance educational meeting in each of the States.

Various subjects relating to the good of the Order were discussed, and with interest. The meeting was full of interest and the most good feeling and harmony prevailed.

Adjourned sine die.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

IN DISTRESS.

President Stokes, in a recent issue of the Cotton Plant, says:

To the Alliance men of South Carolina.

BRETHREN: I need not tell you that sore distress prevails throughout the borders of our State among all laboring people, but especially among agriculturists. The fine prices a year ago stimulated activity and confidence, and with bounding hope they in many cases passed the limit of prudence in contracts for fertilizers and labor.

In most sections of the State the crops are very short, while the receipts at the ports would indicate not only an unprecedented, but an incredible general yield. Large fertilizer contracts, a short crop, and prices below the cost of production, while the manufactured article has actually advanced in price, tells the story with very many of our people. From mountain to seaboard their plaint of distress comes up to this office; but to the honor of those who write it must be said that there is little of the spirit of repining complaint. The spirit of those who write is the spirit of those masses for whom they write.

In the everlast credit of our people, be it said, in most cases they are paying up their contracts just as far as their limited crops will reach, at prevailing ruinous prices. The spectacle of an industrious man surrendering his last blade of fodder and bushel of corn toward the liquidation of his debt, compels admiration even in the abstract; but when that man turns his steps homeward empty-handed to an empty corn crib and flour barrel, knowing that he must look into trusting eyes, brimming with anxiety and foreboding, or chilled into dumb patience under burdens long endured, inevitable, the case assumes a tragic phase.

A hard thing to do; but it is a superb thing, because it is the right thing, the honest thing, the manly thing. The contract was to pay to the extent of the crop, and the contract should be met as made. It matters not that in some cases there was extortion; or that the living for which the product of a whole year's labor and industry was pledged was a meagre living of the plainest sort. The contracts were made that way, and should be met as made.

Brethren, let us all bear with fortitude the evil day, bear like men the burdens we cannot shake off, do our duty. With an abiding faith in the righteousness and justice of our principles, and in the existence of our God, a righteous and just author of the affairs of men, we shall obtain the relief we seek.

Let us attend the December meeting of the subs, and the January meeting of the county Alliances, that every member, who possibly can, will be there. Let the January meeting of the county Alliance be a general rallying ground, to the end that in the multitude of counsel the safety of our people may be assured, and the proper measures of relief be devised from the difficulties that environ us.

Third. "The responsibilities of the delegates to their constituency."

The true relation between representative and his people, who have delegated to him certain prerogatives and powers, is a compact of the most solemn and responsible character. To be invested with the execution of the express will of his constituents and with discretionary powers to serve their best interests, he who shall so perform these duties as to meet their approbation is deserving of all honor. But if he should disregard or violate that compact, evade its duties, or betray the high trust reposed in him, he would merit the condemnation of all honorable men. Voluntarily accepting the position, he voluntarily assumes all the responsibilities attaching thereto and should meet them in the most conscientious manner.

Fourth. "The work to be done by the conference, embracing its object and purposes."

If, after a free, full and frank interchange of views of the various organizations and interests there represented, it is found that we have grievances in common, and that the evils under which we suffer are common, we should boldly make common cause and pledge our earnest and united effort in securing our remedy. On one thing, doubtless, all will agree—that the ruinous financial depression which hangs like a blighting pall over the industrial energies of the people, and which threatens a financial

THE FEBRUARY MEETING.

Views of Noted Men on the Objects and Purposes of the Meeting and the Work to be Done.

PRESIDENT L. L. POLK, NATIONAL FARMERS ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

Your esteemed favor of the 30th ult. just received, in which you ask my views as to the great industrial conference to be held in the city of St. Louis on the 22d prox. The expression desired you indicate by certain suggestions, which I answer in the order in which put them.

First. "The importance of the February conference."

It is important as a declaration that the great industrial elements of the American people are dissatisfied with existing conditions; that unnatural and ruinous inequalities exist, which have produced a deadly depression and paralysis in the wealth-producing energies of the people, and which should not and can not, with safety, be longer quietly endured.

Attend the meetings, then, and discuss these broad questions of principle as well as your individual ills and needs. Let the stronger look arms with the weaker and thus make a stronger union, that will tide us over the impending crisis.

Do all this; but especially should each Alliance man attend his sub at the last meeting in December, let each talk freely to the end that delegates to the county Alliance may be posted fully as to the conditions and needs of his members. As soon as delegates are appointed, let the secretary be instructed to send their names and post-offices to this office.

Then let every member, whether delegate or not, attend the January meeting of his county Alliance. Matters of especial interest will be there presented, and it is hoped that every member, who possibly can, will be there. Let the January meeting of the county Alliance be a general rallying ground, to the end that in the multitude of counsel the safety of our people may be assured, and the proper measures of relief be devised from the difficulties that environ us.

Second. "The obligations and responsibilities of those people sending delegates to that meeting."

This great reform movement is emphatically "of the people, by the people, and for the people," and in the selection of delegates by whomsoever made, scrupulous care should be taken that only those should be chosen who will patriotically and faithfully represent the views of the voters of the country, such action must inspire every true Alliance breast with renewed hope and courage. It would demonstrate to our Order and to the world the splendid and almost marvelous work that has been accomplished during the brief period of our existence, in the important matter of education. It would force upon the public mind the fact that the complaints of the people and their just demands can no longer be ignored and spurned, but they would become subjects for discussion and earnest thought at the fireside, in the factory, the workshop, the counting-room, the railway coach, the professional office and the editorial room. The general interest thus aroused and quickened would be intensified in the weekly and bi-weekly rallies held in "the little red school-house on the hill" all over the land. It would be to our brotherhood a striking and most encouraging illustration of the power of combined effort and organization.

I regret that a pressure of official work has compelled me to write thus hurriedly on matters of such vast importance, but the views herein given, though imperfectly expressed, are my own, and I alone am responsible for them.

THOS. W. FORCE, PRESIDENT INDIANA.

B. A. & I. U.

Yours, asking for my views for publication in your valuable paper on five current points touching the matter of February meeting, at hand, and in reply will say briefly, but positively, that believing as I do the utter impossibility of any financial or labor reform coming to the aid of the people through either of the old political parties, and being also thoroughly convinced that the control of the volume of the currency by a subtle conspiracy of both old parties is now in the hands of national banks, their agents and stockholders, who are squeezing the best life-blood out of the producing classes—the only vital blood of the nation—therefore your question as to the importance of February meeting to give direction and

enlightenment to the aroused avalanche of dissatisfied voters, is about the same as to ask, would I deem it proper to call together an army, appoint officers, arm and equip them to defend my country against conspirators and traitors? The eyes and faith of the bone and sinew of the nation are fixed upon the deliberations of this proposed meeting and the principles to be there adopted for the redress of the masses, and not the ridicule, the gold, or the renewed seductive enigmatic promises of either of the old parties, singly or combined, should cause the least hesitation on the part of any delegate to proceed at once in placing the vital questions, with proper modifications previously set forth in our platform, before the people in a clear, frank, honest, but firm demand, trusting, as did the great and good Lincoln, to the good sense and final triumph of the people. If this is done, and done promptly, and with the spirit of conviction, with a clear knowledge that something must be done and what to do to save the country from the subtle power of the rapidly growing plutocracy, there is no power on earth—be he Democratic boss or Republican boulder, or both combined—can stay the will of the mighty American people, and let me say that when the farmer and mechanic join their powerful hands and true and honest hearts, fired by a sense of cunning injustice done them through the corrupt legislation wrought by the united money power, they will stamp out by their ballots the great financial and other legalized trusts and conspiracies, and deliver the whole country from the approaching calamity of serfdom on the one hand and plutocracy on the other.

W. T. WINN, FULTON, KY.

In response to your request of Dec. 30, 1891, that I write you for publication in THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST my "views as to, first, the importance of the coming February meeting; second, the obligations and responsibilities of those people sending delegates to that meeting; third, the responsibility of the delegates to their constituency; fourth, the work to be done by the meeting (this embraces the object and purposes of the meeting); fifth, the result that should follow the meeting and its effect upon the order," allow me to say that the importance of the proposed meeting, composed as it will be of delegates from all the industrial organizations of the United States, can not be overestimated. My reason for this statement lies in the fact that the delegates to this meeting will represent and, if they do their duty, reflect the wishes of the bread-winners, the wealth-producers of the country, who are impatient, and with just cause, too, at the long delay of the dominant parties to comply with repeated pledges to administer and conduct the affairs of government in the interest of the whole people. This meeting will be important, too, because it will be, unless abuses loudly complained of everywhere by the toiling millions are corrected, the real harbinger of a popular uprising the like of which has never been equalled in this country. As to the "responsibilities and obligations" of the people behind these delegates, nothing more need be said than that self-preservation, the very first law of nature, will compel those people sending delegates to make the work of the convention their own work and support it and defend it for all time to come, or until victory shall crown their efforts or else the banner of reform shall be trampled in the dust by the enemies of labor. As to the "responsibilities of the delegates to their constituency," these, if I understand

your meaning, will depend largely upon the nature of the work to be done and the exigencies of the hour. It is safe to say that duty should and must guide the way. As to the "work to be done by the meeting," it is obvious that this can be arrived at only after a consultation of the delegates to that meeting. No man can foretell just what they may or may not decide upon. One thing, however, may be set down as a certainty, to wit: measures will be taken to compel not only Congress, but the two great nominating conventions of 1892, to recognize the demands of organized labor. Just how this is to be done must be evolved from the united wisdom of the convention itself. This, "nothing less, nothing else," must constitute the "object and purposes" of the meeting. "The result that should follow the meeting and its effect upon the order" must and will depend upon the nature and character of the work done by the meeting. If courage and right counsel prevail, the meeting will form one of the most prominent mile posts along the march of the industrial hosts; if opposite conditions prevail—if the men who compose it are possessed of cotton-string backbones—then it were better no such meeting were held and that we at once bow our neck to the heel of the oppressor.

MANN PAGE, PRESIDENT VIRGINIA STATE ALLIANCE.

In reply to yours of December 30 asking my views as to the importance of the meeting of the confederated organizations at St. Louis, Mo., February 22, I submit that the length of time since the call for said convention and the selection of the delegates by the respective industrial, agricultural, and labor unions of the country at their last annual meeting in response to said call, assures me that the delegates, realizing the responsibility resting upon them, and the dire necessity of this meeting caused by the outrageous oppression of the present financial system, impoverishing alike the producers and consumers of our country, will adopt some declaration of principles embodying the demands of the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union.

Permit me to present a few thoughts to your readers concerning the national conference to be held in St. Louis, on February 22 next, for the purpose of uniting the reform elements, so far as may be, in one political party. Then let us have the conclusion of the whole matter. To obtain relief and restore general prosperity we need a new political party—one organized purposely to give relief. Such reforms can only come through the instrumentality of a new party; such is the purpose of the St. Louis convention, and united action being its chief element of strength.

HON. A. J. STREETER, NEW WINDSOR, ILL.

First, let it be understood, in what I may say, that I have no other object in view than to promote the success of the conference and the good of the great common people.

The importance of this meeting, if successful, cannot be over-estimated, and it is with this thought in view and a desire to harmonize the elements that prompts me to what I say.

The proposed conference was called by the Cincinnati Convention, for the purpose of uniting the reform elements into one party and under one banner. How best to do this work should be the paramount thought and inspiration of every member of the convention.

Now, then, what would be the first, last, and greatest means of success in that meeting? It is harmony and unity of action. Without these elements we could do but little at best, and to this end we should be willing to concede much, and to avoid all questions wherein we do not agree.

We should remember that all issues among ourselves are elements of weakness, and should be severely let alone. The common enemy is enough to contend with.

As I wrote in a former article: The People's party and all industrial organizations are agreed that labor needs relief, and to this end have agreed upon a policy embraced in certain principles. They believe that there should be a greater volume of money in circulation, and that such volume should keep pace with the increase in population and the growing business of the country. That whatever amount may have been enough at any past period in our history, is not enough now, nor ever will be again, as

selfish purpose. Not one of them is actuated by any impossible desire to advance its own peculiar interests at the expense of the general welfare. There is no room for doubt that the great organizations to be represented have a profound sense of their great responsibilities as participants in the proposed conference. No man can foretell just what they may or may not decide upon. One thing, however, may be set down as a certainty, to wit: measures will be taken to compel not only Congress, but the two great nominating conventions of 1892, to recognize the demands of organized labor. Just how this is to be done must be evolved from the united wisdom of the convention itself. This, "nothing less, nothing else," must constitute the "object and purposes" of the meeting. "The result that should follow the meeting and its effect upon the order" must and will depend upon the nature and character of the work done by the meeting. If courage and right counsel prevail, the meeting will form one of the most prominent mile posts along the march of the industrial hosts; if opposite conditions prevail—if the men who compose it are possessed of cotton-string backbones—then it were better no such meeting were held and that we at once bow our neck to the heel of the oppressor.

MANN PAGE, PRESIDENT VIRGINIA STATE ALLIANCE.

If industrial organizations are to continue to exist as such, they must remain distinct from political parties, and confine their political work strictly within educational lines. The moral influence and support of the teachings of the Alliance, for example, is all that any political party can have, and it cannot have that without deserving it. If the conference give their support to the well-known "demands" of the confederated orders of industry, great impetus will be given to all the forces pledged to the advancement of those reforms. If the conference go further and declare the belief that no existing party will ever effect any of the most important of these reforms, and recommend the organization of a new party for the purpose of furnishing the means of united political action to all who desire to labor in behalf of the reforms, beyond any doubt a great impetus will be given to a third party movement. If I may be here indulged in the expression of an individual opinion, I will state it very briefly. I believe that an adherence to the contractionist policy, dictated by the money power, by both existing parties, will result in a new party, which will receive practically the entire voting strength of all the productive industries of the country. That such a party would have absolute control of public affairs goes without saying, and then I believe, more than ever, the conservative influence of the educational work of the Alliance would be necessary to keep legislation within safe bounds, and direct it in safe channels. To that end may the Alliance live, and not die.

HON. A. J. STREETER, NEW WINDSOR, ILL.

One wants to increase the volume of money in circulation through the sub-treasury plan of loaning money on warehouse receipts; another through government loans on lands; another through a new government issue to be paid out in pensions; still another through the Hill banking system; and another thinks Henry George's single land-tax is the real panacea while Mr. Bellamy solved the whole problem in a beautiful dream, and so on.

Now, here we are, all agreeing upon fundamental principles in the pending revolution, and to consummate which we are going to the St. Louis meeting, and yet in danger of being divided into factions and opposing each other in matters of detail, or how best to do it. On the contrary, this is the way not to do it, to make the conference a failure and clog the wheels of reformatory progress.

Remember that all these pet theories and details as to which is the better way to do it, will be settled through legislation only. The convention cannot settle these side issues, no matter how much it may try to do so. Then why not say, in plain English, we relegate all discordant issues to the congress, and if need be will wait till we get there in force before pushing them to the front.

Then put not a single thing in the platform save fundamental principles concerning which all the elements are agreed.

Such policy, if adopted, will be the bond of union that will impart strength and public confidence in the organization—yes, it will do more than this—it will deprive the common enemy of more than half their ammunition prepared for our discomfiture.

My judgment this is the better way, I almost said the only way to unite the different elements and organizations that may be assembled in the convention.

Mr. Editor, these thoughts are presented to your readers from the standpoint of a worker of some experience in the

cause of promoting the conditions of the great industrial people, and I hope they may provoke thought and discussion in the various industrial organizations in the same conservative spirit that has prompted me to write this article.

I expect to be at the convention with a desire to promote the purpose of the same, and to that end am willing, if need be, to concede even more than suggested above for the common good.

Let us all hope and pray and work for success in the coming convention. And this convention, too, may be the turning point that shall determine another grave issue now being forced upon us—that is, shall this government be controlled by the great common people, as our fathers intended it should be, or given up to the tender mercies of corporate monopolies?

They demand government control or ownership of lines for transportation of persons and property and transmission of intelligence.

They demand that the public lands shall be held in trust for the use of the people and not given to corporations.

Nothing but united action on the part of the industrial people can save this government intact. Both old parties are accessory to our unfortunate conditions.

Vicious legislation enacted by their votes, has done its work. To expect either one

to change its policy, to undo the work of its own hands, is too much like asking

Satan to rebuke sin.

Then let us have the conclusion of the whole matter. To obtain relief and restore general prosperity we need a new political party—one organized purposely to give relief. Such reforms can only

come through the instrumentality of a new party; such is the purpose of the St. Louis convention, and united action being its chief element of strength.

N. E. MOODY, SECRETARY, WISCONSIN.

F. A. AND I. U.

In answer to your letter of recent date in reference to February meeting, will say that the coming convention is one of grave importance to our order and to the great common people of our country, yet the line of duty is so plainly drawn that it appears our delegates need not err therein. When we consider the basic principles of our order it will be seen that it is unadvisable (if it were possible) to form a party organization or to become united with any existing political party. Yet it is true that the Alliance order has certain well defined principles. Those principles we should support in our halls, at our conventions and at the polls. It is understood and provided for that in every case the property would be worth the money advanced if placed on sale in the real estate market. When the circulating medium reached fifty dollars per capita, not counting reserves in the treasury, this bill would effect its own dissolution for raising prices and encouragement of the people the world over, and have the effect of retarding from operation distress measures.

What about the position of the People's party on the Russian relief proposition?

Mr. Davis' eyes twinkled. Well, we

held the balance of power in the House our nine votes—and we voted against it. We held that the government possessed no right of succor for Europe if it would not employ it for its own people. The precedent established is, that no aid can be given a State by the federal government. So, if it is unconstitutional to assist the States severally when they apply for aid, it is unconstitutional to legislate it to the relief of foreign nations. I will tell you a joke if THE ECONOMIST permits jokes.

The reporter averred that THE ECONOMIST had its share of human gleefulness; and Mr. Davis drew the letter L upon a sheet of paper to illustrate his point.

You see six of our People's party men are so seated in the House as to form a complete L. We transpose the L and it stands for hell, and I am so placed in the seating as to have a corner on the deal and right opposite the Speaker into the bargain.

Hon. J. G. OTIS, of Kansas, was found at his home cheerful as a cricket and brimming over with that fine energy peculiarity his own.

In reply to the question, "What do you expect from, or to become of your reform measure introduced in Congress on the 5th inst., entitled 'A bill to change our monetary system, reduce interest, and provide for loans upon land?'" Mr. Otis frankly replied:

I expect it to be pigeon-holed. All our bills will travel in that direction this session, and the only thing we can do is to keep calling them up so as to hold the attention of the House and the people. My one hope cherished for legislation this Congress is the

through of a silver measure, and this is grounded on the individual differences of opinion upon the question.

Are you willing to talk about the Russian relief debate and give your attitude? Glad to do it. Now it strikes me this way:

If a district Alliance spent five hours vaporizing upon a resolution the majority opposed, it would be aptly called "a roaring farce." That's exactly what Congress did on the 5th. My attitude is that if the great-hearted northwest subscribed the relief for the starving peasantry of Russia, the northeast could amply provide from their plenty for its transmission, or that Congress could use its useless navy for that purpose at a cost so small as to be contemptible. This war scare with Chile is bincombe, rot. The one hundred thousand dollar appropriation had to be killed, and it was. The grounds for this are too numerous and broad to require explanation, but the most remarkable part of the whole proceeding was that as soon as the hundred thousand dollar clause was stricken out of the bill the eastern advocates who had most strenuously advocated it lost immediate interest and in fact voted it down. It almost looks as if they did not care a rap for starving Russia or starving anywhere else as long as their ships or pockets could not profit by a government appropriation, and there was no money in it—for the east.

The following contribution to the first "People's Party Baby" born in Washington, accompanied a tiny pair of socks. It is a pretty, dark-haired little girl, and her father says she will live to be President;

TO BABY OTIS.
Our dear little "People's Baby" who has numberless nitties and frocks; Santa Claus only asks to contribute the Alliance pair of "socks."

Jerry Simpson's nose is out of joint. English as She is Writ. Northwestern Magazine.

It was in one of our schools the other day where I picked up the following thrilling composition, written by a twelve-year-old girl, which is one of the best pieces of English as she is "spelt" that I have yet seen: "A right suit little buoy, the son of a kernal, with a rough round his neck, flew up the road as quick as a deer. After a thyme he stopped at the house and wrung the belle. His tow hurt hymn and he kneaded wret. He was two tired to raze his fare, pail face, and a feint mown of pane rose from his lips.

"The made who herd the belle was about to pair a pare, but she through it down and ran with all her mite, for fear her guessed would not weight; but when she saw the little won tiers stood in her ayes at the site, 'Ewe poor dear! Why do you lyt hear? Are you dyeing?' Know, he said, 'I am feint.' She boar him inn her arms, as she aught, to a room where he mite be quiet, gave him bred and meat, held a cent bottle under his head, and wrung his choler, rapped him up warmly, gave him a suite drachm from a viol, till at last he went fourth as hail as a young hoarse."

The News (Joliet, Ill.) says:

This question of trusts and combinations is a curious one, and when the clear light of reason is brought to bear upon it the workingmen cannot be blamed for perfecting their organization at every point. Capital sets the example. Every thing the workingman touches is tinctured with "trust" or "combination." First, his boss belongs to an organization of employers. Then the groceries and meat he eats, the clothes he wears, and even the liquid refreshments he sometimes indulges in, are controlled by a trust. If he gets sick his physician comes from an association, and when he dies the undertaker who furnishes his coffin is a member of a trust. Capital, from the cradle to the grave, is one immense organization.

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THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST
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The publishers of this paper have given a bond in the sum of \$50,000 to the President of the Farmers and Laborers Union of America that they will faithfully carry out all subscriptions and other contracts.

The following is the resolution unanimously adopted at the national meeting at St. Louis:

"The NATIONAL ECONOMIST, our adopted official national organ, has so boldly and fearlessly advocated our cause and defended our principles; therefore,

Be it resolved by this National body, That we heartily approve of the course it has pursued and recommend that every member of the order should subscribe and read our paper as one of the best means of education in the way of industrial freedom.

Reaffirmed at Ocala as follows:

Resolved, That this Supreme Council reendorse THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and the action of Brother C. W. Macune and his associates in said city, and that we give them our hearty endorsement.

Address all remittances or communications to

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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D. C., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

N. R. P. A.

NOTICE.

TO ALL SECRETARIES:

Please send names and post-office addresses of all German-reading people in your community, that we may send them sample copies of German Alliance paper and other Alliance literature. THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, 239 North Capitol street, Washington, D. C.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the great conference of producers to be held February 22, 1892, will meet in the city of St. Louis, instead of Washington, D. C., as previously announced;

BEN TERRELL,
Chairman of Committee.

By their fruits ye shall know them. The mercantile failures for the year 1891, as reported by the mercantile agency of R. G. Dun & Co., indicate that the number of failures in the United States is 12,273, as against 10,907 in 1890. The failures in 1891 are greater in number than in any previous year since the record has been kept by this agency, running back to 1857. In amount of liabilities, however, the figures are almost precisely the same as those of the year previous, amounting to \$189,000,000. The amount lost, therefore, does not exceed that of the previous year, while the average of the liabilities of each failure is \$15,471 in 1891, as against \$17,406 in 1890.

The following is the full text of the bill introduced by Senator Kyle December 22, 1891, and sent to the committee on public lands:

A bill to amend section one of an act approved March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, entitled "An act to repeal timber-culture laws, and for other purposes."

That section one of an act entitled "An act to repeal timber-culture laws, and for other purposes," approved March 3, 1891, be and the same is hereby amended by adding thereto the following provision: "And provided further, that any person who has made entry of any

public lands of the United States under the timber-culture laws, and who has for a period of eight years in good faith complied with the provisions of said laws, and who is a bona-fide resident of the State or Territory in which said land is located, shall be entitled to make final proof thereto and acquire title to the same by payment of the customary fees for final proofs in homestead entries."

THE district unions in the State of Kentucky will meet as follows: In the first district, at Paducah, on the 15th and 16th of January; second district, at Hopkinsville, 28th and 29th; third district, at Bowling Green, 18th and 19th; fourth district, at Elizabethtown, 20th and 21st; fifth district, at Louisville, 27th; sixth district, at Williamstown, 22d and 23d, and seventh district, at Frankfort, on the 25th and 26th. The State officers and Hon. Ben Terrell will attend all of these meetings, and they are expected to be of great benefit to the Order.

THE AX combination trust is keeping down the price of axes for the purpose of forcing the Kelly Ax Manufacturing Company to join their combination, but the Kellys have announced their determination never to do so. They are a very strong firm, and manufacture a good line of goods, and if they could be dispensed with it would be easy sailing for the trust. It is claimed that if the Kellys were out of the way the price of axes would go up two or three dollars per dozen, or perhaps more, and this of course would ultimately come out of the farmers and others who use axes. The Kelly Ax Manufacturing Company deserve the support of those who use axes in their fight against the giant combination, the ax trust.

THE assertion is often made that the country is so near equally divided between the two political parties upon sectional prejudice that New York holds the key to the situation and yields a balance of power in the interest of plutocracy. In order to show how much foundation in fact there is for this statement the following table is presented. The vote of the State of Michigan is divided because under the new law in that State it will probably be so cast. The practically certain presidential vote in the States is:

Republican.	Democratic.
California..... 9	Alabama..... 11
Colorado..... 4	Arkansas..... 8
Illinois..... 24	Connecticut..... 6
Kansas..... 10	Delaware..... 3
Maine..... 6	Florida..... 4
Michigan..... 8	Georgia..... 13
Minnesota..... 9	Kentucky..... 13
Nebraska..... 8	Louisiana..... 6
Nevada..... 3	Mississippi..... 8
Ohio..... 23	Missouri..... 17
Oregon..... 4	Montana..... 3
Pennsylvania..... 32	North Dakota..... 3
Rhode Island..... 4	North Carolina..... 11
Vermont..... 4	South Carolina..... 9
Wisconsin..... 12	Tennessee..... 12
Idaho..... 3	Texas..... 15
Montana..... 3	Virginia..... 15
North Dakota..... 3	West Virginia..... 6
South Dakota..... 4	Total..... 181
Washington..... 4	
Wyoming..... 3	
Total..... 181	

ment of a portion of the notes now in circulation.

Mr. Seligman is a millionaire banker of Wall street, whose interest lies in a single gold standard. This fact alone proves his unfitness for the mission upon which he was sent. Again he was selected by the Secretary of the Treasury, who is also opposed to bimetallism, as his reports to Congress clearly show. With these two conditions thoroughly understood, what other statement of the sentiment in Europe could have been expected? In every bill looking to the free coinage of silver that has passed Congress is found a section empowering the President to appoint members of an international commission to be appointed at some future time when Europe should become friendly to free coinage. All such legislation is pure folly, and enacted for the express purpose of putting off the time for conclusive action in this country. All such sidetracks should be avoided, and an effort made for the passage of a free coinage bill, pure and simple. This will end the matter by forcing each member of Congress to take sides one way or the other without the benefit of an ambiguous clause to cover up his real motive.

THE ECONOMIST educational exercises begin in the next issue.

THE legislative committee of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union met in Washington, D. C., on the 5th instant. A memorial was agreed upon and presented to both houses of Congress. The memorial is embodied in the proceedings of the State Presidents' meeting, published in another column. It shows that the policy of the legislative committee is to contend simply for the principles involved in the demands, and leave the Alliance contingent in Congress to formulate bills to carry out the detail.

REMEMBER, amid the great number of books published upon economic questions, that the "Philosophy of Price," by N. A. Dunning, stands at the head as an educator. There is not a page in the book that is not full of information, statistics, or references upon the vital questions that are now before the people; 300 pages. Price, 25 cents.

THE recent conference of State presidents did not hesitate to put themselves squarely on record as to what should be done at the coming convention to be held in St. Louis February 22. The following resolution was passed without a dissenting vote:

Resolved, That it is the sentiment and desire of this conference of the presidents of the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union that the delegates for the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union who attend the industrial conference to be held in St. Louis February 22, 1892, use their influence and votes to establish and perfect fraternal relations with all the labor organizations represented in said meeting, with the Ocala demands as a basis for a platform of principles, and that such platform be presented to the national conventions of the Democratic party, and the Republican party, and the People's party this year, with an earnest request that the

principles involved be engrafted into their platforms for the coming national elections of 1892. But that they carefully refrain from committing our Order as such to affiliation with any political party or parties.

This is a fair, just, and practical solution of the whole question.

THE HALF IS MORE THAN THE WHOLE.

The idea that by destroying a part of a thing, the remnant may be made more valuable than the original whole is of very ancient origin. It may be traced back through various fables, proverbs, aphorisms, until lost amid the myths and shadows of the remotest antiquity. The Grecian author Hesiod distinctly declared that the half is often more than the whole. The fable of the Sybillian books is merely another way of putting the same idea. It has remained for modern financiers, business men and, so called, statesmen to erect upon the foundation of this mathematical paradox a monetary and commercial system for the modern world. The money mongers began to demonetize silver and denying that metal coinage, and by burning up greenbacks, and concealing bank notes; so that, having reduced the quantity of money one-half the purchasing power of the remaining half should be greater than that of the original whole. It is clear that all the advantages of this situation are on the side of money owners and against all producers. Manufacturers naturally began to take hold of the idea that the only way to get even with the money mongers was to limit the output of commodities one half so that the remaining half should command more money than the original whole. Such is the illogical and unsubstantial foundation of the modern trust. The thing has now reached agriculture, the nourishing mother of all arts, and all occupations. Agriculture, upon whose deposit that species of banking called commerce is conducted. Agriculture, from whose abundance is drawn the raw material of all manufacture. Agriculture, whose bounty answers the prayer of all the living for daily bread. What is to become of agriculture thus ground between the upper and nether millstones; between the national banks and the manufacturing trusts? Is the half of the daily bread of mankind more than the whole? Are the half of cotton and wool and leather more than the whole? And at last, when this satanic policy has come to its ultimate fruition, we stand face to face with a new question, viz: Is the half of mankind more than the whole? Is it now necessary that one-half of mankind be destroyed that the remainder may have necessities of life? The final question is, which half shall be destroyed? And the answer is inevitable—it is the weaker half. This, then, is the inevitable sequence: limitation of the money supply, fol-

lowed by an equal limitation of the supply of commodities, and ending in a corresponding limitation of the reproduction of our species. The situation demands immediate restoration of free coinage of silver, to be followed by the issue of full legal tender treasury notes based on commodities, as provided by the sub-treasury plan, to meet the annual surplus of product over money caused by the gathering of the great agricultural staples as they mature. If alliance offensive and defensive between the West and South is necessary to carry out this programme, let that alliance be perfected without delay; and if a new party be found necessary to perfect that alliance, let us have the new party now. Whatever is done will have to be quickly done. The day of talk is gone; the time for action is come. The supply of commodities is too great for the existing supply of money and this is that "overproduction" of which so much is heard. There must be equitable readjustment.

A Statement From the National Secretary.

Men often speak when their utterances are the legitimate offspring of their wishes. Some say that the Farmers Alliance is going to pieces because it is favoring the People's party; others say it is going to pieces because some are trying to hold it in one or the other of the old parties, but the facts as they are coming to my office every day prove that both are wrong. By observing closely, I find that we have men in our Order who would gladly see it sink into oblivion if thereby their individual political fortunes could be built up. Beware of the men who are howling themselves hoarse to prove that the Alliance should stay in the Democratic or Republican parties to accomplish its purposes, and be equally guarded against a similar class who would have you believe that the only road to success is for the Alliance to go into the People's party.

When a man talks party, give him a deaf ear, but when he talks reform as laid down in the Ocala demands, listen to him and aid him in every possible way, for this is the duty of every good Alliance man. An organization let us quit talking party, and spend all our time and energies in educating the people; and when education has done its perfect work, we need have no fears, for the people are determined to take care of the party that takes care of their principles. Reports from the county Alliances meetings all over the country are very encouraging. Every mail brings the cheering news that "Our county is solid for the Ocala demands, and we will not vote for any man or party that does not adopt them." I am also very much gratified at the way the sub-Alliances are responding to the call for a "propaganda fund." It is coming from every State in amounts ranging from fifty cents to ten dollars. This fund will enable us to push the work of education as it has never been before, and good will inevitably result.

Face to the front and pass it down the line that by the help of God we are in the Alliance to stay till victory perches upon our banner and the people get relief. Fraternally,

J. H. TURNER,
Sec'y N. F. A. and I. U.

I AM wishful to give notice that I am open to engagement as editor and speaker. Have had fifteen years experience as editor, and more than twenty as public advocate of political reform. Would prefer a position in this city or Pennsylvania. Have a family to support, but will engage at moderate wages. Can give best of references of business men, farmers and editors. Fraternally,

L. L. LUSE.

Address Pennside, Erie Co., Pa.

PRESIDENTIAL SKETCHES.

"Biography is the only history."

JAMES MADISON.

It is often said that "happy lives" have no history. The life of our fourth President began in 1735, in that picturesque country of the Blue Ridge, at Montpelier, Orange county, Virginia. He was nurtured in a refined hospitable domestic life, varied by no dramatic and rugged events. In 1772 he was graduated at Princeton. While he was busy with law and theology the storm of the Revolution was gathering. James Madison began his public career in 1776. Though young and shy he made his mark with his pen. In 1777 he was a candidate for the General Assembly, but lost his election because he stoutly refused to "treat the voters to whisky." His position commanded great respect among the people of the province and he was soon appointed a member of the governor's council. In 1780 he was elected to the Continental Congress. In 1784 he left the national legislature to enter the legislature of his native State. His great paper the "Memorial and Remonstrance," which opposed taxing the people for the support of religion, finally carried the divorce of church and State. When George III was got rid of the question of State rights began. Each of the "thirteen" had its individual interests, prejudices and commercial ambitions. Madison carried a measure through the Virginia General Assembly inviting the States to meet at Annapolis, and discuss measures for the formation of a more efficient federal government; only five States responded by delegates. At that meeting Madison urged the States to send their delegates to Philadelphia in May, 1787, to draught a constitution for the United States. When that convention broke up in the following September the Constitution was formed and Madison was conceded by all its father.

Madison was a Democrat of Jefferson type. In 1801 with Jefferson President, Madison became Vice-President. In 1809 Madison was elected President of the United States. Like Washington and Jefferson, he, too, married a pretty, young widow, Dolley Payne Todd. It was her lot to be what no other woman has ever been—the lady of the nation for sixteen years. She did the honors for the White House during Jefferson's administration, as Mrs. Jefferson was dead. On June 8, 1812, President Madison approved the act of Congress which declared war between the United States and Great Britain. The war closed in 1815. After two years Madison retired to his home at Montpelier. In 1829 he was a member of the Virginia convention to reform the old constitution. A few years rolled past, leaving Madison more frail and delicate, the lamp of his life flickered, and on June 28, 1836, at the age of eighty-five went out. He lies buried at Montpelier, twenty miles from Monticello. During his administration he attended the Episcopal church. America will always owe a vast debt to James Madison for his services in critical periods of her history.

Sail on, O ship of State!

Sail on, O Union, strong and great!

Humanity with all its fears,

With all the hopes of future years,

Is hanging breathless on thy fate.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

CONGRESS.

SENATE.

TUESDAY, January 5, 1892.

Protest by the Chaplain, Rev. J. G. Butler, D. D., of the proceedings of Wednesday, December 24, 1891, was read and approved.

The Vice-President laid before the Senate a copy of the annual report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1891, which read as follows:

I move that the usual number of the entire report of the Public Printer be printed and referred to the committee on printing.

The motion was agreed to.

The Vice-President laid before the Senate a copy of the annual report of the Interstate commerce commission, which was referred to the committee on interstate commerce and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Dooly introduced a bill (S. 1264) to amend section 162 of the Revised Statutes, making an annual appropriation to provide arms and equipments for the use of the navy.

The bill was read twice by its title.

The Secretary of the Navy has no steam vessel at his disposal that could be used for the transportation of these supplies, and I therefore recommend that he be authorized to charter a suitable vessel to receive them, if a sufficient amount should be offered, and to send them under the charge of a naval officer to such Russian port as may be most convenient for ready distribution to those in need.

RENNI HARRISON.

Executive Mansion, January 5, 1892.

The Vice-President. The proposed amendment will be referred to the committee on foreign commerce.

The Secretary. It is proposed to strike out the words "which, if necessary, and insert "not to exceed \$100,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary" as to read:

Any sum of money not to exceed \$100,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to carry out the object of this resolution is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

He also introduced a bill (S. 1269) to protect interstate commerce; to prevent dealing in options, futures, corners and other combinations, which effect and tend to punish conspiracies against freedom of trade among the people of the several States; which was read twice by its title, and referred to the committee on agriculture and commerce.

He also introduced a bill (S. 1269) to increase the circulating medium by issuing gold and silver coinage and to amend the coinage laws accordingly; which was read twice by its title, and referred to the committee on finance.

He also introduced a bill (S. 1270) to provide for the purchase of a site and the erection of a building thereon at Kansas City, in the State of Kansas; which was read twice by its title, and referred to the committee on public buildings and grounds.

He also introduced a bill (S. 1271) for the purchase of the Washington Gas-Light Company's Works, which was read twice by its title, and referred to the committee on the District of Columbia.

Mr. Cole introduced a bill (S. 1272) to authorize the construction of levees, piers and breakwaters at private expense in the Gulf of Mexico, at the mouth of Ropes Pass, in the State of Texas; which was read twice by its title, and referred to the committee on commerce.

Mr. Hickox introduced a bill (S. 1335) to increase postal facilities, to expand the distribution, collection and delivery of mail in the interior of the interior of the country.

He also introduced a bill (S. 1273) for the relief of the suffering poor of Russia; which was read twice by its title, and referred to the committee on finance.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, and was read the third time.

The Vice-President. The question is, shall the joint resolution pass? on which the ayes and nays are demanded.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 9, as follows:

Yeas—Allen, Allison, Barbour, Blodget, Breckinridge, Butler, Call, Casey, Chandler, Daniel, Dawes, Dubois, Faulkner, Felton, Frye, Gallinger, Gibson, Hale, Hart, Hawley, Hancock, Harlan, Hartwell, Hays, Higginson, Hill, Anderson, Mitchell, Moore, Morris, Peffer, Pettigrew, Platt, Quay, Sawyer, Shop, Stanford, Stewart, Teller, Viles, Washburn, White—49.

Nays—Bate, Berry, Clifton, Coker, Harris, Jones, Ark, Kyle, Pugh, Vest—9.

Not Voting—Aldrich, Blackburn, Cameron, Clegg, Cushing, Connel, Cram, Cullinan, Dickey, Dixson, Dodge, George, Gibson, McI, Gordon, Gray, Hansbrough, Higgins, Irby, McPherson, Padlock, Palmer, Fasco, Power, Proctor, Ransom, Sanders, Sherman, Squire, Stockbridge, Turpie, Voorhees, Waldbill, Warren, Wilson, Wolcott—35.

So the joint resolution was passed.

Mr. Stewart. I offer a resolution for reference to the committee on the judiciary, and I ask that it be read.

The resolution was read as follows:

Whereas by the fourteenth section of the act approved January 18, 1891, it is provided "That gold and silver bullion brought to the mint for coined, shall be received and coined, by the proper officers, for the benefit of the depositor;" and

Whereas by the act approved February 28, 1891, entitled "An act to regulate the coinage of the standard silver dollar, and to restore its legal tender character." It is enacted "That there shall be coined, at the several mints of the United States, silver dollars of the weight of 412½ grains, Troy, of standard silver, as provided in the act of January 18, 1891, in which shall be the devices and superscription, and the like devices and superscription, as made by citizens of the United States for the mint, under the authority of the United States, a suitable steamship or ships for the same purpose.

Any sum of money which may be necessary to carry out the object of this resolution is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

The secretary reads as follows:

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., January 4.

Sen. W. D. WASHBURN, Washington, D. C., 21st.

An act, etc., was passed about 1,000,000 pounds of silver to receive a total of \$100,000,000.

Hills and four men are the contributors, and are located in Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, District of Columbia, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Wisconsin. For further particulars see Northwestern Miller. We greatly need steamship to carry the grain.

W. C. EDGAR.

There being no objection, the joint resolution was considered as in committee of the whole.

Mr. Gorman. Mr. President, I notice that the present resolution contains an indefinite appropriation.

It is a very bad practice, although one, I know which has grown up in the last year or two, to state indefinite appropriations, and the result is

almost to bankrupt the treasury of the United States.

I think the practice ought not to be followed.

I find that Hon. Senator from Minnesota has any information as to the probable cost, some specific account should be appropriated, say not to exceed \$100,000, or whatever amount is necessary.

Mr. Washburn. The same idea occurred to me in drawing the joint resolution. I supposed it was the custom to fix the sum, as the Senator has suggested, and then appropriate it. I found that there was no limitation. I acted cheerfully to the suggestion, and would make no more than \$100,000.

Mr. Butler. "Or so much thereof as may be necessary."

The Vice-President. The Senate will receive a message from the President of the United States.

The Secretary read as follows:

To the Senate and House of Representatives.

The teacher standing in front of the audience

of Russia is so severe and widespread as to have attracted the sympathetic interest of a large number of our liberal and favored people. In some of the great grain-producing States of the West movements have already been organized to collect flour and meal for the relief of these perishing Russian families, and the American people are soon to be delivered at the seaboard through the generous co-operation of the transportation lines.

It is most appropriate that a people whose storehouses have been so lavishly filled with all the fruits of the earth by the gracious favor of God should manifest their gratitude by large gifts to His suffering children in other lands.

The Secretary of the Navy has no steam vessel at his disposal that could be used for the transportation of these supplies, and I therefore recommend that he be authorized to charter a suitable vessel to receive them, if a sufficient amount should be offered, and to send them under the charge of a naval officer to such Russian port as may be most convenient for ready distribution to those in need.

RENNI HARRISON.

Executive Mansion, December 12, 1891.

The Vice-President. The proposed amendment will be referred to the select committee on irrigation and reclamation of arid lands.

The joint resolution was proposed to strike out the words "which, if necessary, and insert "not to exceed \$100,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary" as to read:

Any sum of money not to exceed \$100,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to carry out the object of this resolution is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise ap-

propriated.

He also introduced a bill (S. 1269) to protect in-

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futures, corners and other combinations,

which effect and tend to punish conspiracies

against freedom of trade among the people of the several States; which was read twice by its title, and referred to the committee on agriculture and com-

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He also introduced a bill (S. 1270) to provide for the purchase of a site and the erection of a building thereon at Kansas City, in the State of Kansas; which was read twice by its title, and referred to the committee on public buildings and grounds.

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He also introduced a bill (S. 1273) for the relief

of the suffering poor of Russia; which was read twice by its title, and referred to the committee on finance.

The joint resolution was ordered to be en-

grossed for a third reading, and was read the third time.

The Vice-President. The question is, shall the joint resolution pass? on which the ayes and nays are demanded.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 9, as follows:

Yeas—Allen, Allison, Barbour, Blodget, Breckinridge, Butler, Call, Casey, Chandler, Daniel, Dawes, Dubois, Faulkner, Felton, Frye, Gallinger, Gibson, Hale, Hart, Hawley, Hancock, Hartwell, Hays, Higginson, Hill, Anderson, Mitchell, Moore, Morris, Peffer, Pettigrew, Platt, Quay, Sawyer, Shop, Stanford, Stewart, Teller, Viles, Washburn, White—49.

Nays—Bate, Berry, Clifton, Coker, Harris, Jones, Ark, Kyle, Pugh, Vest—9.

Not Voting—Aldrich, Blackburn, Cameron, Clegg, Cushing, Connel, Cullinan, Dickey, Dixson, Dodge, George, Gibson, McI, Gordon, Gray, Hansbrough, Higgins, Irby, McPherson, Padlock, Palmer, Fasco, Power, Proctor, Ransom, Sanders, Sherman, Squire, Stockbridge, Turpie, Voorhees, Waldbill, Warren, Wilson, Wolcott—35.

So the joint resolution was passed.

Mr. Stewart. I offer a resolution for reference to the committee on the judiciary, and I ask that it be read.

The resolution was read as follows:

Whereas by the fourteenth section of the act ap-

proved January 18, 1891, it is provided "That gold and silver bullion brought to the mint for coined,

shall be received and coined, by the proper officers,

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entitled "An act to regulate the coinage of the standard silver dollar, and to restore its legal ten-

der character." It is enacted "That there shall be coined,

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perscriptions, as made by citizens of the United States

for the mint, under the authority of the United States,

a suitable steamship or ships for the same pur-

pose.

Any sum of money which may be necessary to carry

out the object of this resolution is hereby appropri-

ated out of any money in the treasury not other-

wise appropriated.

The secretary reads as follows:

TUESDAY, January 5, 1892.

The House met at 12 o'clock m. and was called to order by the clerk, Hon. James Kerr, who said:

I regret to announce the illness of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Owing to his absence, it becomes my

duty as clerk of the House to call the House to order.

The only business now in order is the election of a Speaker pro tempore.

Otis T. Mason, Smithsonian Institu-

tion.

Herbert G. Ogden, United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, chairman.

Andrew H. Allen, department of State.

Capt. Henry L. Howison, light-house board, Treasury Department.

Capt. Thomas Turtle, engineer corps, War Department.

Lieut. Richardson Clover, Hydrographic office, Navy department.

Pierson H. Eristow, Post-office Depart-

ment.

The joint resolution was referred to the committee on the judiciary, and I ask that the ayes and nays be demanded.

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THE REFORM PRESS.
The Discussion of Current Topics from Organized States.

Modern Light (Columbus, Kans.) says:
The laboring classes of America realize the importance of education. In the conflict between labor and capital that is now being waged labor will be defeated, unless it meets the intelligence of capital with equal intelligence. When the Knights of Labor met in convention in the capital city of Ohio they passed a resolution favoring compulsory educational enactments. This sentiment has been repeatedly expressed by labor organizations of our country, showing that the labor elements realize that the wage-earner must meet brains with brains. It is necessary that the great cause of right be presented and defended by its advocates as intelligently as the wrong is being advocated, if it shall triumph. Right will never triumph in the world unless led by intelligence.

The People's Call (Seattle, Wash.) says:
The money power is doing all it can to cause a war so as to kill off the people, rather than to issue money to pay for labor and let it be employed in building up homes of comfort for the happiness and pleasure of all the people. Remember that if war is declared, the laborers and farmers will have to be the ones that are slaughtered. In our day of civilization we should be human. War does not civilize. It is barbarous and beastly.

The Industrial World (Spokane, Wash.) says:
Value is an idea, not a gross property of substances. The greater the facility for expressing the idea in tangible shape the better for the happiness of the people.

The Advance Journal (Ashville, Ala.) says:
Some of the papers continue to refer to the "Alliance split." These papers had better look for leaks and "splits" in other directions. The Alliance split is not their property, even if there had been a split.

The Monheim Sun (Monheim, Penn.) says:
Every reform that has ever been inaugurated in the history of the world has met with violent opposition on the part of some, who, through prejudice or some other cause, were found arrayed against the promulgation of any theory that was considered a departure from established rules or custom. This has been the case in religious matters, especially, and the same state of affairs existed in temporal things as well. Every man and woman familiar with history knows that this has been the case from the beginning of the Christian era, if not from the beginning of the world. It seems strange that a similar state of affairs should exist in this enlightened age, but such is, nevertheless, the case. The same spirit that existed in people in the early centuries finds place in their minds now, which fact is clearly and plainly demonstrated by the unreasonable manifestations of opposition that are presented upon the advent of any reform movement in the social or industrial system. There is one thing absolutely certain, and prejudice must fall before its potent influence, that there exists to-day a radical defect in the social and industrial system that can only be corrected by a reform which must eliminate the cause of this serious derangement. There is too much distinction between the classes and the masses. A small portion of the people are now reaping the fruit of the toilers' incessant labor; else why should a few amass great fortunes and the majority remain in poverty. Why this army of tramps that wander to and fro in the country? Why this decided manifestation of industrial unrest among the people? Notwithstanding the fact that such a condition of things exists, there seems to be a great deal of prejudice brought to bear against any movement that seeks to effect a change. It is this that the promoters of all reforms have been called upon to fight against, and in the efforts of the Farmers Alliance and other organizations to inaugurate a movement for the restoration of primitive methods in the administration of the government, nothing has hindered the

The Alliance Herald (Montgomery, Ala.) says:
The progress made by the Alliance in forcing its demands upon the country, has been most gratifying, and the success so far achieved is as great as could have been reasonably expected. The work goes bravely on, well systematized and ably pressed; with the opposition weakening in every quarter.

The Republican (Tecumseh, Neb.) says:
At the close of the war, with a population approximating 37,000,000, we had about \$2,000,000,000 in money. There was no undue or injurious inflation. Labor in all departments of industry enjoyed remunerative prices for its products and prosperity, peace, contentment and plenty abounded throughout the land. Every artery of business of trade and of enterprise thrived with the healthful and invigorating flow of an ample supply of money. To-day, with a population of 63,000,000 and a corresponding growth in all departments of industry and enterprise, the volume of currency has been reduced to about \$600,000,000, with the uniform and inevitable result which has always and everywhere followed an undue contraction—high-priced money and low-priced productions entailing distress, poverty, suffering and ruin.

The Alliance Times (Oberlin, Kansas) says:
Would it not be better for the government to pay its debts in full legal tender paper money that it can constitutionally create and pay out, than for it to merely prolong its debt by hiring gold as a basis for money and making all of us, the people, pay taxes to provide interest for the use of the gold? It takes all that we, the people, can earn to pay for the support of Congress and its bunnies, and to pay interest on the gold it hires, so that we, the people, cannot earn sufficient money to pay our debts, therefore every day away goes ten thousand or more homes for a son, into the hands of those who set out to obtain them.

The Alliance Herald (Nelson, Neb.) says:
Why was silver demonetized? Who can tell? Was it to please the bloated bond-holder, or the farmer? If it was to please the other fellow, why not please the farmer now and put silver back where it was before? There can be no harm in getting a wrong.

The Western Advocate (Mankato, Minn.) says:
When the soldier went to the front in defense of his country, risking his all for the preservation of the union, the eastern capitalist hired a substitute and sent his gold to Europe for safe keeping. The southern soldier also risked his life facing northern bullets for the defense of a principle which he believed to be right. After the war was over the capitalist brought back his gold, and with it fastened a burden upon the soldiers of both sections of the country which has ground them down to the position of serfs, a condition from which they can hardly hope to escape. Is it any wonder that, for the sake of their children, the soldiers of the north and the soldiers of the south are uniting in a holy warfare against this common enemy?

The Southern Mercury (Dallas, Texas) says:
If the Alliance would scrutinize those who apply for membership, and renovate or relegate those disturbing elements within the order that will sooner or later bring disgrace and disaster to the order, they will have both the sympathy and aid of all good men.

The Springer (N. Mex.) Banner says:
There is no question in which the people are more deeply concerned than in the question of taxation. Every citizen feels, or ought to feel, that it is his duty to contribute so much of his substance, so much of that which he owns, so much of that which belongs to him, to the support of the government as is essential for its economical and honest administration. He also feels, or ought to feel, that any claim that he should contribute more than this is unjust, and that any law requiring him to do so is oppressive. The power to take from the citizen any part of that which is his own without pecuniary compensation and without his consent, is only accorded to the States, and where civilization and enlightened liberty exist the State is permitted to take so much, and so much only, as is necessary to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and welfare of the country.

The Monheim Sun (Monheim, Penn.) says:
Entirely New. Nothing like it in the Market. Every owner of Horses and Cattle should have one. It is the general verdict of all those that have our instrument. With the exception of the inventors skill of the Patent Office, the tenth century. The most practical invention ever produced.

The year 1892, which is near at hand, will be fraught with issues of the highest importance to the farmers and industrial classes of Pennsylvania. It is of more

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work and endeavors of these associations so much as the prejudice that exists in the minds of some against what is intended for their own good. Like all other reforms this movement must fight against prejudice, and if no other obstacles appear in its way, it will finally overcome this, and accomplish its ends—namely, laws of reason and equity.

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importance to the people of this State who shall represent them in the State legislature than who shall be President of the United States. The issue of equal taxation will not down. It must be met. It is the paramount issue in Pennsylvania. There is no justice or equity in the dollar of the individual paying from 15 to 30 mills taxation and the dollar of the corporation from 3 to 5 mills. The people are determined that this unjust discrimination shall cease, and the corporations are also determined that the old way, as they term it, shall continue. This question is over and beyond party affiliations. It is of higher import, and if the people would win they must prepare themselves for the greatest struggle ever witnessed in Pennsylvania.

The Modern Light (Columbus, Kansas) says:

A government, whether absolute, limited or wholly constitutional, is false to its citizens that assumes to make or coin money out of different commodities of variable commercial values, and declare by its statute law that it shall be a legal tender at its face value for all debts, public and private, and then put in an exception clause, empowering and legalizing money loaners and creditors to discriminate by contract as to which kind of commodity money they will receive. This is the way our law makers surrendered their constitutional authority to the money loaners of Europe and this country, proving that a few individuals are stronger than the government itself. The Congress and courts of the United States are removed only in name from being in the employ, and run at the dictation of the corporations and money changers of nation. If the medium of exchange is a corporation money, and allowed to fluctuate in value the same as butter and eggs, it becomes our duty as freemen, and liberty loving voters to drive the usurpers from power and elect a Congress and an administration in accordance with justice and the constitution of our fathers. Let there be coined or made a money having but one value, its face value, a lawful tender for debts, with the penalty attached that the person or corporation or state that refuses to take this money at its face value shall forfeit the debt. Then money changers and corporations in this particular will be placed on an equal footing with labor.

The Messenger (San Miguel, Cal.) says:

In order that the book may do the most good in the shortest possible time, we are authorized to state that any sub, county or State lecturer can procure a copy of above book by addressing the author at McPherson, Kan., and inclose 5 cents, postal note or stamps. The price of the book is 25 cents. This offer is made until January 1. Send your name and postal note or stamps at once. The books should be in the hands of every Alliance man in America.

The Messenger (San Miguel, Cal.) says:
The study of the principles of political economy has not been taken up by the farmers of the United States as a pastime. It is not a passing whim that has been called to their attention by accident. It is the outgrowth of stern necessity. In former times when a people were oppressed beyond endurance by the demands of their moneyed masters, they arose in frenzy and stamped them out of existence with fire and sword. Or, not having the courage to do this, ceased effort, and turned vagrants until the nation in its weakness was overrun by a foreign invader, to whom they gave their services as slaves. But in this day of enlightenment, no such barbaric measures are necessary. The people being oppressed with poverty, apply themselves to study the causes, and when understood,

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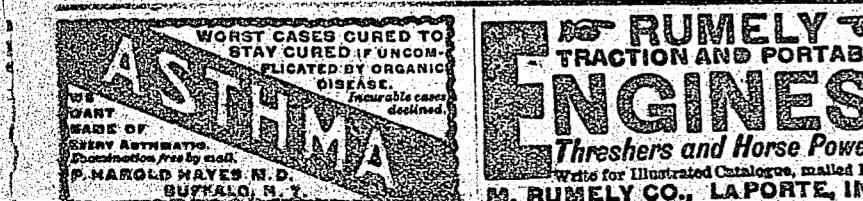
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money, and the government in the meantime stands as a partner to the transaction, why can not the farmer be permitted to share in the same privileges with his products?

DEALING IN FUTURES.

Senator Washburn having introduced a bill taxing all transactions in futures, he has been called upon to defend his position. In response to some inquiries from the Chamber of Commerce of Minneapolis, he said:

Of course the Board of Trade folks up there occupy the same position as does the Chicago board; they claiming to believe that the bill means the utter demolition of all trading in futures; but they will find their mistake when the bill formally becomes a law and goes into effect. I was especially surprised at the statement made then by President Sawyer, of the Sawyer Elevator company, when he said that not over 10 per cent of the sales made on the boards of trade in the country were of the gambling character. I had not the data with me; but I find today in looking up the matter up that a quite different state of affairs exists. No board furnishes any data to make a comparison from except the New York board, which is small compared to the Chicago board, but even then the figures are startling. Here is a very interesting table that I came across the other day. It shows that during ten days of the summer of 1890 the real and bogus sales of wheat were as follows:

Sales of actual wheat,	Option sales of fictitious wheat,
April 8.....	63,000
April 9.....	18,400,000
April 12.....	54,000
April 14.....	1,800
Sept. 3.....	6,000
Sept. 4.....	8,000
Sept. 15.....	32,000
Oct. 22.....	12,000
Oct. 23.....	64,000
Oct. 24.....	35,000
Total.....	337,800

The facts are that during the days named, for each bushel of wheat sold, New York market-wreckers sold 372 bushels of fiat grain, and that it would require but thirty-six days for them to sell options equaling in amount an average wheat crop.

An expert writing on the subject says: "It is not unusual for as much fiat wheat to be sold in a day as there is of actual grain received in a year. For instance, on the 14th of April, 1890, New York speculators sold 44,000,000 bushels of fiat wheat, probably more than twice as much as reached that city during the year. While the 'offerings' in a single day, at either Chicago or New York, are said to often exceed 300,000,000 bushels, such offerings having the intended effect of depressing prices."

What would wheat have been worth had it not been for the board of trade methods?

Well, I think that every bushel would be worth 20 cents more to-day.

At a banquet in New York, on the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans, Congressman Springer said:

I can state, without any fear of successful contradiction, that there is not the slightest probability of a free coinage bill becoming a law during this Congress, nor is it likely that any amendment to the existing law will be made.

Such a statement from the leader of the financial reform wing of the Democratic party in Congress will be a surprise to the people of the South and West. It is a complete surrender to the money owners of Wall street, and will not be consented to by the producers of the country without a vigorous protest. If Mr. Springer is correct in his assertions, wherein lies the advantage to the people of the election of Mr. Crisp over Mr. Mills?

THE FEBRUARY MEETING.
Views of Noted Men on the Objects and Purposes of the Meeting and the Work to be Done.

COLONEL BEVERLEY, OF VIRGINIA.

Yours of late date requesting my views in regard to the meeting of the industrial organizations on the 22d of February came to hand when I was sick in bed, and I am now scarcely able to write, hence my delay. The several inquiries of your letter resolve themselves into one; that is, shall there be a third party organized in the United States, in which all the industrial organizations shall unite, and if yes, shall the Farmers Alliance participate in it? I say unequivocally I am opposed to a third party if it can be by any means avoided; but unless financial reform is made the leading feature of the platform and policy of one or both the old parties, I believe it can not be avoided. This financial reform must be radical and thorough, and it does not admit of any further delay; otherwise a third party is inevitable and absolutely necessary, necessary to preserve republican government; to determine whether the dollar or the citizen shall rule. I think the contraction of the currency has so nearly determined the question in favor of the dollar that the citizen has no time to lose in taking action. The citizen has been made a virtual slave by the money power and the corporations under whose control this government has passed, and it will not take the length of another presidential term to rivet his chains so thoroughly that the only resistance left will be revolution and blood, which God forbid. It is not possible to conceive that people who have purchased their freedom with their plow will without blood submit to re-enslavement. It is conceded that this currency has been so reduced by the policy of contraction hitherto pursued by both the old parties that there is not half enough money to conduct even the restricted business which has resulted. Unless this policy is reversed without the least delay, I am convinced that wide-spread ruin is inevitable. I therefore urge that financial reform must be made the chief feature of the platform of any party professing to look to the welfare of the people. Transportation reform is undoubtedly second in importance and urgency. I reduce tariff reform to the third place only because it is a question nearly obsolete, because it is a question nearly obsolete, because of the immense scale of expenditures now irrevocably fastened upon the government. More money than the existing tariff and internal taxation are now producing is necessary to conduct the government. I know it will be said we must reduce expenses. Can you reduce the pension list? No such reduction of tariff as will afford important relief to the general distress will be possible for many years without a corresponding increase of internal taxation. And heavy reduction of expenditures in the present scarcity of money in the hands of the people is identical in effect with further contraction of the currency, in the face of a rapidly increasing population, and rapidly developing and expanding industries and business. Then, shall the industrial organizations meet on the 22d of February? Yes, I say. Let them agree upon their demands, the result of their common necessities and their universal distress; and upon the basis of these common demands form one grand confederated organization, let them perfect the machinery of organization in the doing of which let sectional lines be obliterated. They will then be in a position to adjourn in an attitude of armed ob-

eration and neutrality toward parties, until their platforms and candidates are before the people. Nothing will then be left to conjecture, and the convention of the consolidated industrial orders may be immediately recalled if made necessary, ready for decisive and prompt action. If then the two great political parties persist in ignoring the demands of the people for financial reform, it will be apparent that nothing remains for the great industrial masses, but to cut loose from them and unite in support of their own platform, and candidates nominated upon it. I pray and believe there may be patriotism enough in either of the old parties to avert this necessity; but if the issue is forced on the great industrial masses, I do not doubt their ability to control the situation. Let all parties understand that the people are very determined in their demand for a large increase of money and a large reduction of taxation. If these demands are not conceded, that political evolution is inevitable I verily believe.

C. B. STONE, BOSTON, COLORADO.

Your communication of December 31 to hand this day. Replying, will say that I feel myself wholly incompetent to prepare for publication, in your paper, an article which will embody the points which you present, in a shape to express the wishes of our people, for the reason that I am not in close communion with them to the extent that would justify me in trying to express their views and feelings.

While there is an occasional enthusiast, there are hundreds who, if they give the matter any thought, it is only a passing one, and never reaches beyond their immediate acquaintances. There is not that spontaneous outpouring of opinion that should come from a people who are held under the great juggernaut of political trickery.

Your first proposition, viz.: "The importance of the coming February meeting." There can be but one idea held by those who advocate the promotion of the People's party, and that would seem to be that, if we would win we must make it a fight to the finish. To do this we must place our standard-bearers in the fore front and rally to their support with all our energies. In order to receive the support of our rank and file, we must divert their minds of the belief that relief can be had by an adherence to either of the old parties. How we can best do that is the great problem to solve. Our reform press are doing a great and noble work, but I question whether we can reach the great majority which we must have on our side in order to win, or even make a respectable show next fall.

I see but one way to do this, and that is to adopt the same methods that have been in vogue with the old parties, viz., to place in the hands of as many as we can reach, literature of that character that will not only be interesting reading, but which will carry conviction with every line. The great trouble is to get the hard-working, uneducated man to read, read even the matter that now comes to his hand. This process of education is slow, so slow that it is discouraging.

The second proposition, viz.: "The obligations and responsibilities of these people sending delegates to that meeting." This would seem to resolve itself into this, that if they would accomplish their purposes they are obliged to send some one who will represent their interests, and if they do not, the responsibility of defeat will rest upon their shoulders, and we must continue to bear

the burdens which are even now crushing us to the earth, and which have prompted us to make the feeble effort we have.

Under the third head, viz.: "The responsibilities of the delegates to their constituency." It is a grave and important matter to handle. We might sum it up in that command by one of our revolutionary commanders, viz., "Put none but Americans on guard to-night." I see by the papers that most of the representatives from the Southern States who were elected by the farmer's vote, have gone boldly over to the Democracy, and have been rewarded according to their political merits.

The delegates should be instructed and held strictly to the duty imposed upon them.

The fourth proposition, viz.: "The work to be done at the meeting."

Now

I am not a politician in any way you can conserve it. I am absolutely unskilled in manipulating caucuses or conventions, and would be of no earthly use to help put up a job that wasn't fair, honorable, open, or above board, i

lend my aid to anything that

to be dishonest or dishonorable

at a loss to know what the work you

meeting should be except to nominate

candidates for president and vice-president.

But I believe that it is not for

that purpose.

If the People's party was formed last May, and this meeting will be composed of representatives from every industrial organization in the land, and from the People's party as well, it

would seem that the only thing to do

would be for the chairman of the Peo-

ple's party to call the assembly to order,

raise a committee on credentials, another

on permanent organization, and when

down to a working basis, ask the rep-

resentatives from the independent orga-

nizations if they will help us place a man

in the White House who will represent

the people, instead of the bankers,

brokers, and manufacturers. If they

will, let them hand over the shoe, and

we will join forces and fight it out on this

line if it takes all summer.

Five

propo-

sition,

viz.: "The results that should follow the meeting and its effects upon the Order."

The result

should be that we should fill a

ci-

ties in both houses of Congress w

ho will not go immediately

which ever party they have fo

played with, but be men of honor and principle, rather than partisan t (f) ols,

men who will place public duty higher

in the scale than individual aggrandize-

ment.

In order to do this we must contr

ol our State legislatures. The effect

which such a result would have upon our

Order is beyond my divining. We might

place in office men who would be so

elated over the sudden accession to power

that they would inaugurate bad measures,

and enact weak and unwholesome laws,

the resort of which would be disastrous

to our industries, general prosperity,

peace and comfort. We would hope,

however, that moderation would pre-

vail, and the result would be the realiza-

tion of our wishes, viz., the amelioration

of the condition of the poor. I am not

an agrarian, but believe that there is too

wide a margin between the very poor

and the very rich. I have labored for

twenty years to accomplish this object,

and my labor has been for naught.

Every day has seen the gulf open wider

and wider, until now it seems impossible.

to

achieve

compre-

hension

of the

rights

of all the

people, ought to pervade

the conference.

It is a good time to emphasize the fact

that industry is in the "slough of de-

spond," and must be rescued before our

temperance friends, our female suffrage

friends and many others can expect more

than our sympathy.

It is a good time to

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ECONOMIST EDUCATIONAL EXERCISES.

(Copyright, 1892, by The National Economist Publishing Company, Washington, D.C.)

A series of instructive lessons for use in Alliances, debating societies, lyceums, and to disseminate a correct understanding of the economic questions of the day.

The series will consist of forty exercises, and will be published in THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST during the year 1892, ten lessons each quarter.

Lodges or societies which meet only once or twice a month should at once open a voluntary class that will agree to have weekly meetings for the purpose of conducting this educational work.

The exercises will be published about two weeks ahead of the date on which they are intended to be used, in order that all may have time to get them and study them well.

LESSON No. 1.—To be used during the first week in February.

THE RICHEST NATION IN THE WORLD.

OUTLINE.

Condition of the country one hundred years ago—undeveloped.

1791.—The country consisted of thirteen colonies, occupying a narrow strip along the Atlantic sea-board.

Boundaries.—Great Lakes, Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, Mississippi River, not including Florida or the part of Louisiana east of the Mississippi. The country was not only sparsely settled and undeveloped, but large tracts of it were scarcely explored. Nearly thirty years later the Territory of Michigan was thought to be a "worthless waste."

At the beginning of the Revolution Boston and Philadelphia were the largest cities, each containing about 18,000 inhabitants.

The first daily newspaper, "The Federal Oratory," was not issued until 1792.

No railroads.

No steamships.

The usual mode of travel was on foot, on horseback, or in coasting vessels. There were a few stage-coach and omnibus lines connecting the larger cities.

One hundred years ago the people were well-nigh impoverished by the expenses of the Revolutionary war.

Continental Congress was unable to pay the troops.

Our government had little credit at home and none abroad.

1790.—Foreign and domestic debts, \$54,000,000.

State debts contracted during the Revolution, \$35,000,000.

Total United States debt, \$79,000,000.

1791.—National bank chartered for twenty years; capital stock, \$10,000,000. Who was President of the United States at that time?

We were poor then—no millionaires.

Now we are the richest nation in the world.

Our aggregate wealth exceeds the wealth of the whole world previous to 1791.

BLACKBOARD EXERCISE.

1790.—Population less than 4,000,000.

1890.—Population about 63,000,000.

Property—\$63,000,000,000.

Individual—\$1,000.

Household—\$5,000.

\$13,000,000,000 \$2,000,000,000.

\$11,000,000,000 Present debt about \$1,183,000,000.

PROBLEMS.

If the accumulated wealth of the United States should be equally divided among its inhabitants, how much would fall to each individual?

2. One hundred years ago the population was less than 4,000,000; indebtedness, \$79,000,000. What was the indebtedness per capita?

3. What is the indebtedness per capita now? Here the instructor should call attention to the difference in resources, between the exhausted colonies and the present United States.

4. \$13,000,000,000 represents the amount of our annual income, that is of our annual production. How much is that per individual?

5. How much per household of five members?

6. \$1,000,000,000 represents the amount used

by the people of the United States annually. How much is that per capita? Per household?

7. The average amount saved during the last ten years was about \$2,200,000,000 per year. How much was that for each individual yearly? How much for ten years?

TO THE PEOPLE WHO DWELL IN THE RICHEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD.

No physician can prescribe for a disease until he knows its nature and its extent. Very few of the wealth producers of the United States understand either the nature or the extent of the disease which is producing millionaires on the one hand and tramps on the other. It is the object of these lessons to show the extent of the disease and to suggest its cause. Then we will be ready to look for a remedy.

We have been repeatedly told by campaign orators that no country produces enough to keep all of its people in comfort. That it is a matter of necessity that some people should suffer. That although in the United States conditions are more favorable than elsewhere, even here more or less suffering for the necessities of life is unavoidable.

Would it not be well for us to study statistics, that we may decide for ourselves whether these statements are true?

Would it not be wise to endeavor to learn whether God has given enough for all; or whether there is only enough for a favored few?

To furnish facts and figures whereby these and many other contested points may be settled by the voters of America, is the object of these lessons.

DIRECTIONS TO THE LODGE.

In the first four lessons we are about to study statistics to find out how much there is produced, who gets it, and why he gets it, and whether there is enough of it to make all of us comfortable, or whether there is not. These are questions that should interest every one.

In order to make a wise use of these lessons it will be necessary for the lodge to appoint or elect some member as instructor, whose duty it shall be to conduct the class. If there is a practical, energetic teacher among you, that is the person you want. If not, use the best material you have. Think it over, and don't throw the office at any one who will take it, but make up your minds who could do the work the best, and then elect that person unanimously. In the meantime, the President or the Lecturer should take charge of the class. It should be conducted very much like a class in history or civil government. Each member of the lodge should strive to answer questions promptly, and to do all that he is asked to do if it lies within his ability.

All must work. The instructor alone can not make your evenings half as interesting as they will be if you all help. Look over your books and magazines, and examine every paper that comes within your reach, select and save all articles of interest, whether they are three lines or a column in length. Take them to the lodge and hand them to the instructor. This is almost equal to placing a library at the command of the lodge. When all the books and papers in a school district are searched, something of interest will be found on almost every subject.

DIRECTIONS TO THE INSTRUCTOR.

Read the lesson over carefully.

Work out the problems and study the lesson until there is no point in it which you do not understand.

Read up on the condition of the country a hundred years ago, and add to the outlines given all the interesting facts you come across. Some of the school histories will be useful.

If you are an experienced teacher, you will know how to conduct the class with tact and adroitness. If you are not, the following hints may be of use.

Divide the work among all who are willing to help.

The part marked blackboard exercise should be put upon the board before lodge opens if convenient.

The problems should all be worked out on the blackboard by members of the lodge.

Should your lodge meet in a hall where there are no blackboards, invest in a few lead pencils and a tablet. Furnish a half dozen of the best mathe-

matics with pencils and paper, and let them work out the problems.

Use tact in the distribution of work.

Don't ask a farmer who hasn't handled chalk for ten or twenty years to do an example—unless you know he is a mathematician.

Ask the boys and girls who are in school, or the young people just out of school. They will enjoy it.

Give all those who are willing to work something to do as often as you can. People are more interested in what they help to do them. But do not try to force people to work if they are not willing.

Try to give out your selections so that those who are going to read will have time to look over the article assigned them.

Do not read a long, dry piece for the sake of a paragraph in it. Read the paragraph and mark off the rest.

Do the best you can. Get other people to do the same, and the lessons will be a success, and you will find the attendance at your lodge increasing. Neighboring lodges will be interested and visitors will be more frequent.

This is the way it has worked in the lodge where these lessons originated.

HOW TO MAKE THE OPEN LODGE A SUCCESS.

Some open lodges are a brilliant success; others are a dismal failure. For the good of the Order, we should try our best to make every open lodge a pleasant occasion. If we can't, better not have any.

Avoid the discussion of party politics as you would avoid a dose of poison. Political discussions are as dangerous to the welfare of the Order as a dose of poison would be to your physical constitution. Discuss the condition of the country and the needs of the people all you want to, but let parties alone.

The American people have heard so much about parties. Let the outside world see that we are interested in something higher and better, that we are working for the good of the people.

The fourth, the seventh, and the tenth lesson in this series will be arranged for open lodges. The first four lessons are really on the same subject, the distribution of wealth in the United States.

Lesson I.—The richest nation in the world.

Lesson II.—The richest man in the world.

Lesson III.—Our millionaires.

Lesson IV.—The concentration of wealth—Review—Open lodge.

This lesson can be used in such a manner as to take up from forty minutes to two hours time, just as the lodge and the instructor see fit.

If there is no other programme for the evening, you will be able to review the three previous lessons very thoroughly, working out a good many of the problems. But have a short programme if you can. Do whatever you can do best.

Have plenty of music. There are new tunes and words now that are very interesting. If music is your weak point, have more literary work. Get children to speak pieces, and have a short dialogue or two if convenient. Ask the teacher of your district school to help furnish the programme. Some teachers would be glad to help if asked. The dialogue ought to be well rehearsed. Wherever convenient, it would be a good plan to meet two or three evenings beforehand and go through with the literary part of the programme.

It should be the work of the instructor to attend to the lesson, and of the lecturer, or of a committee appointed by the president, to get up the programme for the open lodges.

If you can't do any better, fall back on reading. Have a number of selections read by your best readers. Do not have any long speeches at this open lodge. The class will give a chance for all to talk who wish to.

Announce the open lodge two or three weeks beforehand, and keep announcing it. Send notices everywhere. Tell everybody, and don't let it be forgotten. Get up the best programme you can among yourselves, and then urge your neighbors to come. Tell them you are going to have a good time and you want a house full and then—have it!

Do the best you can and you are sure to succeed. Go to work with energy and enthusiasm and you can not fail!

SILVER COINAGE.

December 18 Senator Stewart, of Nevada, by consent of the Senate,

made some remarks upon the floor upon that part of the message of President Harrison which relates to silver coinage:

The act of July 14, 1890, to which the President refers in his message, was a compromise measure. The Senate passed a bill providing for free bimetallic coinage. The House amended it by a substitute, providing for the purchase of silver bullion and the issuance of treasury notes thereon, redeemable in bullion. It was known as the bullion-redemption bill.

The Senate refused to concur. A conference committee was appointed, which reported the compromise measure which is now the law.

The law provides for the purchase of four and a half million ounces of silver per month and the issuance of legal-tender treasury notes thereon at the market value of the bullion.

These notes are redeemable in coin, either gold or silver, at the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Secretary is required to coin sufficient of the silver bullion so purchased to provide for the redemption of the notes.

The law has increased the circulation by the difference between the coinage value of \$24,000,000 worth of silver bullion and \$4,000,000 ounces of silver bullion per annum. It has also increased the price of silver bullion. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1891, before the silver agitation commenced, the average price of silver was a little over 93 1/2 cents per ounce.

Avoid the discussion of party politics as you would avoid a dose of poison. Political discussions are as dangerous to the welfare of the Order as a dose of poison would be to your physical constitution. Discuss the condition of the country and the needs of the people all you want to, but let parties alone.

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Whereas by the act entitled "An act to strengthen the public credit," approved March 18, 1890, it was provided and declared that the faith of the United States was hereby declared to be inviolate,

and labor in a corresponding ratio. Congress, however, never changed the contract with the bondholders from a contract payable in either gold or silver to a contract payable in gold alone. The executive department, without the authority of Congress, has done this.

Every obligation of the government is and always has been payable in silver coin, but the Treasury Department has refused to pay in such coin. That department ever since the close of the war has maintained that silver was not good enough for the bondholder, although greenbacks were considered good enough for the soldier who fought the battles of the Union. If the Treasury Department would make no discrimination in the use of gold and silver in the payment of national obligations, who would be the first to receive the despised silver coin, the bondholder or the laborer? It is the fault of the government, and particularly the administration of the Treasury Department, if the cheap greenbacks were paid to the soldier, while the dear gold dollars were paid to the rich money-lender; it is the fault of the Treasury Department if the best money is paid to the bondholder and a depreciated currency paid to the laborer.

The producers, laborers, and farmers of this country are willing to accept silver, provided the government will treat it as money equally with gold. They knew no difference between gold and silver coin until the government made war on silver and deprived it of its money functions.

I am glad that the President is in favor of a larger use of silver, but I can not concur in the means proposed by him to accomplish that end. He says:

"There is, however, I am sure, a growing sentiment in Europe for the use of silver, and I know of no more effectual way of promoting this sentiment than by accumulating gold here. A scarcity of gold in Europe reserves will be the most persuasive argument for the use of silver."

In other words, the President proposes to take the gold away from Europe until her reserves will be so scarce as to compel her to use silver or suffer bankruptcy. It would have been interesting if the President had suggested how we are to accumulate gold. Since silver was demonetized, and the producers of this country compelled to buy gold with which to pay obligations contracted to be paid in either silver, gold, or paper, the people have been burdened almost beyond endurance. They have been compelled to sell their wheat, cotton, and other farm products at from 30 to 40 per cent discount to buy gold, because the government would not allow them to pay their debts in any other kind of money, no matter what the contract stipulated for.

The President now recommends the continuance of this sacrifice on the part of the producers until the moneyed institutions of Europe are deprived of their gold reserves and required to use silver. He must know that if we buy gold until we deprive Europe of her reserve, we must give more for gold than anybody else will give, or we cannot get it. We must sell wheat, cotton, and other farm products cheaper than they can be produced in Europe, Asia, and Africa, or any other part of the world, to buy gold enough to ruin the Rothschilds and the other money kings of Europe.

Is the President aware that European money-lenders have a call on this country for several thousand millions, and that if gold is the only money to be paid bondholders, the money kings of Europe can call on us at any time for a vast amount of gold? Does he not remember that last spring, in consequence of the failure of the Barings, the reserves of gold in Europe became short, and that our European creditors drew on us for about \$75,000,000 of gold to increase their reserves? Does he not know that they have the power to continue that process almost indefinitely, certainly until they have collected the thousands of millions which we owe them?

The President ought to consider that the rejection of silver as real money eighteen years ago contracted the basis of circulation and credit nearly one-half, and reduced the price of property and services enormously; that farms in England and America, unaffected by emigration, have depreciated in value from 40 to 50 per cent, and that the failure of the Barings disclosed the fact that the reserves of the moneyed institutions of the world were altogether insufficient to sustain the present fabric of business and credit. Every moneyed institution

in the world since that failure has been struggling to buy gold to increase its reserves and avoid bankruptcy. If no other means could be devised to stop contraction, furnish more money, revive business, and produce prosperity, it might be necessary to test the question whether Europe or the United States would first be forced into bankruptcy in a contest to accumulate gold.

Why should we want gold scarce in Europe? If it is scarce there it will be dear. Europe is the market where we sell our farm products and buy gold. If gold is scarce and dear where we buy it will take more products to acquire a given amount of it than it would if it were plentiful and cheap, and we must sell our wheat and cotton cheaper than we otherwise would. Would it be a calamity if some of our gold should go to Europe and make money plentiful there if we had silver in its place? Would we not get more gold for our wheat and cotton than we would if gold were scarce?

I differ with the President. I would not attempt to accumulate gold at the enormous sacrifice which our farmers would be compelled to make by being forced to sell their products cheaper than Asiatics or Europeans. The Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Foster, diagnosed the case correctly and pointed out the root of evil with which the commercial world must contend, when he stated that there is not gold enough for use as money. It cannot be shown that if silver were remonetized by free coinage, and added to gold, there would be too much of both metals for use as money. Previous to the demonetization of silver, when gold and silver were practically one money, there was not too much real money in the world. Since that time the aggregate product of gold and silver of the world has been barely sufficient to keep pace with population and business. It was government action which reduced the basis of circulation and of credit to the insufficient supply of gold. That governmental action must be reversed, and silver restored before the productive forces of the civilized world can be vitalized, and put in motion.

While free and unlimited bimetallic coinage is the only remedy for the financial troubles of the commercial world, still, the Treasury Department can do much to advance the cause of honest money. Why not adopt the policy of France? Although France has stopped silver coinage, she does not seek to degrade the silver coin which is circulating among the people. More than half the silver coin in Europe is circulating in France on a par with gold, a full legal tender at the ratio of 15½ to 1. Every obligation of France is payable in silver or gold coin, at the option of the government. France pays her creditors in either gold or silver, which ever is most convenient for the government. Every obligation of the United States is also payable in either gold or silver coin, but the Secretary of the Treasury pays in gold at all hazards, notwithstanding he has plenty of silver at his disposal. The result is that the people of France believe in silver; their confidence in the white metal is not destroyed. But the people of the United States are told by high officials that our standard silver dollar is a 75-cent dollar.

By the agreement of November, 1855, between the nations forming the Latin Union, namely, France, Italy, Greece, Belgium, and Switzerland, each member thereof was bound to redeem its silver coin which might be held by any other of the contracting powers at the expiration of five years, upon receiving one year's notice. None of the contracting powers gave the notice. The gold standard contractors of France insisted that the government should give the notice and require the other members of the union to take their silver and pay gold for it at the rate of \$1.33 per ounce. In 1860, when the time expired, France held of the coin of the other contracting powers over 600,000 francs, which she was at liberty to compel Italy, Greece, Belgium, and Switzerland to take at \$1.33 an ounce. She did not give the notice or require the other members of the union to redeem their silver. Why did she not dispose of her silver? Simply because she was unwilling to degrade silver.

Another person holding an obligation against France must take either gold or silver. By this method the Bank of England is enabled to sell silver "short" without the necessity of filling its

"shorts," because these bills are payable only in India, and if more of them are sold than are required for remittance to that country they must decline in the market. Why should we be subject to this manipulation? There have been no more gold and silver produced since 1850 than were required for monetary purposes. From 1840 to 1850 the annual supply of gold and silver of the world did not exceed \$40,000,000. There was a sudden increase after the discovery of gold in California. In 1851 the world's product was \$107,000,000. The discovery of gold in Australia increased the annual output to nearly \$190,000,000. This wonderful addition to the supply of the precious metals was not a disaster, but a blessing. From that time onward the combined product of the two metals has been constant, with a gradual increase until now the world's annual output of gold and silver has reached about \$250,000,000. The supply of gold and silver, if both metals had been used as money, would have been sufficient to keep pace with the increase of population and business, and would have furnished a basis for circulation and credit that would have continued to meet the demand for an increase of foreign products paying heavy duties; bound the two oceans by several continental railroads, built numerous towns and cities, and converted the vast region which fifty years ago the geographer marked as the Great American Desert into fertile fields and happy homes.

My advice to the Secretary of the Treasury is to do the best he can for the government; to pay the creditors of the government in any money stipulated in the contract, and to cease discriminating in favor of the bondholders against the people. It may be asked, who are the parties interested in degrading silver to a commodity? That question is easily answered. They are two powerful classes who have their principal place of business in London. One class desires cheap silver for the purpose of speculating in Asiatic products. The purchasing power of silver in Asia is about the same that it was before it was demonetized in the western world. Dealers in Asiatic products by cheap silver in the United States, coin it into rupees or other Asiatic money, and sell it at par in exchange for Asiatic products. This powerful class of middlemen have made hundreds of millions by the purchase of silver for the creation of money. A money famine has been augmented, not by the exhaustion of mines, but by the exploiters in money to gratify the avarice of speculators and bondholders.

I differ with the President. I would not attempt to accumulate gold at the enormous sacrifice which our farmers would be compelled to make by being forced to sell their products cheaper than Asiatics or Europeans. The Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Foster, diagnosed the case correctly and pointed out the root of evil with which the commercial world must contend, when he stated that there is not gold enough for use as money. It cannot be shown that if silver were remonetized by free coinage, and added to gold, there would be too much of both metals for use as money. Previous to the demonetization of silver, when gold and silver were practically one money, there was not too much real money in the world. Since that time the aggregate product of gold and silver of the world has been barely sufficient to keep pace with population and business. It was government action which reduced the basis of circulation and of credit to the insufficient supply of gold. That governmental action must be reversed, and silver restored before the productive forces of the civilized world can be vitalized, and put in motion.

The objector says that free coinage in this country would flood the United States with the silver of the world. This assertion is made without the slightest evidence. In the first place, there has been no silver produced to create an oversupply. On the contrary, the production of the two metals has been barely sufficient for monetary purposes. Previous to 1890 the entire product of the silver of the world was annually consumed. The first accumulation of bullion, which occurred after the demonetization of silver was the small amount bought in New York on speculation in anticipation of a rise in price on account of Congressional legislation. That amount has nearly all disappeared.

Only about three or four millions of it are left. Under the present law we buy twice as much silver as we did under the Bland act, but the Asiatic demand has fallen off on account of poor crops in that country and by reason of the manipulation of the middle men by the use of council bills and other devices to depress the price. No silver can return from Asia. The exports from that country exceed the imports, and there is no occasion for it to part with either silver or gold.

The only cheap silver in the world is the three or four millions in this country, in the shape of bullion. Every country in the world, except Mexico, puts more silver in its legal-tender silver money than we do; that is, they put more silver in their silver coin in proportion to gold than is contained in the standard dollar. It is alleged that Europe would send her silver here in case of free coinage. The entire amount of silver coin in Europe does not exceed \$1,100,000,000, and over \$700,000,000 of that amount are in France. No other country of Europe could spare any; they are already deficient in their silver. Germany stopped selling silver fifteen years ago on account of the clamor of the people, and has since kept all the silver she then had. France certainly will not sell her silver, because if she desired to do so she already has the privilege of disposing of over 600,000,000 francs of the coin of Italy, Greece, Belgium, and Switzerland, which she has in her possession. She has the right to compel those countries to take these 600,000,000 francs and pay in gold at the rate of \$1.33 an ounce. But she does not do it. The reason assigned by her financiers for not selling her foreign silver coin is that it would degrade and depreciate the silver, which is largely held by the people, destroy confidence, and produce financial disorder. If then, she would not sell her silver in Europe for \$1.33 an ounce, it is probable that she would ship it to the United States, in case of free coinage, and sell it to us at \$1.2929.

When silver went to \$1.21 an ounce, it was the boast of the financial manager of India that he sold council bills several weeks in advance and broke the market for silver. By this method the Bank of England is enabled to sell silver "short" without the necessity of filling its

statute book which makes it unlawful to attempt it. The country must know sooner or later that every treasury note that is issued is liable to be redeemed in silver. The Treasury Department has had it in its power to refuse to use the white metal as money in the payment of the national debt. It cannot refuse to pay out silver in redemption, because it will be impossible under existing statutes to obtain sufficient gold with which to redeem these treasury notes. In this situation, is it not better to meet the question squarely? Open the mints to free coinage; make silver equal to gold. It is impossible to get too much silver.

The discovery and development of silver mines at the critical time when the yield of gold was declining rejoiced the hearts of the American people and held out to them the promise of continued prosperity.

The finance committee of the Senate at the last session reported in favor of an increase of the circulating medium to the extent of over \$200,000,000 by the issuance of 2 per cent bonds to be taken up by the banks dollar for dollar. They declared that we needed that much additional to our circulating medium. The law of 1890, requiring the purchase of four and a half million ounces of silver billion per month, was then in force. This proposed increase of \$200,000,000 was in addition to the silver purchases now required by law. Every person acquainted with the circumstances knows that it would take years to obtain two hundred millions of silver in addition to our present purchases.

Silvers had been used as money from prehistoric times. It was the money of the Constitution and laws of the United States. Europe was flooded with literature to show that it was a more reliable, easier, and better money metal than gold. A generation of hardy pioneers had expended their energies and exhausted their fortunes in the discovery and development of silver mines which were found in every State and territory of the United States. The money kings of the world had maintained the circulating medium be maintained? Shall prices continue to decline and money advance in value, or shall we reverse our steps, rehabilitate silver, endow it with all the attributes which it possessed before it was demonetized, place it alongside of gold, double the basis of circulation and credit, and relieve this generation of the evil effects of a money famine?

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mine which makes it unlawful to attempt it. The country must know sooner or later that every treasury note that is issued is liable to be redeemed in silver. The Treasury Department has had it in its power to refuse to use the white metal as money in the payment of the national debt. It cannot refuse to pay out silver in redemption, because it will be impossible under existing statutes to obtain sufficient gold with which to redeem these treasury notes. In this situation, is it not better to meet the question squarely? Open the mints to free coinage; make silver equal to gold. It is impossible to get too much silver.

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The publishers of this paper have given a bond in the sum of \$5,000 to the President of the Farmers and Laborers Union of America that they will faithfully carry out all subscriptions and other contracts.

The following is the resolution unanimously adopted at the annual meeting in St. Louis:

Whereas, The NATIONAL ECONOMIST, our adopted official national organ, has so boldly and fearlessly advocated our cause and defended our principles; therefore,

We heartily approve of the cause it has pursued and recommend that every member of the Order should subscribe and read the paper as one of the best means of education in the way of industrial freedom.

Reaffirmed at Ocala as follows:

Resolved, That this State Council reinforce The NATIONAL ECONOMIST and the action of Brother C. W. Macine and his associates in said paper, and will do all we can to urge them onward in the good work of education.

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N. R. P. A.

NOTICE.

To ALL SECRETARIES:

Please send names and post-office addresses of all German-reading people in your community, that we may send them sample copies of German Alliance paper and other Alliance literature. The NATIONAL ECONOMIST, 239 North Capitol street, Washington, D.C.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the great conference of producers to be held February 22, 1892, will meet in the city of St. Louis, instead of Washington, D.C., as previously announced;

BEN TERRELL,

Chairman of Committee.

THE ECONOMIST will not run any advertisement for business concerns that are fraudulent or in any way unworthy of patronage, if it is consonant with the fact. Sometimes it may be imposed upon, but due caution is always taken, and it can not be imposed upon for long at a time. Subscribers will do well to consider the merits of those who advertise in the columns of THE ECONOMIST.

The article from the pen of J. M. Joseph, president of Iowa State Alliance, upon the coming February meeting, which appears in another column, is commended to the reader's special attention as being in strict harmony with the expression of the State presidents at their recent meeting.

It is very gratifying indeed to note the large number of ten cent trial subscribers that are now renewing for the year. It is a common thing for whole clubs to renew, and by far the greater portion, if the present ratio keeps up, will renew and become permanent subscribers.

WHEN the News and Courier calls Hon. S. B. Alexander, of North Carolina, a crank, it simply discloses

its ignorance. Brother Alexander is acknowledged by all who know him to be one of the ablest, most conservative and intelligent members of the Order, and a careful, cool, level-headed man under all circumstances. If the editor of this paper should happen to run against Brother Alexander in debate he might change his mind as to his being a crank.

THE accumulating evidence of "prosperity within our borders" was re-enforced last week by the addition of 396 recorded failures. Just how much of this sort of evidence is necessary to establish prosperity among the people is at present unknown.

THE ECONOMIST has received a long and strong set of resolutions from Jefferson county Alliance of Georgia, signed by B. S. Kiswell, president, and J. L. Rains, secretary, endorsing the Hon. Thomas Watson for his course in Congress.

SENATOR TELLER has introduced a bill appropriating \$15,000 with which to buy reindeer and domesticate them in Alaska and its islands, and he purposes to push it to enactment. Reindeer cost \$10 each. Their skins are useful as robes, gloves and clothing, their milk and flesh as food. The Senator thinks that for commercial as well as humane reasons, the government should undertake to stock our Arctic Territory with them.

THE Charleston (S. C.) News and Courier has kindly consented to the advent of a third-party, and furnishes not only the platform, but the candidates. It ignores the fact however that the third party was organized nearly one year ago, with a platform and complete party machinery. Doubts this journal will be better posted before the campaign of 1892 is over.

DURING the recent squabble between the Ohio and Mississippi and Baltimore and Ohio railroads, it was disclosed that the English capitalists held \$16,500,000 of the stock in the Ohio and Mississippi road. It would be a surprise to most people if the exact amount of foreign capital in this country could be ascertained.

THE following letter, written by Senator Plumb, is said to be authentic. It discloses the fact that his contest with reform in his own State last fall enabled him to discover the trend of public thought, and estimate to some extent the power of the reform movement. While Senator Plumb was erratic and could not brave the party lash, yet this letter doubtless expresses his honest convictions after a careful examination of the situation. This is said to be among his last, correspondence, and was written to an editor friend on the financial outlook:

There is abundant evidence that this question is coming to the front in a national way. Men who for the past fifteen

years have been treating with contempt all the propositions that I have made in that direction, are now seeking me out to say that I have been right, and that they will co-operate in the future. In fact, the feeling is very strong to shift the issue from tariff to the currency. Something will happen one of these days which will open the eyes of a good many people, and when it does happen you will be in a condition to take a large part of the credit. Before this Congress is over, in my judgment, you will find a large majority of the Republicans, perhaps all of them, voting for a much more comprehensive measure in the direction of enlarging the currency than has ever yet been proposed. The seed sown is bringing forth fruit.

SENATOR KYLE introduced the following bill, which has attracted considerable attention:

Section 1. That all past and present issues of gold, silver and paper money made, and all money or coinages authorized to be made by authority of Congress shall be legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private, of future contract, all stipulations or specifications of coin, coinages, or money to the contrary notwithstanding; tender of subsidiary silver coin to be limited to twenty dollars, and of minor coins to five dollars.

Sec. 2. That all acts and parts of acts in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

If this should become a law, gold mortgages and gold interest would lose their power to trouble and oppress.

RESOLUTIONS passed by Erath county Texas, Farmers Alliance:

Resolved, That the Alliance in regular session assembled recommend that our membership vote for no one for the United States Senate who does not favor the Alliance demands.

Resolved, that we recognize an efficient and perfect alien land law that shall protect the homes of our people from the soulless corporations and avaricious greed of foreign capital as being indispensable necessary for the maintenance and perpetuation of American freedom.

CONGRESSMAN WATSON, of Georgia, has introduced the following:

A bill to prevent the payment in advance by the Secretary of the Treasury of interest on bonds.

SECTION 1. That from and after the passage of this act it shall not be lawful for the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States of America to make to the holders of any bond or bonds of the United States payment of the interest on the same, or any part thereof, before the same is due.

Sec. 2. That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act be and the same are hereby repealed.

This bill is intended to repeal the following joint resolution which passed Congress March 17, 1869:

That the Secretary of the Treasury be authorized to anticipate the payment of interest on the public debt, by a period not exceeding one year, from time to time, either with or without a rebate of interest upon the coupons, as to him may seem expedient; and he is hereby authorized to dispose of any gold in the Treasury of the United States not necessary for the payment of interest of the public debt. Provided, That the obligation to create the sinking fund according to the act of February 25, 1862, shall not be impaired thereby.

There is nothing in the body of the bond that provides for the payment of interest in advance, and but few people understand that this unfair advantage is accorded to bond owners exclusively. The bonds of 1907 draw but 4 per cent interest in the contract, but through the friendship of the Treasury Department secure this interest in advance. The

amount of interest paid in 1879 (at

resumption) was \$105,327,949. The interest on this sum at 8 per cent would be \$8,426,135, or a gratuity of this amount to the bond owners in addition to the regular interest named in the bonds. The interest paid in 1890 was \$36,099,284, which being paid in advance gave the bond owners the use of that amount which was worth not less than \$3,000,000. This bill is intended to put an end to such deception and trickery, and place all forms of indebtedness on the same footing.

It may be interesting, in view of the discussion now going on in regard to Russian Jews, to know how numerous that race is and its distribution through the different countries. The following table was compiled under direction of a German scientific society, which claimed to have

usually correct sources of informa-

tion:

EUROPE.

Belgium 5,000

Bulgaria 24,000

Denmark 4,000

Germany 579,000

France 80,000

Greece 6,000

Great Britain 60,000

Italy 45,000

Luxemburg 850

Netherlands 90,100

Austria 1,005,000

Hungary 641,000

Bosnia 6,000

Portugal 300

Roumania 400,000

Russia 3,236,000

Sweden 3,800

Switzerland 8,800

Serbia 4,400

Spain 6,600

Turkey in Europe 94,600

Total for Europe 6,301,550

ASIA.

Afghanistan 14,000

British India 26,000

Persia 19,000

Russian Asia 40,000

Turkey in Asia 195,000

Total for Asia 394,000

AFRICA.

Abyssinia 145

Egypt 200,000

Algiers 6,000

Morocco 45,000

Tripoli 45,000

Tunis 45,000

Total for Africa 507,500

AMERICA.

British North America 2,500

Dutch Possessions 2,700

Central and South America 50,000

United States 230,000

Total for America 285,000

AUSTRALIA.

Australia 23,500

New Zealand 2,500

Total for Australia and New Zealand 26,000

NEW ZEALAND.

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Total for New Zealand 26,000

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New Zealand 26,000

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

ment for his benefit. The only question has been as to what kind of coin the government would make for the depositor. Under the act of 1837 the silver bullion deposited was coined into standard dollars. Under the act of 1873 the silver bullion deposited could only be coined into trade dollars or formed into bars. Under the act of 1873 the standard dollar was never coined, but it was coined that it should be coined as provided in the act of January 18, 1837, since which time it is believed that the law has required the coining of standard dollars for the benefit of the depositor.

The various provisions of the law relating to this matter are as follows:

"The act of 1873 provides:

"That gold and silver bullion brought to the mint or coined shall be received by the United States for its value, for the benefit of the depositor."

The law was modified by sections 15 and 21 of the act of February 12, 1873. Section 15 of that act omitted the standard dollar from the list of coins and substituted the trade dollar therefor. Section 21 provided:

"That any owner of silver bullion may deposit the same at the mint to be formed into bars, or in terms of dollars of the weight of 42 grains, troy, designated in this act as trade dollars, and no deposit of silver or other coinage shall be received."

This provision continued the right, which had been given to the mint of coined or uncoined bullion to deposit for coining for his benefit, and added thereto the additional privilege to have it formed into bars and stamped by the government for his use.

It is true that the trade dollar was a useless coin designed for export, and a legal tender for nothing. On the 22d of July, 1876, Congress passed a resolution, the second section of which reads as follows:

"Sec. 2. That the trade dollar shall not hereafter be a legal tender, and the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to limit from time to time the coinage thereof to such amount as may seem sufficient to meet the export demand for the same."

The right of the owner of bullion to deposit the same to be formed into bars or coined into trade dollars or the equivalent, also quoted was to be exercised by the mint, which might be dependent to be exerted into trade dollars. No limit or restriction was placed upon the right to deposit silver bullion to be formed into bars for the benefit of the depositor.

This was the state of the law when the act of February 12, 1873, was passed. The title of that act is sufficient as defining a change of policy with regard to silver coinage. It is as follows:

"An act to authorize the coining of the standard silver dollar, and to restore its legal tender character."

This act provides:

"That there shall be coined, at the several mints of the United States, silver dollars of the weight of 42½ grains troy of standard silver, as provided in the act of January 18, 1837, on which shall be the devices and inscriptions provided by said act; and that it be coined into standard dollars, and which were expressly provided for in the act of 1873. That act also gave the right to the depositor of silver bullion as authorized by the act of 1873, which it has coined into standard dollars.

Mark the language:

"There shall be coined at the several mints of the United States, silver dollars . . . as provided in the act of January 18, 1837."

The question is, how were silver dollars coined under the act of 1873?

The act of 1873, section 15 of the act, declares that they shall be coined for the benefit of the depositor. It was unnecessary to provide in the act of 1873 for the deposit of silver bullion at the mint to be manipulated, either formed into bars or trade dollars, for the benefit of the depositor. That was already the law. But it required the restoration of the silver dollar as a coin of the United States, and that it be coined into standard dollars, which were expressly provided for in the act of 1873. That act also gave the right to the depositor of silver bullion as authorized by the act of 1873, which it has coined into standard dollars.

We also find the following provision in the act of 1873:

"And the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to purchase from time to time silver bullion, at the market price thereof, not less than \$2,000,000 worth per month, or more than \$4,000,000 worth per month, and cause the same to be coined monthly, as fast as so purchased, into such dollars."

It appears to have been supposed that the purchase provided for in the foregoing provision was the only means of procuring silver bullion for coinage, and the execution was sustained by the language of the act. The requirement that the silver bullion should be coined at the mint by the proper officers for the benefit of the depositor is unequivocal and positive, and is not qualified by anything that follows.

The provision above quoted authorizes, in addition to the coining of silver dollar as may be demanded, the coining of bullion as coinage. Whatever may have been the reason for the additional purchase of bullion for coinage is immaterial so long as the act requiring bullion deposited to be coined for the benefit of the depositor is plain and unequivocal.

But it may be fairly assumed that in view of the very small amount of payments made by the United States after the passage of the act of 1873, the United States desired to accumulate coin. Besides, the silver dollar was worth a premium of over 3 per cent while the act of 1837 remained in force, because it contained more silver in proportion to gold than European coinage, our ratio being 16 to 15, and the United States ratio 15½ to 1.

But whatever may have been the reason of the provision for the purchase of bullion for coinage did not in any way interfere with the plain language of the law which restored the standard silver dollar and commanded its coining as provided in the act of 1837.

Under the repealing clause of the act of July 14, 1870, section 15 of the act of 1873, which provided:

"That so much of the act of February 12, 1873, entitled 'An act to authorize the coining of the standard silver dollar, and to restore its legal tender character,' as requires the monthly purchase and coining of the same into silver dollars of not less than \$2,000,000 nor more than \$4,000,000 worth of silver bullion, is hereby repealed."

It will be observed that this act deals only with the purchase of bullion for coinage, and has nothing to do with the deposit of bullion in private banks to be manipulated by the government into bars or into coin, which right was fully recognized and declared in the act of 1873.

If it should be suggested that the Treasury Department has not recognized the act of 1873 as a full restoration of the silver dollar and the right of the depositor to have silver bullion coined as provided in the act of 1837, it may be said in reply that the Treasury Department has been in favor of the single coin standard and opposed to the execution of any law recognizing the legal-tender money.

Consequently, it is urged to the consideration of the House of Representatives that it would be wise to amend the Bland-Allison act of 1873 so as to provide for the coining of standard silver dollars, and to restore its legal tender character. The two houses of Congress, fifteen days before the passage of the Bland act, passed hereto by the act entitled 'An act to strengthen the public credit,' approved March 18, 1873, it was provided and declared that the faith of the United States was thereby solemnly pledged to the payment in coin, or its equivalent, of all the interest bearing obligations of the United States, except in cases where the law authorizing the issue of such obligations had expressly provided the same to be paid in lawful money or other currency than gold and silver; and

The Speaker pro tempore. This resolution will be referred to the committee on ways and means.

Ralph K. Nichols of North Yakima, Wash., to register of the land office at North Yakima, Wash., vice Ira M. Krutz, to be removed.

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate January 12, 1892.

David S. K. Buick of Roseburg, Oregon, to be confirmed to the committee on Indian affairs to be consul of the United States at Anchorage, Alaska.

Samuel C. Braida of New Jersey, to be consul of the United States at San Juan Del Norte.

William B. Hess of Indiana, to be consul-general of the United States at Constantinople.

William D. McCoy of Ind., "polis, Ind., to be minister resident and consul-general of the United States to Liberia.

notes of national bank hereinafter referred to, and State revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government economically and fairly administered.

6. We demand the most rigid, honest, and just State and national governmental control and supervision of the means of public communication and transportation, and if this control and supervision does not remove the abuses now existing, we demand the government ownership of such means of communication.

7. We demand that the Congress of the United States submit an amendment to the Constitution providing for the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people of each State.

By Mr. Watson. A resolution directing the judiciary committee to inquire into the charter, the wages, and expenses of the Bureau of Internal Revenue on the subject of the liquor traffic.

The Speaker pro tempore. This resolution will be referred to the committee on rules.

Mr. Harter, Ohio, submitted the following resolution, which was referred to the committee on ways and means:

MONDAY, January 11, 1892

The House met at 12 o'clock m., and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore.

Prayer by the chaplain, Rev. W. H. Milburn, D. D. The journal of the proceedings of Thursday, January 10, was read and approved.

Mr. McRae. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution hereinafter adopted allowing the introduction and reference of bills be extended to today, and that the call of the States be now proceeded with.

The Speaker pro tempore. The gentleman from Arkansas [Mr. McRae] has moved the motion to extend the resolution hereinafter adopted for the introduction of bills, resolutions, etc., to be extended to today, being a number of gentlemen who were unable to present their bills when the call of the States occurred the other day.

Mr. Watson. As the resolution presents a purely legal question, I move its reference to the committee on ways and means.

Mr. Harter. At the present time the resolution involves a purely legal question.

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revenue marine service to the Navy Department, and the necessity of having swift cruisers on the Pacific coast to prevent the smuggling of opium and China men into the United States.

The bill passed with correction made and explained in detail by Mr. Dolph (Oregon) of the substitution of \$325,000, instead of \$225,000.

Mr. Cameron, Pa. I move that the Senate proceed to the consideration of executive business.

The motion was agreed to, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of executive business. After five minutes spent in executive session, the doors were reopened, and at 2 o'clock and 15 minutes p. m. the Senate adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, January 13, 1892, at 12 o'clock meridian.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, January 12, 1892.

The House met at 12 o'clock m. Prayer by the chaplain, Rev. W.H. Milburn, D.D.

The journal of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. E. B. Taylor, Ohio, from committee of judiciary, reported a bill favorably, fixing terms of circuit and district courts in northern Iowa. Passed.

Mr. Manderson, Tenn., introduced a bill similar to one reported in Senate by Manderson, for printing and distribution of public documents. Referred to committee on printing.

The House, at 12 o'clock and 20 minutes p. m., adjourned.

The People's Tribune (Prescott, Ark.) says:

The government takes an interest in those classes which take an interest in the government. The lesson of the old lark and the farmer is as applicable to politics as anything else, yet the bosses tell us that the farmers must stay out of politics. "If the Alliance goes into politics, the order will break to pieces," is the admonition of the rascals who fear the honest farmers in politics, and who desire nothing on earth more than that the Alliance should break to pieces. If the farmer desires his interests looked after by this government, he must be the factor in the government to look after that interest, and not trust to lawyers, bankers, merchants, etc., for experience has taught that they look after themselves.

The News and Standard (Walterboro, S.C.) says:

Be persistent. Cling with tenacity to the principle of the cause of reform, economy and justice. Let past achievements stimulate and incite you to present activity and aggressiveness. And rest assured that success, grand and glorious, will ultimately reward us all for the parts we played in bringing it about.

The Journal of the Knights of Labor (Philadelphia, Pa.) says:

It was an English Tory paper that prescribed machine guns as remedy for Irish discontent. An American capitalistic paper prescribed "Gatling guns, with brave men behind them," as a cure for labor troubles. There is consistency here at any rate. The scoundrels for the same remedy for the same disease.

The casting out of the devil of disease was once a sign of authority.

Now we take a little more time about it and cast out devils by thousands—we do it by knowledge.

Is not a man who is taken possession of by the germ of consumption possessed of a devil?

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The Arkansas Farmer (Little Rock) says:

Farmers, you have always been conservative and you are expected to move along in the well and smoothly worn groove of conservatism all your lives. It won't do for you to get out of that old rut. Every other class of citizens may get as wild as March hares, make all sorts of inroads on the old beaten track and frolic, and waltz, and dance all over your conservative platform, but don't mind that, you must be conservative—you must not complain. These little innovations of corporations, manufacturers, speculators, bankers and professional men may look a little strange, and seem to trench on your rights, but don't mind that, they are merely evidences of business progress and the exuberance of young business enterprises, anxiety to make money. You must be conservative. What if they do speculate a little, buy and sell a thousand bales of cotton for every one that is raised and in the swim to take yours in, for less than it cost you to make it, don't mind that, you should be conservative, and smile, at the fun the boys are having. What if you do pay three times as much for milk buckets as you ought, you know the young industries must be helped along, must be protected; you must be conservative. What if things have changed around so that your neighbor, the banker, can draw no percent interest on what he owes, and the government pays him 4 per cent on what he owns, and no taxes allowed; you must not grumble, that's banking; you know you must be conservative. What if it takes three bushels of corn to pay freight on one to the seaboard, that's all right, the transportation company must be maintained, if it takes that to do it; you must not complain, or capital will leave the country, you know, you must be conservative. What if you can't make enough on your farm to pay expenses, though you work harder and live closer than you ever did before? What if, you are yearly falling behind a little, it is a consolation that you have helped the middleman, the merchant and railroads—"it is better to give than receive," the Scriptures say; you should rejoice and be conservative. What if half a dozen railroad men can do to the people what Congress dare not do, and can spit in the face of Uncle Sam, whenever it suits them, you need not raise any row about it, they are bully fellows, and are very necessary to the country, and if not allowed to do as they please they'll quit the country. Don't fret but be conservative, and next election vote the straight ticket. That's the way to keep conservative.

The Rector Star (Rector, Ark.) says:

This is an English Tory paper that prescribed machine guns as remedy for Irish discontent. An American capitalistic paper prescribed "Gatling guns, with brave men behind them," as a cure for labor troubles. There is consistency here at any rate. The scoundrels for the same remedy for the same disease.

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THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

time. It takes courage to be a Democrat in New England." "We have stood by you," continued Mr. McKinney, "and we will not desert you in the future. You might as well make up your minds to one thing, however. If a free silver bill is passed by this Congress it means not only the loss of many Democrats in the North, New York especially. The next Congress will then be Republican, a Republican President will have been elected, and you will have a force bill passed here that will put the South back twenty years, if, indeed, it does not cause a revolution. Gentlemen, you have got to take your choice. It is either to be no silver, or you must take the consequences, and the consequences will be a force bill as sure as we are sitting here."

This open threat is but a cloak to cover a more serious menace to Democratic success, viz., the withholding of funds by the eastern capitalists to run the campaign of 1892. To provide the necessary means to make the coming Presidential campaign is now acknowledged to be the winter of Democratic discontent. The East demands the retention of the "dear dollar" that it may continue to levy oppressive tribute from the farmers and business men of the South and West. To this demand the earnest representatives of the people assent, but the politicians seem willing to consent. This willingness is seen in the following statements of Mr. Springer, now leader of the Democratic side of the House, and Senator Carlisle. Mr. Springer said:

I am a bi-metallist, and as such I can not support any policy which would regulate silver to the rear or eliminate it from political discussion. On the contrary, I would make it a great national and international question. The House now is Democratic by a large majority. The Senate is Republican and the President is a Republican. It would be next to impossible for both houses of this Congress to agree upon a silver bill of any kind, but even if an agreement should be reached between the two houses securing free coinage, or making more liberal provisions in that direction, the President stands ready to interpose his veto. Hence no legislation upon this subject, however desirable it may be, can be sustained during this Congress. This situation carries us, then, to March 4, 1893, when the present Congress expires by limitation of law. The next Congress, which will be elected in November next, will not assemble in regular session until the first Monday in December, 1893. This is the earliest time at which it is possible to enter upon the consideration of measures which may thereafter be enacted into law with reference to the coinage of silver. Congress could, during this session pass an act authorizing the assembling of an international monetary congress, which would have for its object, and whose duty it would be to formulate, subject to the approval of the countries sending representatives thereto, a uniform monetary system, and to fix the relations which gold and silver shall bear to each other, and the nomenclature and values of all coins hereafter to be issued. This Congress could be held at Chicago in 1893.

LET IT BE DONE.

CONGRESSMAN LIVINGSTON has introduced a resolution asking for the appointment of a committee of seven to investigate and report on the following:

Whereas, There is a widespread demand for financial reform, and this demand is being intensified daily by the depressed and poorly compensated producers and laborers of this country; therefore, be it.

Resolved, That a special committee of seven be appointed by the Speaker, to report as early as practicable—

1. The amount of national bank notes outstanding, the amount based upon United States bonds and United States currency, also, the amount of United States bonds held by national banks as basis for circulation, and the reason for their not being used for that purpose, together with the contraction of the volume of national bank currency, the rate of interest charged by national banks and the profits of the system since its inauguration.

If a monetary conference can agree upon some plan which would receive the approval of the countries interested, the whole question may be satisfactorily settled. I do not think this agitation which is going on now is doing any good, but that it is doing harm all the time, whereas the other thing might bring about a satisfactory result. But I am in favor, and have been for a long time, of a conference between the principal commercial countries of the world, with a view to establishing a common ratio, and restoring the use of silver as one of the

money metals. I believe in the use of both gold and silver. And, if the conditions were reversed, and gold were at a discount as compared with silver, I would be in favor of such measures as would restore them to a parity. I think that the measure, if properly framed, will pass both houses of Congress, although, in my opinion, what are known as the ultra free coinage men would oppose it. I do not think it is good policy for the Democratic party to adopt a free coinage platform, for the very obvious reason that there is a division in the party itself upon that question. In fact, it is a policy which ought not to be adopted without the gravest consideration. I do not consider that the silver question has as yet received adequate consideration from the people of the country. I think that the people generally have given it a very superficial examination, and have come to their conclusions largely upon what they supposed to be a necessity for a larger volume of circulation, without much regard to the real merits of this particular proposition.

The statements of these two gentlemen, no doubt, reflects the sentiments of the machine politicians and political bosses of the Democratic party, and is almost identical with the position taken by the Republican party in the last Congress. They show that the Democratic party has just reached the old camping ground occupied by the Republican party four years ago and are making the attempt to deceive the people again with that old, gauzy, threadbare subterfuge of an international monetary commission. This method of hoodwinking and deception has worked smoothly in the past, but will hardly answer in these days of Alliance information. Those members of Congress who place party success above the necessities of the people and barter away their rights for political assistance will find their time fully occupied in the coming campaign explaining the causes which led to such action. Such sentiments from Senator Carlisle will be a surprise to none who are acquainted with his past record, but there are those who will be both surprised and grieved at the surrender made by Mr. Springer.

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species of currency that has been used as a part of the circulating medium since the year 1865; the amount of currency now in the United States; its kind and where located; and how distributed by States.

3. The amount of currency in kinds held by the United States Treasury and by national banks as reserves, and also

the probable amount held by other banks for the same purpose.

4. The volume of business transacted by the United States during the year 1890, with the amounts based respectively

whether the railroads or the people control the government seems to be, by such decisions as this and a recent one in Michigan, rapidly approaching a solution:

There is the most intense excitement throughout the Red river valley over the order just issued by the Great Northern railway company warning farmers to vacate lands belonging to the company by December 15. The farms of the Red river valley have long been in litigation, and recently a decision adverse to the settlers was rendered by the Supreme Court, but it was generally understood that a compromise would be reached by which the railway could secure indemnity lands in some other quarter. The holders of the property, many of whom have been in possession of it for years, declare that they will not leave it alive. There is really grave danger of bloodshed unless the railway recedes from its position.

The notice is issued over the signature of M. D. Grover, general solicitor of the road. Evictions are only directed against owners of odd-numbered sections within the twenty-mile indemnity land grant limit. The railway claims include the richest portion of the Red river valley lands that have been duly patented by the government. A meeting of the property

holders

interested will be held at Grand Forks, December 12. Attorneys assert

that the railroad company has no claim

to the lands filed upon by settlers prior

to 1877. It seems that the claim is based

upon the old land grant of 1857, when

Dakota was a part of the territory of

Minnesota, which granted every alternate

section of land to aid in the construction

of the railroad. When Minnesota was

admitted into the Union in 1858, and the

boundary between Minnesota and Da-

kota was established, the country along

the Red river was still an unknown wil-

derness and remained so for many years.

Up to December 22, 1890, it was taken

for granted by the land department of

the United States government, by the

people who settled that country, and also

by the railroad company, that the land

grant did not extend west of the Red

river. On that date, however, there was

rendered in the Supreme Court of the

United States a decision by Justice L. Q.

C. Lamar in the now famous case of the

St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba rail-

way company against Ransom Phelps,

wherein occurred a dictum, not really

necessary to the disposal of the case in

hand, but which, if carried out to its logical conclusion, could have no other effect

than to establish and confirm the title of

the railway company to about sixty

thousand acres of land along the left bank

of the Red river, now worth from \$20 to

\$30 an acre. The decision was as great a

surprise to the railway company as it was

to the settlers themselves, many of whom

had resided on the land for twenty years,

and all of whom held patents under the

great seal and signed by successive Presi-

dents of the United States from Grant to

Harrison. The Red river valley settlers

who settled that country when it was new

have built it up until it is known as the

richest country in the northwest, and

now they will be compelled to vacate

this fine country and lose all their im-

provements that has cost them years of

hard labor.

Our government officials in many of their reports endeavor to exhibit their knowledge at the expense of much discomfort to the general public. An example of this is found in the report of the Director of the

Mint, where he states the amount of silver in "kilos." It is safe to say that not one person in a thousand knows what a "kilo" is, and because of this must have recourse to an encyclopaedia in order to intelligently analyze the statement. If the Ameri-

cans people pay for these documents they should insist in their being published in their own language.

RED RIVER LANDS.

The following, taken from the Honest Dollar (Clark, South Dakota), seems to establish the fact that the highest court in the nation will go out of its regular course to serve the rail-road companies. The question as to

ECONOMIST EDUCATIONAL EXERCISES.

Copyright, 1892, by The National Economist Publishing Company, Washington, D. C.

A series of instructive lessons for use in Alliances, debating societies, lyceums, and to disseminate a correct understanding of the economic questions of the day.

The series will consist of forty exercises, and will be published in THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST during the year 1892, ten lessons each quarter.

Lodges or societies which meet only once or twice a month should at once open a voluntary class that will agree to have weekly meetings for the purpose of conducting this educational work.

The exercises will be published about two weeks ahead of the date on which they are intended to be used, in order that all may have time to get them and study them well.

LESSON No. 2.—To be used during the second week in February.

THE RICHEST MAN IN THE WORLD.

QUESTIONS.

Who is he?

How did he get his money?

How much of it has he produced or earned by hard labor?

As we are the richest nation in the world by several billions, it is natural and fitting that we should possess the richest man.

The exact value of Mr. Rockefellers estate is probably unknown even to himself. It is variously estimated by conflicting authorities at \$200,000,000, at \$250,000,000, and even as high as \$300,000,000. According to the best authority it must be at least \$200,000,000, and those are the figures we shall use in our computations.

It is said that Cornelius Vanderbilt, who inherited \$5,000,000 from his grandfather in 1877, has already trebled the amount in 1891. At the same rate of increase, \$200,000,000 will become \$600,000,000 in 1905. Before 1920 the \$600,000,000 will have become \$1,800,000,000, and the billionnaire will be among us.

If the same conditions continue, in much less than thirty years our one richest man may be able to pay the present national debt.

In considering such enormous sums of money we lose our sense of its value. We fail to realize its power.

BLACKBOARD EXERCISE.

1. Estate, \$200,000,000.

2. Income, \$1,000,000 per month.

He is four times as rich as the Queen of England. He can hire an army or build a city.

Possible value of estate in 1920, \$1,800,000,000.

PROBLEMS.

What may be done with his income of \$12,000,000 per year.

1. How many men can he hire, paying each man a salary of \$1,000 each? How many, paying the wages usually received by farm hands in your neighborhood?

2. The Queen of England receives \$3,000,000 per year. How many queens could he pay?

3. The President of the United States receives a salary of \$50,000 per year. If he were in need of presidents, how many could he hire and pay with his income?

4. How many 30-acre farms could he buy at \$50 per acre?

5. If he should use his income for twenty years in buying farms, how many would he own at the end of that time?

6. How many acres of land could he buy at \$50 per acre?

SUGGESTIONS.

1. Do not fail to call attention to the vast difference in resources between the thirteen undeveloped colonies and the present United States.

2. Call particular attention to the fact that the accumulated wealth, divided by the population, gives one thousand dollars each for every man,

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

9. How many houses could he build with it at \$1,000 each?

10. How many people would this city contain (11,950 houses x 5, the average number in a household, 59,750 people)?

11. Should he continue to expend his income in building for the next twenty years, how many homes would he own?

12. What would be the population of his city?

2.

What may be done with his principal, \$200,000,000.

1. How many acres of land can he buy at \$50 per acre? How many 80-acre farms?

2. How many townships? How many counties?

3. How many grocery stores could he stock at \$5,000 each?

4. How many dry goods stores at \$10,000 each?

5. How many drug stores at \$10,000 each? (Continue these problems at pleasure. Their use is to give an idea of the power of wealth.)

SUGGEST

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

THE FEBRUARY MEETING.
Views of Noted Men on the Objects and Purposes of the Meeting and the Work to be Done.

AHRA MANRING, PRESIDENT WASHINGTON STATE ALLIANCE.

Yours of December 30 at hand, asking my views of the importance of our February meeting, etc., The first step taken should be to secure perfect harmony in the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union as to the steps to be taken to secure our rights and demands, and we should all be prepared to make reasonable concessions to others in order to secure perfect harmony and united action that we may secure success. In my opinion there never has been a meeting called since the formation of this government that meant more to the American people than does the February meeting, from the simple fact that our views do not harmonize as to the steps to be taken in order to secure our demands. Many good brothers believe that all we demand can be secured through the old parties, while multiplied thousands believe with me that we will never succeed outside of independent action. I had as soon apply to the devil to purchase real estate in the New Jerusalem and expect an unclouded title to the same as to expect relief from the two old parties that belong body, soul and boots to the money power, and I have no faith in the education of the Alliance man that would prefer one old party to the other, let us read the Bankers Magazine, and learn something from them if we have failed to learn from observation and history magazine. We will nominate the head of the ticket for both parties and then let the fool grangers fight over them. Oh! what consolation and this is all we are offered.

Then, what should the February meeting do? Form a new party? No; that would do violence to the best judgment and feelings of thousands of our brotherhood all over the land, North, South East and West. Each man select good men of his party and vote for them? No; that would not better the matter, for each would be controlled by his party caucus, and if he bolted he would be sneered at by his party and his influence destroyed, for no man fares worse than a so-called traitor to his party. Here is what I would suggest and advise, re-affirm our demands with as few changes as possible, especially the sub-treasury and land loan feature, for without these our reform is a failure, for they destroy the power of money to oppress (the master monopoly of all), and then pass resolutions, not as a sounding brass and tinkling cymbal, but with a voice loud enough to reach the ear of the doomed and damned, as well as the arched mansions of eternal peace. That we will support the party and the party only that is now or may hereafter be organized that will adopt our demands as their platform without the crossing of (t) or dotting of (i), and by so doing will convince the world that we make our demands in a strictly non-partisan spirit, and are honest in making these demands, otherwise we are not. I think that I speak advisedly when I say that Washington, as well as the entire Pacific slope, believe in independent action, have no faith in the old parties, and less faith in any organization that would expect relief from such a source. A Democratic Alliance man, a Republican Alliance man, or any other Alliance man that would smother our demands if any hostile party is no Ali-

ance man whatever in our estimation, and we would not give a fig for a charter or a pisteron for dues to support any such organization through which to be fooled and deceived.

HON. L. P. FEATHERSTONE, FORREST CITY, ARKANSAS.

In reply to your request as to my views on the coming February meeting, I would say that it is contemplated with more solicitude than any meeting held in the United States for the past quarter of a century, comprising, as it will, representatives from the greatest number of producers ever assembled on the continent. The solicitude is intensified when it is considered that the constituencies represented have acted after a full year of deliberation and patient investigation.

The opinion largely prevails that within reasonable bounds the action of that convention will be enthusiastically endorsed; otherwise why would these constituents send to that conference delegates armed with full authority, only demanding of them some practical plan for the embodying of their demands into law.

The delegates appreciate the responsibilities of the trust, and realize the care, the prudence which they must exercise, and the courage which they need display, for out of this meeting their constituents expect power as well as prayer evolved.

This conference, I believe, will result in something practical. The men who will compose it are of that class who have neither leisure nor money to leave their homes on a cogitating tour. Their thinking has been done. They have prayed and demanded for years of those of their fellow citizens who happened to be in power under this or that political name. They represent a people who have well nigh lost their self respect, humbly petitioning, and who have arisen from their suppliant attitude, and are now standing as free men on their own soil, and determined to go into business on their own account. Cotton at 6 cents and f. o. b. rates the same as they were when we got 15 cents for cotton, debts increased 75 per cent by a decline in our staple, when half the men who make it have not clothes enough to keep them warm, have put our people beyond the point where petitions to politicians will satisfy them.

They have come to believe that the men who have fat salaries and free passes are not in sympathy with them. They believe that they neither know nor care as to their suffering or their relief. They believe that there is no issue between the two great political parties, save office and patronage, that they both foster the conditions which are oppressing all producers. With these facts before us, the purpose of this meeting must be the formulation of a plan by which the great mass of the people can do for themselves that which they have so long prayed their Republican and Democratic leaders to do for them.

The military officer who would hold his army under fire for hours without allowing them either to return the fire or charge would annihilate his army and be cashiered for cowardice.

The producer and the exploiter and speculator are now confronting each other. Sham battles between the exploiter's forces can and will no longer deceive the great army of consumers. Our farmers say let the battle commence, and now.

The plan favored by many of our friends, of submitting our demands to both the Democratic and Republican convention for adoption or rejection with all the expressions of the press advising us in advance, of contemptuous rejection, in no way comforts with my

views as to the dignity of the organization to which we belong. Suppose in some single State or States the "dire distress" of either of the two parties should induce the adoption of our demands, their very minority in their national organization would render them powerless, or at least absolve them from obligation, and entitle us to ridicule only for our folly. As to the Alliance, let it go on with its good work. No more opposition can be arrayed. We do not wish to deceive any one. Public discussion such as will be evolved by a political conflict will strengthen us where we are right, and correct us when we are wrong. A fight for our convictions or a square back-down is all that is left us, with the greatest respect to all our friends.

J. S. BARBEE, SECRETARY CALIFORNIA STATE ALLIANCE.

I have been receiving letters asking what I think of the February meeting, how I stand on the Ocala platform, sub-treasury and People's party questions, and as I have been with the Alliance since its infancy my brethren have a right to know where I stand. First, I regard the meeting of February next as one of the most important conventions or occasions that has commanded the attention of the American people since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and in the history of our noble Order no period has or ever will be met so fraught with importance as the 22d of next February.

On the action of that body hangs the destiny of the nation; on the action of that convention depends the perpetuity, the life or death of the Farmers' Alliance. The action of that body will decide whether we be free men or slaves. Brethren, this meeting will decide the fate and destiny of our free American institutions and liberty. This, then, makes it the most important meeting you and I will live to see.

The obligations and responsibilities of the Alliances, Grange, Knight of Labor and other reform organizations sending delegates to that meeting will indeed be great. They should send none but the "tried and true." Brethren, for God's sake be careful who you elect as delegates to that convention. Don't send men hunting for office. Don't send scheming politicians. You have men among you that you know will be true, that you know can not be bought. Send your best men, send your most capable men, but above all, send honest men. You can find them behind the plow, at the anvil, in the carpenter shop, on the shoemaker's bench, in the humble walks of life as readily, and I believe more so than in the higher professions. The time has come when it will not do for you to make mistakes. "Put none but true and honest men on guard" if you would save the nation.

The terrible responsibilities of the delegates from different organizations will be such as to attract the attention of the whole world. Every eye will be turned to them, and no set of men in the history of our country will be so closely watched as those delegates.

Brethren, you will not only be responsible and accountable to your constituency, but to this entire nation, for in your hands will be its destiny; what you do then will not only tell on you in the time to come, either for weal or woe, but on the orders you represent, and on our country. What you do as a delegate in that meeting determines whether your children, and my children, shall be free men and women or surfs and slaves.

I believe the work to be done at that meeting will be the declaration of a new independence. I believe steps will be taken at that meeting that will in the near future take our government out of the hands of thieves and give it back to the guiders until the polls close in November.

the people. I believe, the work of this convention will be, "equal rights to all," and make it a government of the people, for the people and by the people.

Now, you ask me how all this is to be done. If you send none but honest men for delegates, the work is easy. Stand as I do, squarely and unequivocally on the Ocala platform, the sub-treasury, and last, but not least, independent political action, as our only hope through the "People's party."

Brethren, I have been with the Alliance since it was born; few men have worked harder and sacrificed more than I have, and I am with you "soul, mind and body till after the war. I have been faithful in declaring the whole council of the Alliance from Florida to Oregon. I have preached pure Alliance doctrines wherever I have been; I have preached to the people of the "golden State" for eighteen months, and up to yesterday have charted 520 sub>Alliances. We have 36 county organizations and 29,000 votes for the "People's party." By our next meeting that comes off October 1st, before the election, we shall have the whole State fully organized and the pure white flag of the Alliance will be proudly floating in every nook and corner of our glorious State when there is enough people to form an Alliance, and the Alliance at the head of the "People's party" will sweep the State in November. Since the first day this year up to January 12, 1892, I have chartered from one to six new Alliances every day. We mean business in California, and I would say to my native State (Virginia) and the South throughout, that California will hope to meet you in February, fully equipped for independent political action, holding no allegiance to either of the old parties. You have, in days gone by, known me as an uncompromising Jeffersonian Democrat. You remember when I thought it a crime to "scratch." That was when, to be a Democrat, was unfriendly Democracy. Bossism has passed those days into a never-returning eternity. "The dear old party" is not to-day what it was, then; they have "departed from the faith," and that you may understand me more clearly, let me say I have no confidence in either of the old parties, no hope of relief; both are as corrupt as hades can make them. I wake up in the night singing, "good bye my party, good by." The hope of the nation is with the third or People's party. I am with them, and my last vote with the Democratic party, or the no less corrupt and thieving Republican party, has been cast. World without end.

J. M. LONOON, KASEVILLE, MISSOURI.

Your circular letter of inquiry touching objects, aims and actions of St. Louis convention reached me while I was prostrated with an acute attack of the grip, and has been misplaced. I can not therefore answer the inquiries in detail.

I apprehend that said meeting has for its prime purpose a full, free and frank discussion of our demands by all of the industrial organizations of the country, to be there represented by accredited delegates, to the end that a plan may be evolved for their crystallization into law. Having heretofore reached common ground upon a declaration of principles with substantial unanimity, the work of the convention will necessarily be limited to the invocation of an instrument to place these reforms demanded upon the statute books of the country.

I have no doubt as to what the discussion will be in the matter of this selection. No honest man who is well informed believes that either the Republican or Democratic party policy did now or will at any time in the future, either in political conception or in the halls of legislation, endorse any one of our material demands.

I am in favor of erecting a banner at St. Louis, the legend upon which shall be every one of the St. Louis, Ocala and Indianapolis demands, and giving it broadly to the breeze. Not only that, but I am in favor of naming there the men to uplift and carry it before the people at once. Ayel and in the name of the thousands assembled there and the millions whom they represent, to call upon the industrial voters, and all who sympathize with them in this crusade against the wrong and for the right, to touch elbows in the ranks and follow the guiders until the polls close in November.

INTERVIEWS.

HON. B. H. CLOVER, OF KANSAS.

In reference to his bill offered in the House, January 5, 1892, entitled "A bill to provide for the free coinage of gold and silver and for other purposes," expressed himself as follows:

"It is substantially the same measure as that offered in the Senate December 10, 1891, by Senator Stewart, of Nevada. I have a very pointed object in introducing it this early. It is to call the attention of the House to it and get it before them as soon as practical. It is of supreme importance, and the gravity of the situation demands it. The President in his annual message descants eloquently upon the wonderous prosperity of the nation. Viewed from the standpoint of business and labor circles, I beg leave to radically differ, and I would cite in proof of my position the fact of three thousand more bankruptcies and failures last year than the one previous. Another point he made in his message was, "That the best way to force Europe to a free coinage of silver was to get control of the gold;" and he said this in the face of the knowledge that a short time ago Europe through bonds and like processes took eighty millions of gold out of the United States. These are foolish and damaging statements to be officially subscribed to by our Chief Magistrate, and give good ground for alarm to the business and labor element of the country. Especially so, when we pause to consider that his minister of finance, Mr. Foster, construes the silver law passed during the Fifty-first Congress to mean that he, Foster, must maintain the parity between gold and silver coinage and the methods by which he proposes to do this. If I am correctly informed, he has stated publicly that he would redeem the silver certificates and notes in gold, and when questioned as to his means of obtaining the gold claimed authority to issue an unlimited quantity of bonds for securing said gold. This he probably has a right to do. At any rate the bonds of 1907 have been sold, and applied to other purposes than those defined by original act. This I consider a power too great to be left in the hands of a man who is a lenient descendant of a long line of financial ancestors that have persistently worked in the interest of Wall street and the money trust. In my opinion, he would hesitate at nothing that his masters would command him to perform. My bill would curtail this dangerous power now lodged in the hands of the enemies of good government, put gold and silver on an equal footing, legalize all representatives of these metals now and to be coined, and very materially increase a basis upon which currency might be issued.

HON. W. A. M'KEIGHAN OF NEBRASKA.

246 Delaware avenue, has been in the reform fight since 1872, and no man stands closer to the people of Nebraska, or more identifies in himself and his sentiments their loftiest ideal of a public officer and unselfish champion of justice and right. In his successful campaign for Congress he carried the second district of his State, composed of twenty-five

counties, by nearly 15,000 majority, and has the rare distinction of being the first public advocate for election of Senators by direct vote. On State and national issues Judge McKeighan spoke freely. He said:

"I believe that corporations created by virtue of the laws of a State are created, not for sole benefit of incorporators, but for public good, and that public good demand that these corporations be subject to regulations and control by the people of the State. That schedules of freight rates and passenger rates be prepared for all railway lines within a State, and that these rates be so adjusted as to allow the corporations a fair and equitable compensation for the money value of their different lines and a just return upon the capital invested. I believe that Congress should so simplify and amend the present interstate commerce law that it will have some force in the regulation of interstate commerce, and be made plain enough for the average citizen to understand something of its provisions. I believe that we should demand of Congress the free and unlimited coinage of silver; and all money, whether of gold, silver or paper, shall be full legal tender for all debts, public or private, and that it shall be issued by the government without the intervention of banks. Further, that one of the great needs of the farming, laboring, and mercantile classes is an increase in the volume of the currency, to meet the growing wants of legitimate business interests, and that it is time that the bondholder, the banker, and the mortgage sharks should cease to dictate the financial policy of this country. I believe that the hour is at hand for the producing and laboring classes to demand some share in shaping the financial affairs of the republic, not in the interest of a favored few, but for the common welfare of the millions of toilers who, by their energy and industry, have caused a wilderness to whiten to the harvest, cities to rise like magic, who, with iron bands have bound river to river, sea to sea, and led the world in the grand onward march. Is it too much to hope that by wise and just legislation we may extend and widen our commercial relations so as to bring all the nations under one political system, whose corner-stone shall be justice and to all men equality before the law? I believe in the present demand for relief from the unjust and unequal burdens that are placed on the producing classes by the vicious system of national taxation, whereby the government revenues are raised by taxes levied on what the people consume and not the property they possess, and that taking from the many for the benefit of the few is not taxation but confiscation, and that the wronging from the people more money than is necessary to secure an honest and efficient administration of government powers, is an open violation of individual rights and constitutional law. And that we should enforce a general reduction of the war taxes on all the necessities of life which the poor must purchase, and the retention and increase of taxes on luxuries enjoyed by the wealthy classes.

I believe that the American people can not afford to ignore the claims of the needy veterans who rose in the nation's need and like a solid wall of

manhood, breasted the crimson wave of a mad rebellion. Comrades that stood with me where fell disease or death, that lasts to all eternity, ask to-day, not for a pauper pension, but for the faithful payment of a debt that is past and due and owing by the United States; but I am opposed to the granting of a greater amount of pension to the officer and his widow than is granted to the private soldier and his widow, because we all know the higher official position in the army the less danger the officer incurs. I am opposed to the building of costly monuments to dead soldiers or distinguished citizens until old veterans or their dependents are properly cared for and provided for, and the living are accorded a chance to exist becomingly. A government that will allow its needy defenders to suffer want, their wives to take in washing and their children to work or beg, while it heaps taxes upon its citizens for the benefit of trusts and manufacturers, is not the kind of a government that our fathers established nor that we fought to preserve.

I believe that we stand upon the verge of a political and social revolution, the result of class legislation. That these evils will be removed and these wrongs righted by the peaceful means of the ballot I have no doubt. I believe that the present mode of electing United States Senators is fruitful of corruption, intrigue and bribery, and that the Constitution should be so changed as to permit of their election by direct vote of the people. I believe in the Australian ballot, or some similar system that will permit a man to cast a secret and honest ballot without fear of espionage or discharged. I believe that, on public and other works where necessity or inclination does not secure longer time, eight hours a day is sufficient for anyone to toil.

I want a government strong enough to protect the weak, control the strong and punish crime. A government that will say the alien land holders must go, and drive back the hordes of pauper laborers from our shores and the filthy Chinese. A government that will guarantee to every citizens the right to the possession of enough of God's earth to build a house where wife and child may live, play and love, around the door of a home of their own. Where they can gather in peace about their hearthstone and beneath a roof that is not crushed with the weight of a mortgage, held by some money shark.

PRESIDENT MARION BUTLER, OF NORTH CAROLINA, ON A MODEL LEG-

TURE SYSTEM.

A reporter of THE ECONOMIST saw President Marion Butler, of the North Carolina State Alliance, while he was here last week attending the national meeting of State presidents. Having learned that he had inaugurated in his State a most thorough and effective lecture system, he was asked to tell the whole brotherhood, through THE ECONOMIST, something about his methods, and how they were succeeding. He said that he would rather not go into details, but that, in short, his State lecture system consisted of organizing the various grades of lecturers separately; that there were ninety-six organizations of the sub-lecturers, nine organizations of the county lecturers, and the district lecturers were in one organization; that the latter

two were representatives from the organizations below, while the former were representatives from the sub-lodges. This linked together the whole system, and made it work in unison and harmony, while he himself as State president was in direct communication with the several organizations and every member of them. He was then asked how he managed the spreading of reform literature. He said that this was done through the lecture system; that every lecturer urged the reading of reform papers and looked after the spreading of other reform literature. He said that he was now preparing a circular from which each lodge could make its selections. He was then asked about the business agency of the State. He said that they were managing that under a new plan of their own connected with the lecture system, which was working most satisfactorily. He said to say nothing further about it for publication, but if any State Alliance desires to know its State's methods that he would gladly give them the information. In conclusion, he said that his lecture system was thoroughly organized; that they did nearly all their work through it; that it was the great central ramifying force through which the brotherhood was kept posted and by which the campaign of education was pushed.

HON. G. W. COOPER, OF INDIANA, ON THE UNION PACIFIC AND CENTRAL RAILROADS.

There is no abler or better posted man upon the great railroad issues than the Hon. G. W. Cooper, of Indiana, member of both the Fifty-first and Fifty-second Congresses.

Mr. Cooper, we would like to know something of the Pacific railroad question at present, and as you were on that committee in the last Congress, and earnest and active in monopoly fight, we would appreciate your views on the situation. Mr. Cooper replied:

I have not given the matter much attention since the last Congress, but I see that a bill has been already introduced in the Senate providing for a settlement with the delinquent companies on substantially the same terms as was proposed in the force bill of the last Congress; that is, to extend the time of payment to the Union Pacific for fifty years at 3 per cent, and to the Central Pacific for seventy-five years at 2 per cent. Another method for arriving at a settlement is proposed by the commissioner of railroads in his annual report. He suggests that as Congress is a large, unwieldy and busy body, the most practical way in which to proceed is for Congress to authorize the Secretary of the Interior or the President to appoint a commission to consist of not more than three members, and to thoroughly investigate the subject, * * * and make an early report of their conclusions. And he adds: I have no doubt that the railroad companies, although I have no intimations from any of them upon the subject, would cheerfully meet all the expense such a commission would incur. How does this proposal strike you? On the face of it this would seem to be a very inexpensive and expeditious method of settlement, but

I seriously doubt whether Congress will ever deliver this matter over to any commission. There are some questions involved which can not be solved by mathematical computation. The government is able to pay the expenses of any agencies she might need in dealing with these companies, and Congress will be neither too unwieldy nor too busy to settle the matter when the emergency comes.

Do you not think that this Congress will take any action in the matter?

Of course, I can not say what Congress will do, but I will submit the facts and then your readers can conclude what Congress ought to do. First, take the Union. The actual cost of constructing this road from Omaha to Ogden was \$50,270,958. This money was realized as follows:

First mortgage bonds..... \$27,213,600
Sold at a discount of..... 3,494,999

Actual cash received..... \$23,718,608

Government bonds loaned to the company..... \$27,236,512
Sold at a discount of..... 91,349

Actual cash received..... \$27,145,163
Cash on first mortgage..... 23,718,608

Total cash..... \$50,863,771
Cost of road..... 50,270,958

Amount realized from sales of bonds over and above the actual cost of the road, \$142,813.

Amount of securities taken by the contractors (the Credit Mobilier of America—another name for the directors and stockholders of the Union Pacific) other than the first mortgage and government bonds, are as follows:

Stock..... \$36,765,000
Land grant bonds..... 10,000,000

Income bonds..... 10,000,000
Surplus from sale of bonds..... 56,765,000

Total..... \$56,907,813

Which sum represents the Credit Mobilier, or, in other words, the directors and stockholders of the Union Pacific.

The loan required the capital stock (\$36,765,000) to be paid for in money at par. The language of the act is as follows:

"The said company shall make assessments upon its stockholders of not less than five dollars per share, and at intervals of not exceeding six months from and after the passage of this act, until the par value of all shares subscribed shall be fully paid; and money only shall be receivable for any such assessment, or as an equivalent for any portion of the capital stock hereinbefore authorized."

This stock has, in fact, been paid in road-making at not exceeding thirty cents on the dollar. The actual amount in cash paid in was \$218,000. The same in substance is true of the Central.

Now, this is the situation that confronts us:

The total debt of the Union Pacific road, June 30, 1891, was..... \$178,585,874.05
Capital stock..... 60,868,500.00

Total stock and debt.... \$239,454,374.05

The total debt of the Central Pacific, June 30, '91, was..... \$121,362,546.67
Capital stock..... 68,000,000.00

Total stock and debt.... \$199,362,546.67

It is a matter of common notoriety, I might say of history, that a great part of the original cost of these roads was fraudulent and that the most of the stock was water. It is upon the

basis of all these vast sums together, with interest and charges, this fictitious capitalization, that freight and passenger tariffs are to be levied.

What about the legal-tender act? The bill provides that gold, silver and paper shall be a legal tender for all contracts made, in the future, whether the contract stipulates a gold payment or not. Very few people realize the organized plan now adopted by English and American investors. It has been asserted that in a large number of cases mortgages are being made payable in gold. This is a blow at the free coinage of silver, and a step by way of defense in case that measure passes. At present the silver dollar is depreciated, but why? The administration has blackened the credit of it. Let it remove all the limitations from the silver dollar, place it upon an equal footing with gold, and the two will be worth dollar for dollar in the market. There is no doubt in my mind that Congress has power to make silver a full legal tender in payment of all debts, though specifically payable in gold coin.

Several States have already passed bills relating to the question, but what we want is a national law. In this we are backed up by the entire debtor portion of our citizens. The labor organizations, National Grange, and Farmers Alliance will all sanction the measure.

About the bonds, Mr. Cooper? These bonds are soon to mature; some will be due in 1895. If they are not paid then it will be in the power of the government, and it will be its duty to wipe out that part of the debt which was dishonestly created to wring the water out of the stock, and thus to set these roads down on such a bona-fide basis as will enable them, not only to pay their honest debts, but also to serve the people at reasonable rates. This day of judgment has seemed a long way off, but it is coming, and is almost here, and there are millions of people in this country who are looking forward to it with an interest that is almost personal, and a feeling which will "suffer no guilty man to escape."

SENATOR JAMES H. KYLE, OF SOUTH DAKOTA,
is always courteous. When he explained to us that "this was his busy day, we felt conscious-stricken, but devotion to duty upheld us in tapping the Senator's information bureau with golden result. He has already introduced into the Senate three or four most important bills, and his clear and pointed explanations of them, or the evils they seek to correct, will be intensely interesting to every lover of good government.

What was your purpose in introducing your bill repealing section 3699 of the Revised Statutes?

Simply because the section is either pernicious or useless. Many may object that it does no harm, as the section does not anticipate the interest upon the public debt. If not, then it is useless and should be repealed.

The fact is, it has stood upon the statute books since March 17, 1864. Nobody knows how many times the secretaries have so anticipated this interest. Even now, in case Mr. Foster wishes, he can turn into the pockets of the bondholders \$40,000,000 a year before it is due. This places in their pockets the interest upon the \$40,000,000, which is in the

neighborhood of two or three millions of dollars, practically given away to the administration's pets.

Again, there are many international difficulties in regard to property, arising in consequence of our divorce laws, this would settle. Further, in the enactment of a national law by Congress, the average sentiment of the whole nation, instead of the local State, would be crystallized. At present we have laws both loose and stringent. You are aware of the difficulty in Utah. There are many excellent citizens in that State. They have the property, with all the other requirements for statehood, but the fear is that once a State they would immediately make laws inimical to the best sentiment of our country. Had we a national law, Utah could be admitted without anxiety. Such a law would lose none of the excellent features now upon the statutes of our best States, and at the same time would eliminate all that is undesirable.

Again, with States all standing together on this matter, all disgraceful escapades of contracting parties seeking some gretna green, and of parties seeking divorce, would come to an end. No more farcical trials or court judgments. Thus would be secured to us in our grand country the stability of the marriage relation, the security and happiness of the home, which is the foundation of society and the State.

Do you think Congress will act favorably upon the measure?

I am unable to say, except this, that a number of Senators and Representatives have expressed themselves as heartily favoring the resolution. One thing is certain, if Congress were to listen to the appeals of both individuals and associations interested, many of whom have already written indorsing the measure, it would soon be ready for ratification upon the part of our legislatures.

Alliance Resolutions.

At a recent meeting of Talloferro County Alliance, of Georgia, the following resolutions were adopted, and the secretary was instructed to request publication of same in THE ECONOMIST:

Whereas many of the newspapers of Georgia and elsewhere have engaged in gross slanders and misrepresentations of the Hon. Thos. E. Watson and his position; and whereas we find nothing in his views to condemn, but much to commend, as he stands squarely on the Ocala platform, and respects and respects the people who elected him to Congress; and whereas we fully recognize in the person of Mr. Watson an able and efficient statesman, and a man that has proved true to Jeffersonian Democratic principles and to the expectations of his constituency;

Resolved, That we fully express our unbound and unshaken confidence in his ability and honesty of purpose, and endorse his every position, both at the Grand Council at Indianapolis, and his defiant stand against monopoly, bribery, and corruption in Washington city in defense of the rights of the people against plutocracy and ring rule.

Resolved, That we again repeat our determination to stand squarely on the Ocala platform, and to support no man for office who does not endorse its every demand of "equal rights to all and special privileges to none."

L. A. MOORE, President,

T. L. CHAPMAN, Secretary.

It is very gratifying indeed, to note the large number of ten cent trial subscribers that are now renewing for the year. It is a common thing for whole clubs to renew, and by far the greater portion, if the present ratio keeps up, will renew and become permanent subscribers.

NEWSPAPERS.

An Open Letter from Lodge 253.
To members of the Alliance:

Dear Brothers and Sisters: I send you greeting, with the wish that I could be present in every lodge in the United States, to say to you personally what I wish to say to you in this letter.

Our country is in danger. The more we study into its history, past and present, the more we study the history of other countries and the condition of the people in other countries where wealth rules, the fewer prosper and many suffer, the more clearly this is seen. We are slowly but steadily drifting towards an aristocracy of wealth. If the people do not rally and use every measure to defend themselves, they will soon find that they are bound hand and foot by the chains of poverty, and are helpless in the hands of the few whom they have permitted to obtain possession of the wealth which the people have created.

"It can not well cost less than ten thousand dollars to buy even the white paper on which the newspaper is printed. After this comes heavy payments for rent, for carriers and carts to deliver the paper at the news stands, and for a score of other items.

"Moreover, a new paper, in order to attract public attention, must itself advertise in other daily newspapers and on the bill boards, and the cost of this is very great."

Our country is in danger. What can we do? How can we personally, every man and woman of us, help? We must do something.

We can all help in the educational work. Let us begin with ourselves. We can read and study until we know whereof we speak. Every man and woman who reads carefully and studies thoroughly the articles and statistics furnished by our reform papers, will become an educational power in the land. We can support our own newspapers. I believe we have a duty to perform in this direction. Every reform newspaper is a weapon of defense in the hands of the people for whose best interests it is working.

The prohibitionist takes a temperance paper, the Republican takes a Republican paper, the Democrat takes a Democratic paper, the religious man takes a religious paper. What kind of papers shall we take? Shall we use our money to support papers owned by capitalists and devoted to their interests? This is an important question. On which side shall we cast our money and our influence—with the rich and prosperous, or the poor and oppressed? Shall we weaken our own armor and help to sharpen the weapons used against us? That is what the people are doing who support capitalistic newspapers. It takes a capitalist to own and run a city newspaper; poor men can not do it, the expenses are so great. Alexander D. Noyes says in the Youth's Companion of October 22, 1891:

"Not many months ago two new daily papers were founded in one of our largest cities. Both were backed by men of large capital and both started out with high hopes of success. Within less than six months both had lost so heavily that their owners were forced to give them up. One of them, after spending three hundred and fifty thousand dollars more than it had earned in that time, was sold for less than one-seventh of this sum. In the case of the other, nearly a

quarter of a million dollars was paid out, and the paper was finally sold for the cost value of the presses and type.

"Before a single copy can be printed, the new paper must have the type, the steam printing presses, and usually the machinery for stereotyping each separate page into a single plate. Such an equipment for a modern city daily will cost not less than eighty thousand dollars. A large staff of men must be employed to gather the news and prepare it for publication, to write the editorials, to set the type and print the paper, and finally to solicit the patronage of advertisers and arrange for the paper's sale.

Our local papers are more independent. Their editors are free to express their own views. They seldom call us calamity-howlers, or any of the other pretty names our city friends have invented for us. The most of the local papers will find space in their columns for the Alliance items furnished them.

Friends, let us give our time, our money, and our influence, to our own papers. They need our help and we need theirs. I wish I could meet you all personally, and discuss this matter with you, but as that is impossible, I send you this letter, through our official organ, THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

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Bright Tobacco.

BY T. V. ALLEN, MECKLENBURG, VA.

The County Alliance of Mecklenburg, Va., met in Boydton on the 1st instant with a very full delegation, and from the enthusiasm expressed by the members for the Alliance demands, the Alliance of Mecklenburg is not dead nor dying, as predicted by some after our fall election. Mecklenburg county is in the bright tobacco belt, and the American Tobacco Company has formed a trust on our bright tobacco, and reduced the price 40 to 50 per cent since 1890, and we are now forced to sell our product at about what it cost to produce it.

We believe that we have been wronged, and that our business is ruined, without some help from Congress. We feel that if Congress can pass laws to protect manufacturers from pauper labor that it can and ought to enact some law to protect the product of the farmer from the oppression of greedy and soulless combines and trusts.

I enclose you a resolution passed by the Mecklenburg County Alliance, with request that you publish:

Whereas the production of bright tobacco has been a source of profit to the farmers of thirty-one counties of North Carolina and Virginia, and has given employment to a large number of farm laborers at good wages. And whereas tobacco is, by nature of the soil and climate, the principal money crop of a large territory, and prices were satisfactory until 1890; and whereas the American Tobacco Company was organized in the fall of 1890, and has since been incorporated by the legislature of the State of New Jersey, and formed a trust on bright tobacco; and whereas the American Tobacco Company has placed the ait at each market, and refused to buy from any other buyer, thereby cutting off all competition, and virtually naming the price that they will pay for the farmers' tobacco; and whereas the American Tobacco Company has placed the ait at each market, and refused to buy from any other buyer, thereby cutting off all competition, and virtually naming the price that they will pay for the farmers' tobacco;

There is another important reason why we should leave capitalists to support their own newspapers. They so seldom tell the truth about us, socialists, communists, anarchists, nihilists, and wild-eyed, visionary, blood-thirsty fanatics, whose only purpose according to the city press is to disturb the peace of society. Yet that is the legitimate outcome of constantly reading capitalistic newspapers.

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But some one objects. "They are not so large. They are not so interesting." That is very true, and they never will be so large until we give them a strong financial support. We are now asking reform papers to "make bricks without straw," to compete with capitalists without capital. Reform papers have no millionaires to back them up. They have nothing but the people, and if the people withhold their support, our papers will never be able to do the work they ought to do.

Another objector says: "They have not so many departments. We must have the news!" Fortunately, so far, reform papers have not had much room for murders, elopements, prize fights, scandals, and gossip, which form so large a part of the "news" furnished by the capitalistic press, and it is to be hoped that they never will have. As to legitimate news, give the reform papers a fair chance and see how fast they will improve.

I have done a little work on city papers, enough to catch a glimpse behind the scenes, and I know whereof I speak. The good of the people is the last thing thought of by the editorial force of a capitalistic newspaper.

Resolved 3. That our Senators and Representatives in Congress will enact such laws that one State shall not grant a charter to a corporation by which the corporation will be able to cut off all competition in a product of another State, thereby reducing the price.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND
INDUSTRIAL UNION.
PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT WASHINGTON, D. C.
By THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST PUBLISHING COMPANY.
Incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia.

Subscription Price - - - \$1.00 Per Year.

Advertisements inserted only by special contract. Our rates are reasonable for circulation. Discounts for time and space furnished on application, stating character of advertisement required. The publisher of this paper has given a bond in the sum of \$500 to the President of the Farmers and Laborers Union of America that they will faithfully carry out all subscriptions and other contracts.

The following is the resolution unanimously adopted at the national meeting in St. Louis:

Whereas THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, our adopted educational organ, has so nobly and faithfully advocated our cause and defended our principles; therefore,

Be it resolved, by this National body, that we heartily approve of the course it has pursued and recommend that every member of the Order should subscribe and read the paper as one of the best means of education in the way of industrial freedom.

Reaffirmed at Ocala as follows:

Resolved, That this Supreme Council reiterate THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and the action of Brother C. W. Macne and his associates in said paper, and will do all we can to urge them onward in the good work of education.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,
WASHINGTON, D. C.
Publication office, 239 North Capitol street.

ENTERED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT WASHINGTON,
D. C., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

N. R. P. A.

NOTICE.

To ALL SECRETARIES:
Please send names and post-office addresses of all German-reading people in your community, that we may send them sample copies of German Alliance paper and other Alliance literature. THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, 239 North Capitol street, Washington, D. C.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the great conference of producers to be held February 22, 1892, will meet in the city of St. Louis, instead of Washington, D. C., as previously announced;

BEN TERRILL,
Chairman of Committee.

Reform Press Meeting.

In accordance with arrangements made at Indianapolis in December, 1891, a meeting of the Reform Press Association is called at St. Louis, Mo., on the 19th day of February, 1892. As there will be business of much importance to come before the body at that time, it is desired that every editor or manager of reform papers be present.

S. McLAFFIN, Pres't.
W. S. MORGAN, Sec'y.

THE ECONOMIST will not run any advertisement for business concerns that are fraudulent or in any way unworthy of patronage, if it is consonant with the fact. Sometimes it may be imposed upon, but due caution is always taken, and it can not be imposed upon for long at a time. Subscribers will do well to consider the merits of those who advertise in the columns of THE ECONOMIST.

The President of Washington State Alliance contributes a ringing letter elsewhere in regard to the February meeting. Read it.

THE Dakota Ruralist, Huron, South Dakota, official organ of the South Dakota Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, edited by our national vice-president, H. L. Loucks, is one

of the ablest reform papers in the North. Those of our readers who wish to keep posted on the reform movement in the great northwest should subscribe for it. Rate, \$1 per year. We have made arrangements to furnish it with THE ECONOMIST for \$1.25 a year.

THE ECONOMIST has received a long and strong set of resolutions from Jefferson county Alliance of Georgia, signed by B. S. Kiswell, president, and J. L. Rains, secretary, endorsing the Hon. Thomas Watson for his course in Congress.

SENATOR MORRILL, the venerable anti-deluvian who represents in part

the only State in the Union that has lost in population during the last decade, has introduced that old scheme of an international bi-metallic congress. Such a scheme might have fooled the people in the younger days of the Senator, but just at present it will hardly work.

THE editorial force of THE ECONOMIST has been increased, and no expense or effort will be spared to make it the best general paper in America. Every person interested in the cause of the people is requested to help swell the list of subscribers. If you can not make speeches and spend time working for the cause, induce some one to take THE ECONOMIST, and you will give circulation to 52 copies of a 16-page paper filled with the very best reform doctrine.

THE recent speech of Congressman

Dockery on the condition of the United States Treasury not only showed up the extravagance of the present administration, but proved by statistics that there would be a deficiency in the treasury at the end of the present fiscal year. He showed that the Secretary of the Treasury was deliberately calculating to default on the sinking fund requirements, and stood ready to use the \$100,000,000 in gold that has been held for the last twelve years as an alleged reserve for the redemption of the greenbacks. Taken as a whole, it was the most complete disclosure of the deception and trickery practiced by the Treasury Department that has yet been given.

Do you want to renew your subscription to THE ECONOMIST for 75 cents per year? If so, get nine others to join you and send \$7.50 for ten renewals. This offer is only good during the month of February, and is a special premium to old subscribers who will work for the paper.

LAST Saturday there was \$606,860 in bar silver sent to Europe. This is about the way that silver will be dumped when free coinage becomes a law.

THE ECONOMIST is now about three years old, and has always been on

time until the last month. The lost time has now been made up and the new webb press will perform the work so rapidly that there will positively be no more delays in the publication office. Subscribers are requested to give notice of any delays or irregularity in the delivery of the paper after February 1.

THE original sub-treasury bill has been introduced in the House by Hon. L. F. Livingston, and the brethren will be asked to petition for its passage. It is expected that every member of the Alliance will respond either by letter or petition.

THE following statement in regard to the debts, interest and armies of Europe will no doubt be read with interest.

Countries	Debt. Francs.	Interest. Francs.
France	31,000,000,000	7,356,000,000
Russia	18,028,000,000	1,038,000,000
England	11,310,000,000	720,000,000
Austro-Hungary	9,285,000,000	389,000,000
Germany	5,954,000,000	377,000,000
The other 15 European States	20,852,000,000	934,000,000
Total	117,112,000,000	5,343,000,000

The rate of interest per capita in each country, and the military budget of each, is as follows:

Countries	Interest per capita. Francs.	Amount of Budget Francs per annum.
France	33.75	86.54
Italy	17.50	3.37
England	12.75	3.66
Austro-Hungary	12.75	3.66
Germany	7.50	1.15
Russia	10.00	1.93
United States	4.00	.77
Turkey		200,000
Spain		400,000
The other 15 European States		334,000
Total		4,725,000,000

The effective force in peace and war in the years stated was as follows:

In 1860.	1879-1880.	Effective force.	Effective force.
Countries	In peace.	In war.	In peace.
England	150,000	450,000	220,000
Austro-Hungary	100,000	750,000	200,000
France	404,000	1,350,000	510,000
Prussia and G. Confederation	380,000	1,000,000	840,000
Russia	555,000	1,100,000	750,000
Italy	175,000	2,300,000	400,000

Since the new laws have gone into effect the armies have been considerably increased. Their strength last March, as given in the "Almanack de Gotha," as well as the maximum available force under the latest military laws, are stated below:

Countries	Armies.
England	1,200,000
Austro-Hungary	3,000,000
France	6,000,000
Italy	3,000,000
Germany	6,400,000
Russia	6,500,000

Countries	Effective force.
England	280,000
Austro-Hungary	354,000
France	547,000
Italy	262,000
Germany	507,000
Russia	795,000

In a recent issue the Toiler, Nashville, Tenn., touches up paternalism in the following manner:

The purpose of any government is to benefit those governed. It is to provide for the wants and requirements of a people which can not be supplied without a system called government. All laws are ostensibly for the benefit of the people. That moving purpose of a law can not be called by a more proper name than paternalism. If by statute a citizen is deprived of a power, say, if he is denied the right to appropriate the goods of another, it is paternalism operating in a double sense. It is the government exercising a power of restraint and at the

same time of protection to its other subjects. Paternalism means a parental oversight. It can mean nothing more when applied to a form of government. Paternal oversight is productive of good just to the extent of its judicious exercise.

In our government we boast that the people are supreme in their dictatorship; then why suppose that the people will afflict themselves with evils any longer than they left the sting? We have nothing to fear from "paternalism." Class legislation, however, has left its stain on our country's history. Take the tariff system. It was introduced ostensibly for the bettering of the whole country; that was the paternal feature. It was made to operate, as even protectionists will admit, through a few, the manufacturers; that was the class feature. It was also a paternal feature exercised by the government when the people were required to pay the tariff tax. In the postal service we have a paternal system void of the class feature. Who objects to it? In the national banking system we have a paternal purpose (putting money into circulation,) administered by class operation. It is useless to say the objection in this case comes of the class operation. The Alliance sub-treasury warehouse and land loan plans have a paternal purpose the same as the national banking system. It proposes to operate in a less objectional class way by not limiting its privileges to a few, thus not making the class through which it operates special favorites. The Toiler does not hesitate to endorse the paternal feature of our past legislature. The class operation of much of it is highly objectionable, however.

CONGRESSMAN S. B. ALEXANDER recently introduced the following bill which has attracted considerable attention. This bill differs from any other that has been introduced covering the same subject. A careful reading will show that it is the result of much thought and consideration, and reflects great credit upon Brother Alexander's ability as a legislator:

A bill relating to gambling in agricultural products.

SECTION 1. That for the purpose of this act, gambling in agricultural products is defined to be a contract, either oral or written, to sell for future delivery corn, wheat, oats, rye, barley, cotton, wool, and all products of cattle and hogs, the contractor or seller not being the owner of the agricultural product at the time the contract is made.

SEC. 2. That no letter or postal card or circular concerning gambling in agricultural products, no-check, draft, bill, money, postal note, or money order for use in gambling in agricultural products shall be carried in the mail or delivered at or through any post-office or branch thereof or by any letter carrier; nor shall any newspaper, circular, pamphlet, or publication of any kind containing any advertisement, telegraph report, or other article giving quotations of any market relating to gambling in agricultural products. Any person who shall knowingly deposit or cause to be deposited, or who shall send or cause to be sent anything to be conveyed or delivered by mail in violation of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars or imprisoned not less than two years. Any person violating any of the provisions of this section may be proceeded against by information or indictment, and tried and punished either in the district at which the unlawful thing was mailed, or to which it was carried by mail for delivery according to the direction thereon, or at which it is caused to be delivered by mail to the person to whom it is addressed.

GENERAL NOTES.

Miss Clara Barton, president of the American National Red Cross society is out in a proclamation to the American people, notifying them that since Congress declines to provide transportation for Russian relief, all gifts or donations so intended will be taken in charge and forwarded free by her order. They should bear the sign of the red cross and be addressed to Headquarters Red Cross, 14th and New York avenue, Washington D. C. Railroads have given transportation to the sea-board.

SEC. 3. That on each interstate message by telegraph, or telephone, used for or aid of gambling in agricultural products, a tax of two dollars per word is hereby levied, to be collected by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue. Any person who sends a message by telegraph, or telephone, subject to the tax levied by this section, and fails to file a copy of said message with the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, the day it is sent, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars, or im-

prisoned not less than six months. Any person violating this section may be proceeded against by information, or indictment, and tried and punished in the district from which the message is sent, or to which it was sent for delivery.

VALUES OF COINS.

The Director of the Mint has estimated and the Secretary of the Treasury has proclaimed the values of all foreign coins to be followed in estimating the values of all foreign merchandise exported to the United States after January 1, 1892.

In determining the value of foreign coins, the value of the monetary unit of countries having a gold or double standard was ascertained by comparing the amount of pure gold in such unit with the pure gold in the United States dollar, and the silver coins of such countries were given the same valuation as the corresponding gold coins with which they are interchangeable by law.

In countries having a silver standard the values of the silver coins were reckoned at the commercial value of the pure silver contained in such coins, based upon the average price paid for silver by the Treasury Department during the month of December, 1891. The values of the following coins have been changed:

January 1, 1892.	Value.
Florin of Austria Hungary	\$0.341
Boliviano of Bolivia	.691
Peso of Central Am. States	.691
Shanghai Tael of China	1.021
Haikau Tael of China	1.137
Peso of Colombia	.691
Sucro of Ecuador	.691
Rupee of India	.328

roe, in 1830, was an overwhelming blow. His fortune had greatly diminished during his public life, and in his last days he was compelled to part with Oak Hill. Lafayette offered part of his Florida lands for his disposal, but Monroe declined the offer and went to the home of his daughter in New York, where, on July 4, 1831, he parted with his life, just five years from the day John Adams and Thos. Jefferson expired. His remains were removed to Richmond, Va., where, on July 5, 1858, they were interred, with great pomp, in Hollywood cemetery.

David B. Hill's Subterfuges Exposed.
BY HARRY HINTON.

The unanimous verdict of the press is that Hill came out for free coinage of silver. We will give an analysis of his speech as expressed and implied, and then make comments:

1. We cannot accept the lead of the silver State Senators. Free silver would satisfy them. But free bimetallic coinage is the one thing needful, well planned, well guarded, and competent, so that the silver dollar when melted shall be equal to 28.9 grains of gold in the gold dollar with final judgment as to plan of diplomacy best fitted to attain that end.

2. The Supreme Court was packed when it gave its decision that the greenback was lawful money by the Constitution.

3. Gold and silver certificates are proper paper currency. As to national bank paper currency my opinion is withheld.

4. Do not attempt any legislation correcting abuses till after the presidential election.

The speech of Governor Hill shows

study and was intentionally enigmatical to all except those whose interests he is intending to serve if elected. He is undoubtedly cheek by jowl with John Sherman of Ohio in giving over the exclusive control of the currency to private corporations. The only difference between them lies in the methods by which he would accomplish that end. Don't do anything in this Congress in regard to the free coinage of silver, for it must be well planned, well guarded and competent, and I am not saying now what diplomacy is fitted to attain that end.

But the greenbacks must be demonetized and as soon as possible withdrawn from circulation, and that will make up all losses to the capitalists by an increase of the currency caused by the free coinage of "cart wheel silver dollars" as dictated by the creditors and bankers of Europe. Every time for the capitalist was turkey, and every time for America's spoliated millions it was buzzard. There was a time when such cunning demagogic could deceive millions of party dupes, but thanks be to an awakening age the people can be deceived no longer. To demonetize near four hundred millions of greenbacks, place all paper currency in the control of the banks and the mintage of about sixty millions of "cart wheel silver dollars" per annum would be villainy glorified and tyranny over the masses intensified. May the good Lord deliver us from this deceptive tyrant. If we are bound to have a tyrant for president, give us a man who is plain spoken, give us Cleveland.

What the people demand is that

no more paternalism shall be awarded to the money dealers of this nation. honest slavery than to one coupled with deception. That is the advantage a republican aspirant has, known from the start to be an enemy of popular rights from the company he keeps. When a candidate of the people comes, what will be his platform?

1. No more paternalism for favorites.

2. The direct issue of all paper money direct to the people.

3. Bimetallic free coinage, made equal in value if necessary by reduction in the gold dollar as twice done by Congress.

4. All money an equal legal tender with a special reserve for the benefit of the nation's creditors not to be paid in a money worth less than the silver dollar of 412 $\frac{1}{4}$ grains according to contract.

5. No consultation with the monarchies of Europe in regard to our home matters.

6. The lands of America for American homes.

7. Government shall control the money from controlling the government.

8. Equal taxation and equal protection, and all shall pay taxes in proportion to ability.

Whenever the people have a candidate his principles and policies will be plainly and simply stated and if they have no candidate they will throw up he is and tails to determine which tyrant shall be inaugurated President.

The Monopoly of Politics.

BY F. P. COOK, FRESNO, CALIFORNIA.

The New York Voice, a few weeks ago, said that the monopoly of the sale of intoxicating liquors, enjoyed by those holding licenses to sell them, was the greatest monopoly in existence. Perhaps it is the most gigantic material monopoly; but I believe

1. I am in favor of adding to the silver dollar until it is on a parity with the gold dollar and then give both metals free coinage.

2. I am in favor of withdrawing all the greenback circulation so as to give the banks exclusive control of the paper currency.

3. I am in favor of the government storing for safe keeping the gold and silver of the banks and becoming responsible therefor by issuing them certificates of deposit which they may use as money until they desire to take out their coin.

4. I am in favor of Congress doing nothing till I am elected President.

We contend that this is the true position of Governor Hill so far as can be gathered from his printed speech and legitimate conclusions drawn therefrom. This is adding one more chapter to the horrid contraction policy and banking oppression of John Sherman. John Sherman never conceived a more diabolical scheme to paternalize the money dealers and rob labor and industry.

To what a woeeful pass has the American republic come at last, that before a man can aspire to the presidency he must consult the money interest of one city and play the trick-monger before the common people.

And Cleveland was permitted to be elected once by sufferance as a veiled prophet and democracy was glorified. Elected on a free coinage platform and an enemy of free coinage. No need for a republican aspirant for president to lie and cheat. They have only to indorse the villainy they have already done and teach the people in either case. What our pre-

sent system needs is simply to be extended so as to give the people the (1) final decision by direct vote as to what laws shall be in force over all; (2) the power to propose to themselves and adopt laws independently of the legislature, if necessary, and (3) to require that what the Supreme Court has to say about the constitutionality of any law or portion of one, shall be said while the bill is still in the hands of the legislature (in case of bills proposed to the legislature), or to the people before the vote (in case of bills proposed by the people independently of the legislature) in both cases, that is in all cases, giving to the enactor act of the people the effect to eliminate from life the dangerous, delaying and costly feature of *ex post facto* or retroactive constitutional decisions, which are necessary as well as costly. And the propositions I have just now made above are propositions by an American, for carrying into effect in an American way, of the United States idea, that the will of a majority of the people should be the law of the land.

A strange and instructive picture of the limitation of ordinary human comprehension is afforded once in every seven days, by the spectacle of thirty million Christian people in the United States praying in their places of worship "lead us not into temptation," and then going out into the busy ways of life and supporting a political system which focuses all the power and blandishments of the plutocracy of this country upon the 465 persons in the nation, or 120 in a State, who are charged with the responsibility of making all the laws, and who have the power to prevent the people from changing them for the public benefit. It is an astonishing spectacle! It seems to me it must be that we discredit ourselves in the eyes of the thinking people of other nations of the world by retaining such a system of government as this in a country where we have no traditions to hold us to it, and are free to change it for a better form. The only governmental tradition we have is one filled with a spirit of determination to have in this country "the best government on earth." If we haven't it, we are going to get it. We reap the fruits of the present system of government in the shape of monopolies which can only be eradicated by such improvement of the system as will make it more popular.

The financial monopolies which curse us are the natural outgrowths of a system of government which gives the control of the many into the hands of a few—a rude, crude, colonial, imperfect system made to fit a simpler and entirely different state of material things than exists now. These monopolies are not in any sense to be blamed upon human nature. Human nature, no doubt, is defective; but it will show itself plainly to be more good than bad; it will show itself, as a whole, to contain an irresistible and continuous tendency toward improvement, when human beings learn how to organize (a government is but an organization of certain people) so that the will of the majority at stated times (not that of a minority, largely self-perpetuating), shall be the law for all. Our present system of government is good enough so far as it goes; but it doesn't go far enough in the direction of the people. What is the governmental organization of a nation or a State for, except to carry out the will of a majority of the people in either case? What our pre-

sent system needs is simply to be extended so as to give the people the (1) final decision by direct vote as to what laws shall be in force over all; (2) the power to propose to themselves and adopt laws independently of the legislature, if necessary, and (3) to require that what the Supreme Court has to say about the constitutionality of any law or portion of one, shall be said while the bill is still in the hands of the legislature (in case of bills proposed to the legislature), or to the people before the vote (in case of bills proposed by the people independently of the legislature) in both cases, that is in all cases, giving to the enactor act of the people the effect to eliminate from life the dangerous, delaying and costly feature of *ex post facto* or retroactive constitutional decisions, which are necessary as well as costly. And the propositions I have just now made above are propositions by an American, for carrying into effect in an American way, of the United States idea, that the will of a majority of the people should be the law of the land.

It is a fact almost incredible—

that in the State of California, for instance, 120 persons make all the statutory laws for that State, controlling more than one million people; they fix the forms of judicial procedure; they have and exercise the power to prevent any changes in the statutory law or constitution which do not suit them. A similarly small number of persons—from 120 to 300—dominate and control the welfare of the people in every other one of the 42 States of the Union. And 465 men in the same way rule the welfare of the whole nation from their seat of government at Washington. Only the few know the tremendous temptation which this custom of putting all the law-making power into their hands subjects them to. It is no wonder that there is so much corruption among them. It is strange that so few, not so many, yield to temptation. The wonder is they do not all yield.

5. No consultation with the monarchies of Europe in regard to our home matters.

6. The lands of America for American homes.

7. Government shall control the money from controlling the government.

8. Equal taxation and equal protection, and all shall pay taxes in proportion to ability.

And now, in closing, let me return to the text which begins this article, sufficiently to say that the question of form of government is one which affects every interest of society and life. It is one which touches every great reform now proposed before the people. It affects alike the questions of finance and of prohibition. We are now in line again and the Union party is no more.

The Voice for obvious reasons would rather die than give up the third party. The Union party incurred its immortal hate because it gathered all reform forces into a new party one year sooner than any other State. We elected Pemoyer, thereby saving ourselves from the non-taxable water-bond nuisance, and educated the people in reform principles so thoroughly that to-day I know no reformer in our State who is not ready for separate political action. The Union party is dead only in name, for we foresaw a national movement and agreed to adopt the name of the national party; hence our name hereafter will be the People's party. Our name is dead by agreement, but we are the liveliest force which we have.

Mr. Kyle, Ohio, introduced a bill providing for the disbursement of class postmasters, which was read twice by its title and referred to the committee on post-offices and post-rates.

Mr. Kyle, S. Dak., introduced a bill to repeal section 369 of the Revised Statutes, which empowers the Secretary of the Treasury to anticipate interest upon the public debt; which was read twice by its title, and referred to the committee on finance.

He also introduced a bill making certain issues of money a full legal tender in payment of debts; which was read twice by its title, and referred to the committee on finance.

Mr. Gallinger, N. H., introduced a bill to insure pensioners in apprenticeship, employment, and retirement, through the Post Office Department.

Mr. Kyle, I. D., introduced a bill to grant to the committee on relations with Indian tribes the right to continue any such bonds at 2 per cent interest, the same were not all paid at the time said bonds were due.

The Speaker pro tempore. Is there objection to the present consideration of the resolution? The yeas none. The question is on the adoption of the resolution.

The question was taken and the resolution was adopted.

By Mr. Wheeler, Mich. A bill to establish an income tax—to the committee on ways and means.

Mr. Rusk, Md., chairman committee on agriculture, reported a resolution recommending apportionment of his-class clerks for committee work.

A minority report, from Messrs. Steely, of Iowa, and Dickerson, of Kansas, provided for appointment of only twenty-four. An animated discussion of the wisdom of saving displayed by withdrawing clerical assistance from many committees followed.

Mr. Bond, Ia., offered an amendment, authorizing Representatives to appear before selectaries at a salary of \$75 per month to be paid from contingent fund. Consideration went over until Friday.

By Mr. Lewis, Miss. A bill to repeal the law creating the sinking fund—to the committee on ways and means.

Mr. Bailey, Tex. A bill to grant to the Gainesville, McCallister, and St. Louis Railway Company a right of way through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes—to the committee on Indian affairs.

Mr. Hansbrough, N. Dak., submitted the following resolution, which was considered by unanimous consent, and agreed to:

"Resolved, That the Postmaster-General be, and is hereby instructed to furnish the Senate and the House of Representatives with all the information which may be on file in his department, including copies of reports and statements of post-offices, post-rates, and others, relative to the question of extending the free-delivery system to rural communities, or substituting said system for that of the present star-route service, as far as the same may be practicable."

The bill fixing the time for holding the district and circuit courts of the United States in the northern district of Iowa was read twice by title, and referred to the committee on the judiciary.

The resolution offered last Monday by Mr. Mitchell was taken up, instructing the judiciary committee to report a bill which legislation was necessary to relieve the court of claims in the transaction of its business and to expedite the business, and Mr. Mitchell addressed the Senate giving facts to show that the present crowded condition of cases in the court of claims was a violation of justice. Many Senators took part in securing a lecturer in the State, they now propose to send Torlifnerbarger to enlighten a State whose Union party has a solid prohibition plank, and whose Alliance officers, members and platform are solid against the saloons, preventing the people from doing their duty.

These thoughts are my New Year present to THE ECONOMIST and the brothers and sisters of the Alliance far and wide. May our flag ever wave.

Hung Jury.

BY J. B. BARRY, WALNUT, TEXAS.

The jury seems hung on the most voluminous and important suit, perhaps, that will ever be left on record for the consideration of future generations.

The destiny and liberties of sixty millions of people depend on the verdict. Their lawyers number four hundred and thirty, whom they had paid five thousand dollars each to represent and prosecute their cause in Congress, have deserted their cause and now seem to be employed by the defense (corporation money monopoly). The people in their petition asked no remuneration for past wrongs, only asked for writ of restraint and injunction to stop further robbery and plundering of their goods and chattels. But lo! it appears that their attorneys, whom they had confided in, sold their consciences to the devil and took full pay

in falsehood and deception; adjourned last Congress, and all of one accord came as an avalanche before the jury (people) in behalf of their present clients (users) with all the eloquence of congressional politicians, having no evidence on part of their clients; resort was made to extraordinary argument, mingled with all the slang subterfuge, false assertions and abuse that genius could invent, leaving their former clients (farmers and laborers) with a few isolated lawyers to take care of their case the best they could. Though the jury (people) be prejudiced in the case for and against, they will of necessity have to render their final verdict on November 8, 1892.

A Letter from Oregon.

BY M. V. RORK.

The New York Voice, in spite of facts and remonstrances, still persists in shamefully misrepresenting the Union party of Oregon. In its last issue it says: "In Oregon the organization of the Union party badly disorganized the prohibition forces, but they are now in line again and the Union party is no more."

The Vice-President. The petition will be printed as a document, if there is no objection. The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

Mr. Boaster submitted a resolution directing the investigation of charges against Hon. Aleck Boaster, judge of the United States district court for the western division of Louisiana; which was referred to the committee on the judiciary.

By unanimous consent, bills and joint resolutions of the following titles were severally introduced, read a first and second time, ordered to be printed, and referred as follows:

By Mr. Daniel, N. H. A bill to provide for a term of the circuit and district court at Littleton, N. H.—to the committee on the judiciary.

By Mr. Martin, Ind. Resolution of invalid penitentiary fees concerning Friday night sessions of the House of Representatives—the committee on rules.

By Mr. Bland, Ind. Resolution of invalid penitentiary fees concerning Friday night sessions of the House of Representatives—the committee on rules.

The Speaker pro tempore. The resolution will be read after which the Chair will ask for objections.

The Clerk read as follows:

"Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby requested to inform this House whether at any time since the 42 per cent bonds became due there has been sufficient money available to pay the same; and, if so, by what authority he is directed to continue any such bonds at 2 per cent interest, the same were not all paid at the time said bonds were due."

The Speaker pro tempore. Is there objection to the present consideration of the resolution? The yeas none. The question is on the adoption of the resolution.

The question was taken and the resolution was adopted.

By Mr. Wheeler, Mich. A bill to establish an income tax—to the committee on ways and means.

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By Mr. Lewis, Miss. A bill to repeal the law creating the sinking fund—to the committee on ways and means.

Mr. Hoar, Mass., submitted the following resolution, which was considered by unanimous consent, and agreed to:

"Resolved, That the committee on relations with Indian tribes be one of the standing committees of the Senate."

Mr. Hansbrough, N. Dak., submitted the following resolution, which was considered by unanimous consent, and agreed to:

"Resolved, That the Postmaster-General be, and is hereby instructed to furnish the Senate and the House of Representatives with all the information which may be on file in his department, including copies of reports and statements of post-offices, post-rates, and others, relative to the question of extending the free-delivery system to rural communities, or substituting said system for that of the present star-route service, as far as the same may be practicable."

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renders the most reading matter for the money that possibly can be given, and to excel any other paper in the United States in that particular. However, it is very necessary that every preacher in the land should read THE ECONOMIST, and the management is willing to help the brethren by dividing the expense to secure that end, and for this purpose a reduced rate will be made to clergymen 75 cents per year, and brethren who desire to send it to them free will be at liberty for every club of ten to send in addition the name of one clergyman, who shall receive an annual subscription free. The ten may be sent at the club rate of 80 cents, that is to say, a club of ten annual subscribers accompanied with \$8 will entitle the sender to name a clergyman who may receive the paper free for a year. This will enable county unions having twenty clergymen, such as Mr. Longstreth mentions, to secure for every one of them a copy by only sending in two hundred subscribers.

Levi Roush, secretary Mason County Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union of West Virginia, writes, sending a set of resolutions passed by Mason County Alliance, first, indorsing the action of the Supreme Council at Indianapolis and its indorsement of the Ocala demands; second, asking Congress to pass laws to conform to said demands; third, in favor of an income tax; fourth, prohibiting alien ownership of land; fifth, alien railroad property and stocks to be sold to the United States at an appraised valuation; sixth, measures to reduce interest to the minimum rate now paid on bonds; seventh, in favor of free coinage of silver, and the issue of treasury notes equal to \$50 per capita; eighth, in favor of the government taking charge of the Pacific railways as forfeited to the government; ninth, that the resolutions be sent Hon. James C. Phair, their representative in Congress, with the request that he place them before the House of Representatives and have them published.

A. N. Rude, secretary San Luis Obispo County Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union of California, writes:

I have this day sent to Brother J. H. Turner \$25 for the national propaganda fund. This donation is from San Luis Obispo County Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union of California. We had a very enthusiastic and profitable meeting January 5 and 6, and passed the following good resolutions which I inclose you here-with for publication.

The resolutions which are omitted for lack of space favored: Disapproval of the proposition for the government to guarantee the Nicaragua canal bonds; the election of President and United States Senators by direct vote; female suffrage; support of reform papers, and justice to all classes.

Texas Independent (Forth Worth) says:

Reform leaders sometimes get disengaged, and no wonder. There is much reform needed in this world, so much that it seems like mountains to be moved. And when they get to actual work, the grain of faith even as large as a mustard seed is found wanting in those who need reform most. Working a reform is like getting religion on the orthodox plan. A man can't get religion unless he wants it. He may be convicted of his sins, but can't be converted to salvation unless he wills it. So with reform. The wage-workers—the very ones needing it—recognize their need, appreciate their condition, sit on the mourners' bench during a campaign in their behalf. Yet they go back to the world, the flesh and the devil for fear of a laugh from the two old parties, or perhaps for fear of the loss of a job. So insidiously is wound the web of slavery around the freedom of the people that they can scarcely believe it true. When they do awake, alas! it may be too late.

THE REFORM PRESS.

The Discussion of Current Topics from Organized States.

The Plow and Hammer (Tiffin, Ohio) says:

Is it possible in a free land for men with families to work half time, see their children deprived of proper education, live in rented property without an opportunity to acquire a home, be deprived of the necessities of life (never enjoying the luxuries), without giving out a murmur of discontent? What can old party-leaders be thinking about that they are not giving heed to this discontent? Will they shut their eyes to the inevitable and cry, "peace, peace, when there is no peace!" A standing army, a Pinkerton detective gang and a militia are only a menace to arouse the demon of hate in the breasts of the workingmen, who are the victims of injustice and unholiness. Let the leaders recollect that the divils work for idle hands to do as well to day as he did twenty centuries ago, and that the millions of idle men now roaming the land are a fearful menace to the peace and prosperity of this land. Too much is being written and talked about the dynamite bomb that can create destruction to this fair land. If these writers would direct their talents in the line of remedies instead of disasters that must follow our present industrial conditions; if our present Congressmen could be brought face to face with the conditions; if the President and his cabinet, instead of lolling in their easy chairs and talking about place and power, would turn their attention to the study of the diseases of our body politic and recommend true remedies that would cure, ardent hopes would inflame the breast of every true patriot, whose fruition would bring prosperity and happiness to all.

The Farm and Factory (Defiance, Ohio) says:

When potatoes are scarce you pay more dollars for them, when money is scarce you pay more labor for it. Debts contracted when money is plenty ruins the debtor when he must pay it and money is scarce. The rich make money plenty by law and induce the poor to invest in property and then make it scarce by the same process and ask them to pay up, and thus "scoop their property," and all its improvements.

The Southern Mercury (Dallas, Tex.) says:

A man can take an ear of corn, and with one grain at a time, tote a pig in a pen just where the pig does not want to go. The "bosses" of the two old parties, with grains of prejudice and promises, dropped alternately, one at a time, are toiling the voters of this country into the pen of slavery, built and owned by the money power.

The Pioneer Exponent (Comanche, Tex.) says:

The recent meeting of the National Alliance at Indianapolis passed a resolution to have placed on the free list all cotton goods imported into the United States. Will our enemies and misrepresenters please comment? Will any Texas Congressman come out for such radical reform on tariff? No, they fear they will lose New York.

The Southern Mercury (Dallas, Tex.) says:

Consumption carries off many of its victims needlessly. It can be stopped sometimes; sometimes it cannot.

It is as cruel to raise false hopes as it is weak to yield to false fears.

There is a way to help within the reach of most who are threatened—CAREFUL LIVING and Scott's Emulsion of cod-liver oil.

Let us send you a book on the subject; free.

SCOTT & BROWN, Chemists, 132 South 5th Avenue, New York. Your druggist keeps Scott's Emulsion of cod-liver oil—all druggists everywhere do. \$1.

Then why this hue and cry? Common sense in the light of recent events furnishes the answer. Those who have been educated in these labor organizations, have lost confidence in the Republican party, and very naturally, have concluded to place the Democratic party on trial, hence the unprecedented Democratic majority in the lower House of the Fifty-second Congress at present. Now, if the present lower house heed the demands of organized laborers, they will be sustained; but if they fail to do so, no man can tell the result. One thing is sure, another political revolution is inevitable in 1892.

The Workman and Farmer (Dayton, Ohio) says:

Now that the election is over, it is time to prepare to build up the different organizations, therefore we say to all, turn out and attend your meetings regularly and help to make them pleasant and instructive. Don't stay at home when you know that duty and patriotism demands your presence at the union to aid those who are working zealously for the cause.

There are many questions and matters that require your attention, and the proper place to discuss them is the union.

Don't forget that the causes that led you to organize still remain, and it will require years of constant and steady warfare upon the oppressors of labor before they can be removed from power. The enemies of progress and reform are watching you closely and hail with delight and pleasure every move that has a tendency to influence you to become indifferent toward the Order and its principles. It is your duty to watch them as diligently as they watch you. They are constantly forming plans and schemes to breed dissensions in your ranks in order to disrupt and destroy the organization, and nothing would please them more than to see you forsake the union and abandon the work so well begun. If you relax your efforts and fall into the trap that your vigilent, merciless foes have prepared for you, the privileged classes, ever ready to take advantage of your apathy and indifference, will pursue their devilish schemes of robbery and extortion more aggressively and arrogantly than ever. Stand by the union then; it is your only hope of salvation.

The Southern Mercury (Dallas, Tex.) says:

In order to place it within the reach of every Alliance to procure a good and reliable Seal and Press, I propose to supply every Alliance sending \$1.85 to the undersigned with a first-class Seal and Press delivered free to any address. This offer to every Seal purchaser or money refund will remain until a sufficient number have been sold.

We refer to the publishers of THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and J. H. Turner, Secretary-Treasurer National Alliance.

HERMAN BAUMGARTEN,
Seal Engraver and Rubber Stamp Mfr.
520 7th St., Washington D. C.

The Pioneer Exponent (Comanche, Tex.) says:

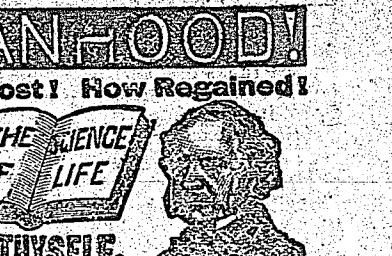
The recent meeting of the National Alliance at Indianapolis passed a resolution to have placed on the free list all cotton goods imported into the United States. Will our enemies and misrepresenters please comment? Will any Texas Congressman come out for such radical reform on tariff? No, they fear they will lose New York.

The Southern Mercury (Dallas, Tex.) says:

The money power, through the newspapers of the country have stayed or side-tracked every reform in the past by ridicule, sarcasm, misrepresentation, and appeals to passions and prejudice. Say, farmers, take off the blind bridges of partisan prejudice, so you can see for yourselves.

California Farmers Alliance (Stockton, Cal.) says:

Many of those who laughed at the Associated Press accounts of the convention of the Farmers' Alliance at Indianapolis, and were in high glee when they heard that the Alliance had split and that it would fast go to pieces after the convention, which they believed was a failure, are now wearing faces as long and as serious looking as a Mormon preacher at the funeral of his first wife, when they learn the truth through the reform press. They begin to realize now that the convention was a grand success instead of a



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Dr. F. P. Peabody Medical Institute, No. 2 Bullock St., Boston, Mass.

The Peabody Medical Institute has many imitators, but no equal.—*Herald*.

The Science of Life, or Self-Preservation, is a treasure more valuable than gold. Read now, every WEAK and NERVOUS man and woman, be STRONG.—*Medical Review*. (Copyrighted.)

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Men's cottonade pants.....1.45
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Boys' solid split boots.....1.45
Boys' solid call shoes.....1.45
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Ladies' solid call lace.....1.45
Ladies' solid grain lace.....1.45
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Boys' solid grain mixed overcoats.....1.45
Boys' worsted suits, 13 to 18 years.....1.45
Boys' diagonal suits, 13 to 18 years.....1.45
Boys' cassimere suits, 4 to 13 years.....1.45
Boys' wool suit, 4 to 13 years.....1.45
Boys' cassimere overcoats, 13 to 18 years.....1.45
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Men's worsted coat and vest.....1.45
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Ladies' fine corsets, white, drab and steel colors.....\$1.45

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FARMERS WHOLESALE SUPPLY HOUSE

INDIANAPOLIS. Nov. 21, 1891.

To all who desire to become thoroughly posted upon the sub-treasury and land loan system, I take pleasure in recommending, among other reform books, a book written by Brother S. M. Scott, State lecturer of Kansas, a new and valuable argument on the sub-treasury plan. Read the following testimonials:

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tions in silver, while nine and a half millions of gold were extracted from the mines in excess of the industrial consumption, and three millions of the same metal were imported, making in all a gain of fifty-one millions. On the other hand, there must be added to the contraction of seventy millions resulting from exports of gold another of nearly ten millions caused by the retirement of national bank notes, making eighty millions in all, and exceeding the realizations from the sources of supply by twenty-nine millions. In fact, the circulation declined in the six months from \$1,528,736,268 to \$1,499,618,800.

It will of course be understood that these particular gains and losses of monetary material, while they directly affected the circulation in volume, did not in like manner alter it in composition. The value of the gold exported came through the banks out of the pockets of the people, but the metal itself was drawn in great part from the treasury. Other operations, too, had their usual influence. The actual changes of the six months in the composition of the circulation consisted in a loss of twenty-six millions in gold and gold certificates, together with one of eleven millions in silver and silver certificates, and a net gain of eight millions in notes. The net changes in the volume of the circulation in the first and last six months and the whole twelve months of each of the past thirteen fiscal years, as well as the net average change in each period for the whole time, are shown, in round numbers, in the following table:

Fiscal Year.	First six months.		Last six months.		Net average.
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	
1879	\$1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1880	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1881	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1882	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1883	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1884	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1885	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1886	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1887	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1888	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1889	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1890	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1891	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1892	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1893	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1894	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1895	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1896	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1897	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1898	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1899	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1900	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1901	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1902	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1903	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1904	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1905	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1906	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1907	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1908	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1909	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1910	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1911	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1912	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1913	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1914	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1915	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1916	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1917	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1918	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1919	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1920	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1921	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1922	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1923	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1924	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1925	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1926	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1927	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1928	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1929	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1930	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1931	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1932	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1933	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1934	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1935	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1936	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1937	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1938	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1939	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1940	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1941	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1942	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1943	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1944	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1945	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1946	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1947	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1948	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1949	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1950	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1951	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1952	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1953	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1954	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1955	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1956	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1957	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1958	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1959	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1960	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1961	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1962	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1963	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1964	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1965	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1966	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1967	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1968	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1969	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1970	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1971	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1972	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
1973	1,500,000	1,500,000			

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND
INDUSTRIAL UNION.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT WASHINGTON, D. C.
BY THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST PUBLISHING COMPANY.

Incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia.

Subscription Price - - \$1.00 Per Year.

Advertisements inserted only by special contract. Our rates are reasonable for circulation. Discounts for time and space furnished on application, stating character of advertisement required.

The publishers of this paper are the bondholders of the Eighth District, President of the Farmers and Laborers Union of America that they will faithfully carry out all subscriptions and other contracts.

The following is the resolution unanimously adopted at the national meeting in St. Louis:

Whereas, the National Economic is our only official national organ, has so boldly and fearlessly advocated our cause and defended our principles; therefore

Be it resolved by this National body, That we

heartily approve of the cause it has pursued and

recommend that every member of the Order should

subscribe and read the paper, as the best

means of education in the way of industrial free-

dom.

Reaffirmed at Ocala as follows:

Resolved, That this Supreme Council reinforce

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and the action of

Brother C. W. Macrae and his associates in said

paper, and will call upon them to urge them onward

and in the work of education.

Address all remittances or communications to

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Publication office, 239 North Capitol street.

ENTERED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT WASHINGTON,

D. C., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

N. R. P. A.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

To all persons interested in the growth of the cause of right and justice:

THE ECONOMIST was started as a special champion of this cause and not as a money-making enterprise.

It has up to date been put out to the people at cost, and will continue that policy. As a proof of which, note the following extraordinary offer:

THE ECONOMIST FOR THE CAMPAIGN OF 1892 FOR FIFTY CENTS.

From February 15 to March 31 all 50 cent subscribers received will get the paper till November 1, provided as many as ten are in one club.

Secretaries are requested to bring this notice before the Alliance and make a special plea for as much as one club in each body. All friends are requested to get up a club.

Now is the time to renew. Now is the time to subscribe.

Eight months for fifty cents, in clubs of ten or more.

REPRESENTATIVE GRADY, of North Carolina, thinks some of Uncle Sam's employees are paid too high salaries. By a bill introduced recently he proposes to reduce the President's salary to \$25,000 a year. He also proposes to reduce all other salaries, wages, fees and commutations exceeding \$100 and less than \$167 per month by a 10 per cent reduction. He would take 15 per cent from those salaries ranging from \$167 to \$360, and 20 per cent from those exceeding \$360, except in the case of the salary of the President and other salaries forbidden by law to be reduced. When the low price of all labor products is considered, the justice of Mr. Grady's bill becomes more clear. Take, for instance, the salary of the President.

THE Alliance members of Congress are doing some very efficient work, which, if continued, will have a marked effect upon the legislation of this session. It is quite evident that the two old parties have discovered that they are not "a lot of chumps," as one eastern member said, picked up at random, but are full-grown men, well posted upon all the rascally legislation of the past. Up

to the present time the bills introduced by these members have been of a character to open the eyes of the Wall street politicians. If a discus-

sion can be had upon certain bills introduced the entire infamous, corrupt financial legislation of the past thirty years will be laid bare. These gentlemen are armed with facts and figures increased in amount, while at the same time labor and its products have decreased in value. This is unfair, and Mr. Grady's bill seeks to right the wrong.

BROTHER WARDALL, president and manager of the Alliance Aid Degree, writes that he is having splendid success in establishing it in the different States. He says the brethren are taking hold of it in earnest, and it is being received with enthusiasm wherever he goes. It seems to fill a long-felt want, and will no doubt prove a grand success. Any one desiring information concerning this degree should address Alliance Aid, Washington, D. C., care NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

GOVERNOR ABBOTT, of New Jersey, knows how to dispose of a disagreeable matter. After the bureau of statistics of labor and industries of his State had gathered a large amount of valuable data regarding abandoned farms, the showing was so bad that he ordered its elimination from the annual report of that bureau. This is about in line with all farm statistics that the public are permitted to read.

In a recent interview Senator John M. Palmer, of Illinois, said in regard to free silver:

For my part, I think it would do harm to the country, and I am opposed to it. I think the passage of a free and unlimited coinage bill, such as Mr. Bland proposes, would be attended with very harmful results to the country, and would to a considerable extent divide the party.

The speech of Senator Peffer on the 21st was an innovation in the "American house of Lords." Years have elapsed since the echoes of that chamber has been awakened by the voice of one of its members pleading the cause of the common people.

Standing before that autocratic body, filled with the knowledge of his subject, and possessing the courage of his convictions, the Senator arraigned in a most intelligent and logical manner both the old parties, pointing out clearly and truthfully their sins of omission and commission, and disclosed beyond question the results that have followed. It was a great speech upon a grand subject, and should be read by every true American.

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to the present time the bills introduced by these members have been of a character to open the eyes of the Wall street politicians. If a discus-

who can read even the rudiments of the signs of the times, need be in doubt. Those who will be settled with first are the law makers who have brought about the present distress and wretchedness seen on all sides.

General Joseph Wheeler, member of Congress from this district, has introduced a bill in Congress which is evidently intended as a predicate for the re-establishment of the "wild cat" State banking system of anti-bellum days. This will not suit the people to whom Mr. Wheeler owes his election. They have asked him for bread, and he is offering them stone; they have asked a fish, and he presents a serpent instead. General Wheeler owes his election to a seat in the present Congress to the Alliance, and they have told him in plain, unequivocal language what they want, and they demand of him that he makes some effort to have the Ocala demands enacted into laws. It was his pledge to the Alliance of the district through their President, Dr. H. P. Bone, that secured his election and caused the defeat of Hon. R. W. Austin. In 1890 he went before the people on his promises, and in 1891 he will have to come before the people on his record. By that, and that alone, he will be judged and rewarded according to what he has done. It will be useless for him to try to hide behind the Republican Senate and President, that won't work. He must do his part, and the people will be the judge as to the hindering cause if he tries to do what he has promised and fails. He has received his instructions from two district Alliances, and they were composed of representative men from every county in the district. He was present at the district Alliance in Huntsville and received the instructions in person and never uttered a word of protest. He had better do as his constituents has bid him, for he is the servant and not the master. He was told to his face by the people that they did not want any "wild cat" State banks. He was in the district Alliance in Huntsville last September, and seen with his eyes, and heard with his ears, that body without a dissenting voice, indorse the Ocala demands and he said not a word against them. So he had better go to work. The Monitor is the official organ of the Eighth District Alliance, and will keep the people posted as to what their servant is doing. This may seem a little plain, but that is the plan for the future.

THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE.

The following rates of transportation have been secured for the great Industrial Conference to be held in St. Louis, February 22, 1892:

States of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa and Missouri (points north of and on the Missouri Pacific Railway), also from all points on the M. K. & P. R. Y. One lowest first class fare for the round trip. Selling dates to be February 20th to 23d inclusive, with final return limit March 10th.

Points in Missouri not included, in above, also from Indian Territory, Arkansas, and Louisiana (Iron Mountain and Cotton Belt Railroads) one fare for the round trip to St. Louis. Dates of sale February 20th to 23d inclusive, with final return limit February 28th.

States of Kansas and Nebraska. One lowest first class fare for round trip to St. Louis. Dates of sale February 20th to 22d inclusive, with return limit March 10th. From points in Kansas on the M. K. & T. and K. C. R. S. & M. R. R.'s, tickets will also be on sale February 23d.

South Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico. Rate of one fare and one-third on certificate plan for round trip to Missouri river gateways.

From Texas. Via Missouri, Pacific, Frisco, Cotton Belt, M. K. & T. One fare for the round trip. Dates of sale February 20th to 23d inclusive, with final return limit February 28th.

Mississippi Valley Territory. One fare for the round trip. Selling dates February 20th to 23d inclusive, with return limit March 10th. Via Illinois Central, St. L. A. & T. H., Mobile and Ohio, K. C. F. S. & M. (No advice as to return limit.)

For the States of Ohio and Indiana. One fare for the round trip. Dates of

sale February 20th to 22d inclusive, with final return limit to February 28.

Later announcements will be made of the arrangements that will be applicable from points in eastern and southern territory not covered by the above.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS.

Hotel accommodations have been arranged for at from 50 cents to one dollar per day for room, no board; and in hotels and select boarding houses, convenient to the Exposition building where the meetings of the Convention will be held, from \$1.25 to \$2.00 per day for room and board.

If you desire your accommodation secured in advance, please state the price you desire to pay for room, or room and board, and whether you desire committee rooms at your hotel or not. Any request will receive prompt attention and no charge for services rendered. It is recommended that Delegates have their quarters secured in advance.

From the first of February until the close of the Convention the daily papers will want to illustrate with the pictures of the delegates and leading men in attendance. It is suggested, therefore, that you procure and send it by first mail a good cabinet photograph with data for a short sketch.

For hotel accommodations address all communications to M. F. Doud, Chin Merchants' Hotel and Boarding Bureau, 56 Mitchell building.

For further particulars as to transportation of delegates, headquarters for the different labor organizations and other matters pertaining to the Conference, address S. H. SNIDER, Chairman Com. Arrangements, Hotel Richelieu, St. Louis, Mo.

The Reform Press Association will meet in St. Louis on the 19th of Feb. 1892. Editors of reform papers will please look after transportation on local lines that do not run into St. Louis. Under no circumstances can I secure transportation for more than two for one paper and then only for wife or daughter. On some lines we will be unable to secure transportation at all, on advertising rates. Transportation will be sent as soon as secured. Headquarters for the Press Association will be at the hotel Richelieu.

For information regarding meeting of Press Association, address W. S. MORGAN, Secy. Com. Treasurer, St. Louis, Mo.

Editor, please send names of delegates selected to attend the Industrial conference and the number of persons you think will attend from your State. Don't delay this.

S. H. SNIDER, Chairman Com. Arrangements, Hotel Richelieu, St. Louis, Mo.

Editor, please publish the following: WANTED—W. S. Morgan, secretary of the National Reform Press Association, wants the address and a marked copy of every reform paper in the United States. If you want the name of your paper to appear in the revised list of reform papers, send him the name on a postal card and a marked copy of your paper. Do this at once and don't neglect it. Get into line. Address

W. S. MORGAN, Secy. N. R. P. A., No. 22, N. 2d St., St. Louis, Mo.

Other announcements will be made later.

W. S. MORGAN, Secretary N. R. P. A.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

Hon. John Davis, of Kansas, has introduced two bills, hitherto explained in the columns of THE ECONOMIST. They are a service pension bill and an income tax.

Mr. Holman, of Indiana, explains the rejection of the government printing bill by the House on the theory that it is opposed to the creation of any more bureaus. The bill would have saved half a million of dollars annually.

The action of Mr. Mills, of Texas, in declining the chairmanship of the committee on commerce through the second person upon it, Mr. Wise, is the subject of much unfavorable comment even among his friends.

The slight upon the Speaker is too marked to be misunderstood. His temper or his judgment.

MR. E. W. OYSTER.

Mr. E. W. Oyster, chairman of the legislative committee of federated labor, made an argument before the House committee of labor in favor of the eight hour law. He charged that the government departments and officials throughout the service seized every means of evading the law, and that its rigid enforcement would provide work for thousands of idle hands. He was opposed to extra hours on this ground.

At a funeral, in—well, let's say, in Georgia, the preacher found himself in an embarrassing situation. To draw it mildly, the late lamented had not been exactly an exemplary character and the man of God valued his character for veracity too highly to endow him with post-mortem virtues. So he appealed to the congregation. "Would some sister or brother please step up and say something?" Thrice did this generous request fall upon deaf ears, before the obsequies took place at the Capitol in the vault of the Congressional cemetery, but in a few days they were removed to Quincy, Mass., where they now repose.

ANDREW JACKSON.

In Union county, close to the boundary lines between the provinces of North and South Carolina, on March 15, 1767, Andrew Jackson, our seventh President, was born. His family were of Scotch lineage, from North England; radical whigs, staunch Presbyterians. At the age of fifteen he was an orphan, and a life of external poverty surrounded a boy. He entered a law office in Salisbury, eighteen years of age, and in two years he was licensed to practice. He obtained the appointment of solicitor for a frontier district, then Washington county, but now the State of Tennessee. In June, 1796,

Tennessee was admitted to the Union and Andrew Jackson, at the age of 29 years, was elected to represent her in Congress. He rode on horseback 800 miles to Philadelphia, the first representative of Tennessee in the Congress of the United States. At the age of 32 he had honors heaped upon him—member of Congress, Senator, and judge of the Supreme Court. On March 4, 1809, he was inaugurated President of the United States. At the age of 70 he returned to his home, "The Hermitage," where he died on June 8, 1845, 78 years old. He suffered from consumption and finally droopy, which appeared about six months before his death. He was buried beside his wife, of whom he said just before he died: "Heaven will be no heaven to me if I do not find my wife there." This life, which began in the Waxhaw forests, was full of rugged and remarkable episodes and of dramatic deeds which will live as long as the history of Tennessee and the United States remains.

MARTIN VAN BUREN.

In the old town of Kinderhook, on the Hudson, our eighth President, Martin Van Buren, was born December 5, 1782. He was a born politician. His early boyhood and youth was environed by all that could strengthen his native aptitude in this sphere. He practiced law at Kinderhook and at Hudson. At the age of 30 he was elected to the State Senate of New York, and for twenty years he held absolute control of the New York

PRESIDENTIAL SKETCHES.
"Biograph is the only history."

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

Our sixth President was the eldest son of John and Abigail Adams, and bore the name of his maternal grandfather, who was dying at the time he was baptized. John Quincy Adams was born in Braintree, Mass., July 11, 1767. He held the highest offices within the gift of the people—was successively Senator, Secretary of State, President, and member of the House of Representatives. On February 21, 1848, he rose on the floor of the House to address the Speaker, when he was stricken with paralysis. He was conveyed to the hall of rotunda and then to the Speaker's room. When he regained consciousness he said: "This is the end of earth; I am content." He expired on the evening of February 22. (A brass star marks the spot where he fell; the room is now Statuary Hall.) The obsequies took place at the Capitol and his remains were deposited in the vault of the Congressional cemetery, but in a few days they were removed to Quincy, Mass., where they now repose.

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Democratic party. He was attorney general of the State and also its governor. In 1821 New York sent Mr. Van Buren to the United States Senate. In 1832 he was elected to the Vice-Presidency. On March 4, 1837, he was inaugurated President of the United States. In that year occurred the great financial panic which had no parallel in American history. On leaving the White House he retired to his native town, Kinderhook, Columbia county, N. Y. His home seat there is known as "Lindenwold." There he died on June 24, 1862, from a violent attack of asthma, followed by cerebral affections of the throat and lungs. He had reached his 86th mile-stone.

Gerrymander Senators.

By M. G. E.

Replies of Senators to the inquiry what they think of the Alliance proposition to elect Senators by direct popular vote represent that the most of them are very well satisfied with things as they are. They evidently have not cared to think about the matter at all. The Constitution of the fathers is good enough for them, but rather, is it good enough for the people, whose right only it is to elect Senator. Some say the people elect their representatives and their representatives elect Senators. If this were true always, it would be a roundabout way to do a very simple thing, much more easily and safely done in a direct way. But if the legislature be composed of the representatives of a gerrymander and not of the people, the Senators by them elected are as actors misrepresenting the State and the people, and representing only a gerrymander. One Senator there is, now in the Senate, who got there by beating an old gerrymander long thought impregnable, and this political seat is thought to be the greatest of the country. Things, says old Levy, which are foul in the getting up, are foul in the outcome. Things foully begotten are foully born. A gerrymander is a thing conceived in iniquity brought forth in sin. A thing first gotten up by old Elbridge Gerry, when governor of Massachusetts, in those "purer and better days" we read of—hence a gerrymander. It is an unnatural, false and fraudulent division of the legislative districts of a State designed to enable a minority to cheat a majority of their rights. There are gerrymander Senators now in the Senate; there have been some there ever since old Gerry's time. But more than this, the gerrymander is a device especially gotten up for the making of Senators, the making of Senators by legislatures is the greatest inducement to the getting up of gerrymanders. But gerrymander Senators are not ashamed of such titles. They ought to be ashamed of them, but the painful act is the lack of modesty. With due deference to the fathers of the republic this rascally device—the gerrymander—is the legitimate fruit of their clumsy device to abridge the power of the people to choose their own Senators and their own President. Servants of the people, they sought to tie the hands of their masters. These weak devices are full of danger and ought to be removed out of modern progress. Government is in the highest degree an experimental science, and a government lacking progress toward perfect adaption to the most recent wants of the people

may be known to be administered by statesmen, either incompetent or corrupt, or both. Recent events show that this gerrymander device is capable also of cheating the people of their choice of a President. A gerrymander legislature may make gerrymander districts for electors, and so cast the vote of the State, either in the electoral college or in the House of Representatives, as the case may be, against the candidate who is the choice of a very large majority of the State. Who knows whether the next President of the United States may owe his election to gerrymandering? It is evident that the government of the United States has imitated this vice of the States by falsifying the census and by the admission of States. It is evident that the parents of this vice are the electoral college and the election of Senators by legislatures. There is no cruelty, but there are golden nuggets of wisdom in the Alliance demand that the President and Senators of the United States be elected by a direct vote of the people, and that constitutional amendments so providing be submitted for their approval. In case the election goes to the House, every State casts one vote I believe. On this basis how wide is the Democratic margin? Not so wide, I suspect, as some think. In case of Cleveland being the nominee, are all States with slender Democratic majorities in their delegation safe to vote for Cleveland? The choice is, I believe, restricted to the three candidates voted for by the people who receive the highest votes. If a third party would now send the election to the House, we ought to be certain how it would go in such case. If there are several very close delegations they may not all be safe for the party in a very small majority, and thereby led the people to believe he was their true and faithful friend who had stubbornly resisted to the full extent of his ability the measure which this speech said was a very bad and dangerous thing for the farmers of this country, never telling them he had not sufficient courage and respect for their wishes to vote against it, and by such a course secured the united support of our Order. Not only so, but THE ECONOMIST, commenting on the action of Congress in this bill a few days afterwards, said: "The bond owners are now happy. They have won the fight, and the bonds they now hold are payable, principal, interest and premiums, in gold only. It would be interesting to know just how many millions it took to force this bill through Congress. Men in these days of corruption and trickery do not change their avowed beliefs and betray their constituencies without a consideration. It will now be in order to placate those whom they have so wickedly betrayed."

The names of the gentlemen referred to are Hons. A. B. Montgomery and H. H. Smith, of Hardin, Gen. A. J. Gross, of Beckinridge, and Hon. S. M. Payton, of Hart. Mr. Montgomery will yet learn the wisdom of this prophecy. In order to intimidate Dr. Macune, and impair his influence and power for good, Mr. Oates, a Congregationalist from Alabama, introduced a resolution in the House to raise a committee to investigate the charge made in the paper against the action of Congress on this bill of Wall street and London, and a vote having been taken thereon, Mr. Montgomery voted to intimidate and cripple the great leader of our noble Order.

Twice within the last four weeks I have witnessed misguided and misinformed friends of Mr. Montgomery

try to get resolutions passed in Alliance meetings indorsing his cause and actions in Congress, and twice I have seen them fail. One of these efforts was made to secure an indorsement for him in a county union, and the other was in a district union. They failed not because the opposition sought thereby to promote the interest of some other certain individual who is a candidate for the same honor. Not at all; for I do not think any considerable number of us have made up our minds as to whom we will support. I am sure I have not; but the opposition was spontaneous, and general; and owing solely to the fact that his record is known and is not satisfactory to us, we feel that his failure to vote against the infamous bullion bill was an act of infidelity to his constituency and their interest. We feel that his failure to stand by our national organ when it was in its infancy, as compared with its present standing and influence, showed a disregard for the success and upbuilding of our cause. We feel that the publication and circulation of his alleged silver speech without telling us he had not voted against the bill he denounced, and giving us at least some kind of excuse for his course, was a betrayal of our confidence and an insult to our intelligence. The people of this district will not be longer deceived. If Mr. Montgomery's record had been known two years ago as it is now, he would not be in Congress to day, and he knows it. I have nothing against him personally, but know he has failed to execute the will of his constituency. We all study our interests and mean to vote intelligently in the future, and to demand of our public servants candor and absolute good faith in the discharge of the trusts we confer upon them. We know that from 1870 to 1880 there was an increase of the aggregate wealth of the United States amounting to 39 per cent, while during the same time there was an enormous decline in farms and farm products, and this wicked rule is still at work creating millions on the one hand and tramps on the other. It has been the assets of the bankers, the railroads, the manufacturers, and the money kings that have phenomenally increased, and the property of the producers that has withered and disappeared. These effects do not come without a potent cause. We demand a different policy; we demand new blood. We demand not a reformation; we demand a revolution, and this we intend to have by the potent agency of an intelligent ballot, and we expect to see a great step taken forward in this year of grace. Let us lay partisanship aside and refuse to vote for bankers, millionaires, railroad and other corporation attorneys, chronic office seekers and cowardly men who are afraid to vote for the true interest of those who produce all or nearly all that give life and comfort to humanity. Let us vote for men who will enact laws that will cause the assets of agricultural interests to increase at least in proportion to the corporate interests of the country, and restore respectability and prosperity to those who feed and clothe the world. Let us remove the foundations from the fetid plutocracy that is devouring the substance of the land and corrupting the public morals to the evil example of all, and build upon its ruins an aristocracy of virtue, morality and religion broad

enough and catholic enough to embrace in its ranks every honest man.

Whither Drifting?

By BERTRAM WILSON HUFFMAN, UNION, OREGON.

The outcome of the "superb condition," as Chauncey M. Depew calls it, into which the American people have been irresistibly crowded, is supremely doubtful. The avenues of escape have been cunningly blocked by the "chosen few" delegation which has been doing duty over the American sheepfold for several years back. The laborer has been blindly entering a barren pasture; he has been too eagerly lured with fruitless promises and nice strings of rhetoric and fact dissembling speech. The bars are now closing behind him, and in the full realization of his position, at last he stands aghast at the sterile end of his political path. Lo! Ashes for gold, despair for plenty, and the grim prospect now confronting the American farmer and wage-earner in place of glowing pictures of prosperity deftly painted by silver-tongued policy builders.

Whither are we drifting?

When the French revolution burst from a thousand social crater, the clergy of France owned one-fifth of the land, the nobility one-fifth, and the king one-fifth, leaving two-fifths of French soil in possession of the third estate, the 26,000,000 people of the stricken land. These two-fifths consisted in the hills, highlands, valueless and unproductive lands, while noble, and clergy, and king owned the chosen tracts, the vineyards, the wheat lands, the rich and productive fields and luxuriant orchards, the villas, cathedrals, temples, the ancient households of state, rich and magnificent, laden with treasure and jewels—all these the upper class owned; but did the volumes of wealth represented by church and nobility support the burden of government? Let the French peasantry and laborer answer. Not the 26,000,000 people of France, with two-fifths of the soil, supported the government and held up the 180,000 church and nobles, with their three-fifths of all the prosperity, and land—what result? From the bare cornfields and from the outskirts of every city and town came the irresistible host of artisans demanding justice at the hands of their profligate rulers, and claiming rights the church and nobility and king had denied common people—rights that belong to flesh and blood, despite the device of Mammon—full reward of toil.

Whither are we drifting?

When the shrewd and cunning party-builders say: Is he keen of vision?

Let him answer from the present condition; what fate does the cry of the toiler portend? The third estate is rallying to the call. Knight of Labor, Farmers Alliance, Labor Union, farmers' operations, and all those who are being crushed by Mammon's chariot and claiming rights the church and nobility and king had denied common people—rights that belong to flesh and blood, despite the device of Mammon—full reward of toil.

Whither are we drifting?

The statistician of the United States brings forth some amazing figures in regard to the condition (the "superb condition," as Mr. Depew called it in England when questioned in regard to the situation in America) of our people. Notwithstanding the misleading statesmen's suggestions and report, and above the reports of radical party organs throughout the length and breadth of our land, there exists a condition of affairs in America that is appalling when considered from a right standpoint; 200,000 individuals in the United States own 7 per cent of the entire wealth of the nation, leaving 64,800,000 of the third estate in possession of 30 per cent of the national wealth. "Superb," indeed! Of the upper class, 100 would have a yearly income of \$120,000,000,

while of the third class, comprising 25 per cent of our entire population (property owners), 100 would have an income of \$50,000. "Superb" for the upper ones, indeed! No wonder the social mountain of America is smoking from a million craters. No wonder the third estate is roused from its thraldom.

It has come to a point in the progress of fortune-making when there is actual oppression and want following closely upon the heels of Dives' chariot. The people have borne the burden so long that the virtue of fortitude has become a blank. There is no excuse for the oppression now bearing down so heavily upon the American laborer's shoulders. It is born of wanton and wilful greed and false teaching at the hands of men and leaders who had the influence and power, and who had the meanness of heart and thirst for gain that actuated the evil motives.

It is impossible to receive reparation or reform at the hands of Mammon. The later day progress and the needs of the people are not on its list. It had its day, full of high rewards and fair laurels, and now comes the third estate, the unheeded and unvoiced millions, to rule their own household.

Whither are we drifting?

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A few that had care, especially all the water they wanted, got well. This

we take to be poisoning by some of the many smuts that so many plants produce in dangerous quantities. As long as the pastures are green and water plenty, the bowels are open and the smut passes through the animal, but little acted on by the digestive organs. When they change to dry food in the fall, especially when water is scarce, they are apt to be poisoned by the smut and often fatally. Plenty of water and green relaxing food are often sufficient. Copious enemas with laxative douches will generally effect relief. The astringent character of the smut, together with the dry food and lack of water, generally produces infarction of the manifold, a physical obstruction which may of itself produce death. These cases are often called "stomach staggers." The soreness, stiffness, and trembling of the limbs is the poisonous effect of smut.

Practical Questions.

The "Applied Science" department has brought the following letters of inquiry, which are answered by "M. G. E." as follows:

LETTER FROM TEXAS.

A letter from a friend in Shackelford county, Texas, requests an opinion on several subjects, viz.: 1. What are some of the best books at a reasonable price covering the whole field of general farm practice? 2. What tame grasses do you recommend as likely to be useful in this part of Texas?

In reply to the first inquiry we would say that no book or books known to us fully cover the whole field of farm practice. Perhaps as good an epitome of the subject as any is Allen's New American Farm Book. There is a work, now out of print,

but probably to be had second-hand, viz: Steven's Book of the Farm, with notes and additions, by Professor Norton, of Yale, which was at the time of its issue the best general work on agriculture of which we have knowledge, but while much of it is still of value, many of the machines, implements and processes described are now obsolete. Soudon's Agricultural Encyclopedia is liable to the same objection. The general subject of modern farm practice needs rewriting and bringing down to date very badly at present.

As to the second question, we think that in as much as wheat and other small grains do well in that part of Texas, the soil is not in itself unsuitable to the production of grass. The enemy of grass that far South is the long dry summer. Orchard grass has a very great power of resistance to drought, and we recommend our friend to try tall meadow oat grass, red top and the common blue grass. Not the game grass or so-mislabelled Kentucky blue grass, but the flat-stalked blue grass, or the poa compressa of naturalists. We should expect most from orchard grass sown early and thick, two bushels per acre.

LETTER FROM MISSOURI.

A friend from Missouri writes to inquire a disease attacking grapes in his locality, and asks if we can suggest a remedy. We are unable to make out from the description what the matter is, and suggest that our friend had best write to Prof. B. T. Galloway, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., on the subject. He also describes a complaint attacking cattle, mainly cows. The cow seems slightly sick, then in a day or two refuses to eat. She is feverish, sore and lame in feet, and stiff in the joints; leaves the herd and lies down; bowels constipated, and shortly dies.

A few that had care, especially all the water they wanted, got well. This we take to be poisoning by some of the many smuts that so many plants produce in dangerous quantities. As long as the pastures are green and water plenty, the bowels are open and the smut passes through the animal, but little acted on by the digestive organs. When they change to dry food in the fall, especially when water is scarce, they are apt to be poisoned by the smut and often fatally. Plenty of water and green relaxing food are often sufficient. Copious enemas with laxative douches will generally effect relief. The astringent character of the smut, together with the dry food and lack of water, generally produces infarction of the manifold, a physical obstruction which may of itself produce death. These cases are often called "stomach staggers." The soreness, stiffness, and trembling of the limbs is the poisonous effect of smut.

Stamps of Rare Sort.

The man that is inclined to despise the day of small things should remove the glasses of prejudice and take a survey of the sphere of usefulness which the tiny postage stamp enters after its departure from the vaults of the various governments in the postal union. After been stuck on the corner of an envelope, it by no means sinks into obscurity, but instead, finds an honored place awaiting it in the album of some collector of stamps, to be looked at and studied for years to come. This craze, as it

was first termed, was looked upon by older heads as a proper and useful amusement for children, but the idea now belongs to the fleeting past. Through many years of development the collecting of postage stamps has at least brought itself up in the world sufficiently to be recognized by that body of men who ride a hobby of curios and relics. The buying and selling of stamps has become a regular branch of the mercantile world, and a score or more of firms now devote their time solely to the importing and exporting of stamps. Myriads of collectors are scattered all over the globe, and after years of constant study of their collections they have gathered a higher aim than the mere name of philatelists. They have not only adopted the name but they are organized into a body which is power and intellectuality ranks with many of the older associations of collectors and special students.

According to the latest statistics there are to-day in the United States 200,000 collectors, the majority of whom are in the advanced stages of the study of their little pieces of perforated paper. The mere collecting of stamps and pasting them into books prepared for the purpose according to denomination and country belongs to the age of the first collectors. The stamps are now collected and studied according to their various perforations, shades and water marks, thus more than doubling the number of stamps it now takes to make up a collection of any standing. With the increase of the number of collectors has come the necessity of dealers and importers, and there are now fifteen firms and companies in the United States which carry stocks of postage stamps, which vary in value from \$10,000 down, and who conduct a large and profitable business.

The dealers in foreign stamps buy large quantities of unused stamps direct from the various governments, which they import to this country. The canceled stamps are bought up from the merchants in the large cities, whose correspondence is from all parts of the globe. American dealers are also constantly making exchanges with foreign dealers, and by this bit of reciprocity they manage to keep immense stocks of the 14,000 varieties of stamps that are known to the collectors. The rarities and obsolete stamps are bought up at auction when large collections are broken up and sold, and they are also often obtained by a ransacking of some of the old ancestral papers and letters that for ages have lain hidden away in the darkness of some garret. Illustrated price lists are issued by the dealers, and from these the collectors order and purchase their stamps. They are also sold in packages of 25, 50, and 100, containing a mixture of the various nationalities. The packages, however, are sold mostly to the tyro, for the advanced collector prefers to buy his singly. Another plan of disposing of their wares is by what is known as the "approval sheet." These are large sheets of paper, on which stamps of different varieties are attached by little strips of adhesive paper. In the number of magazines which are devoted to philately may be seen numbers of advertisements for agents to sell stamps on 25 and 33 1/3 per cent commission. These sheets

THE REFORM PRESS.

The Discussion of Current Topics from Organized States.

The National Reformer (St. Louis, Mo.) says:

Here is a practical illustration of how the land loan measure would benefit the farmer. Take a man that owes a one thousand dollar debt secured by a mortgage on his farm, and on which he pays 8 per cent interest. The annual amount of interest is \$80. If he pays no more than \$80 per annum he does not reduce the principal at all. Suppose he could change this by borrowing money of the government at 2 per cent. The annual interest then for the first year would be \$20 leaving him \$60 of the amount he formerly paid to pay on the principal. The next year the interest is less and he will pay off over \$60 of the principal until at the end of about 14 years he will have discharged the whole debt, principal and all, whereas at 8 per cent, paying out the same amount of money each year, he would still owe the principal. The saving in the difference in the rate of interest has enabled him to get out of debt and save his home. Did we hear some one say the land loan measure wouldn't benefit the farmer?

The Tecumseh Republican (Tecumseh, Neb.) says:

Merchants should understand the principles of the Farmers' Alliance before they condemn it. The farmer is organizing to save himself from powerful combinations. Will you stand in his way?

The Danville Sentinel (Danville, Ill.) says:

The farmer feeds the world, and the wage-workers produce the manufactured articles. Of necessity these two elements must combine against monopoly, or their condition will rapidly grow worse.

The Alliance Courier (Mineola, Texas) says:

The farmers do not care what name you give to the means by which they desire to obtain a reform of existing evils to enable them to command a possible profit on their product, if they can only succeed in their effort. It is not so much a political question with them as it is the betterment of a financial fatality which deprives them of just wages on labor performed.

The Union (Brookfield, Mo.) says:

The Alliance is still moving forward, and as the people learn the great necessity of taking care of themselves, they devise means to concentrate their power for the good of all. Just now they are completing the organization of a National Alliance Insurance company, on the fraternal plan, whereby it is expected that life and fire insurance will be furnished at cost. We hope in a short time to give a full outline of the plan. It is what our lodges need, and will prove a great saving. In the meantime get your lodges together and urge every member to do his best for the propaganda funds by means of which we can fill our State with speakers and put the Order in the front ranks of reform.

The Colorado Herald (Sagamore, Colo.) says:

Bank and mercantile failures are reported from all parts of the country, the depression in prices of produce being among the chief causes. These failures are throwing large bankrupt stocks of merchandise on the market, thus destroying the trade of merchants that might otherwise pull through. Politicians of both old parties say that over-production is the cause. They know they are lying; they know that a lack of sufficient money with which to pay the debts and transact the business of the country is the prime and only cause of this wholesale wrecking of lives and fortunes.

The Alliance Herald (Montgomery, Ala.) says:

Australia pays no taxes. The government owns the railroad, telegraph and telephone lines, and the profits realized by their operation pays all the expenses. This country loves a sentiment. Its people prefer to pay about \$50 per capita, so that the railroad barons can live in luxury, while they struggle in poverty, and pay 80 per cent of all the taxes. Besides, it would be paternalism for the government to pay its own expenses by operating the facilities for transportation and intelligence. Who would not prefer to

pay \$50 every year of his natural life than to be the beneficiary of a sensible and just system? That is the question. What gentle reader, could induce you to yield up your prejudices against paternalism, and the dear and delightful privilege of paying \$50 per year? It is such a luxury for a debt ridden and depressed citizen to consider that the subject is dismissed.

The Alliance Advocate (Fayetteville, Ark.) says:

Agriculture is the basis of our civilization; if it fails the whole fabric goes down together. Farmers may be rough and ignorant in many things pertaining to other business, but that is no criterion to judge by. Goodness of heart does not always go with a smooth outside. We should encourage in every possible way the agricultural toiler, because on his broad shoulders rests the burden of our civilization. But our present financial system is destroying the farm as a home and driving our young men to the overcrowded professions and more remunerative lines of business in the towns and cities. It has for a long time been considered bad policy to kill the goose that lays the golden egg, yet all other lines of business seem to regard the farmer as their lawful goose, specially provided for their picking. But if farmers combine to do business like the rest by co-operating for mutual benefit, at once the cry is raised from "Dad to Beer-sheba" that they are combining to break down trade, and are trying to set up a monopoly. Did you never hear this sort of talk? You will hear it again. Just keep your ears open for a few weeks.

The Clark County Clipper (Ashland, Ark.) says:

The action of the Citizens Alliance in Vermont gives great encouragement to the members of the Alliance in the West and South. Of the people of Vermont who can vote, fifty-two per cent are farmers, and they propose to unite with the other working classes to redeem the State from the rule of the railroad corporations and millionaires like Proctor. They can do this easily if they do unite.

The Alliance Herald (Montgomery, Ala.) says:

It would seem that the prospects which confront the farmers should impress the merchants, who are dependent upon them for their prosperity, that it is about time for them to investigate the ways and means for restoring prosperity to the farmer, for that will assure general prosperity to the country. Instead of this, they are united almost solidly against every reform sought for the promotion of the masses, and thereby aiding and abetting the English system to still further impoverish and damage the interests of farmers. It would seem that the number of failures reported each week would impress merchants with the demand that a change is needed, and badly needed, as much in their interest as for the benefit of farmers.

The Pioneer Exponent (Comanche, Tex.) says:

Silver has been demonetized in the United States, and consequently what was once a dollar's worth of bullion is now about 74 cents worth. This enables England to purchase our purposely depreciated bullion and send it to India and Russia, which are free silver countries, when its purchasing power to buy wheat for England is 100 cents on the dollar. They thus save 34 per cent in the purchase of their wheat while the American wheat grower finds his loss correspondingly as great, and besides his market is thereby partially destroyed. This scheme is worked by England, a single standard country, which also has this same depreciated metal.

Nothing contributes so much to make the farmer's life barren of interest, to help along the drift of population to the cities, to change the old delight in rural

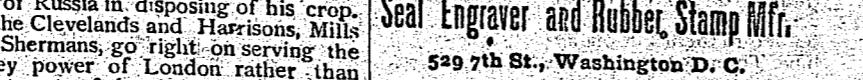
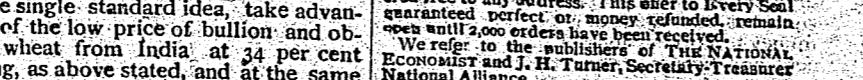
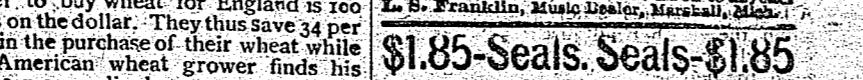
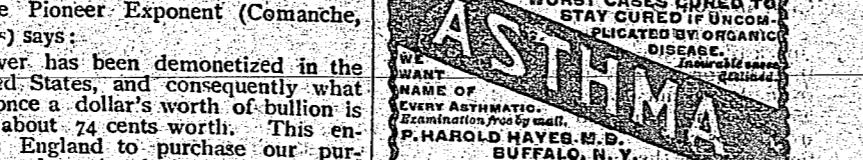
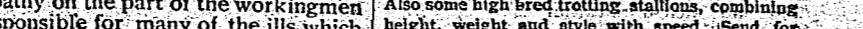
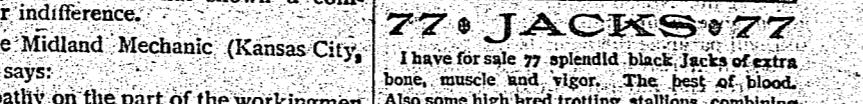
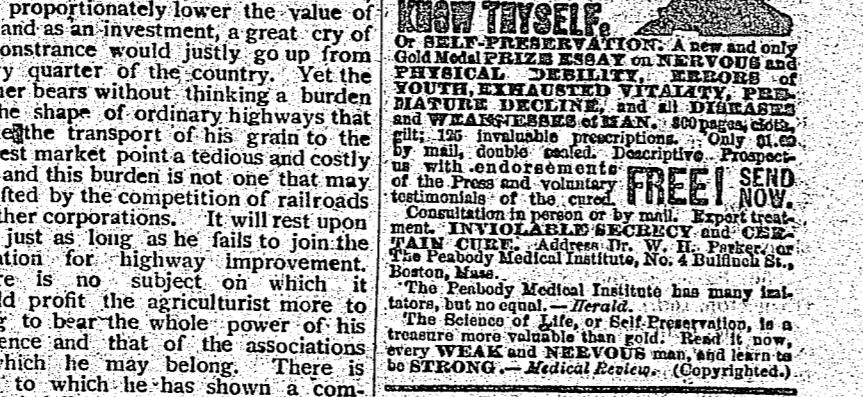
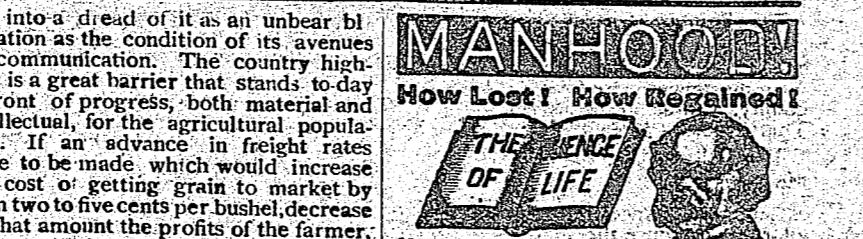
The old saying that "consumption can be cured if taken in time" was poor comfort. It seemed to invite a trial, but to anticipate failure. The other one, not so old, "consumption can be cured," is considered by many false.

Both are true and not true; the first is prudent—one cannot begin too early.

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mal demand for money, as in autumn, for moving our immense crops?" "There will always be," said he, "great danger at those times under any cast-iron system of currency such as we now have." We believe the strong language of the Monetary Commission, appointed by Congress in 1876, is fully maintained by the experience and all the financial history of the past. (Page 10 of the report.) "An increasing value of money and falling prices have been and are now fruitful of human misery than war, pestilence or famine." (Page 25 of the report.) "A shrinking volume of money and falling prices always have and always must have a tendency to concentrate wealth, to enrich the few and to impoverish the many. This tendency is subtle and potent through the world to-day. We believe that Abraham Lincoln could have uttered no truer prophecy had his hand and pen been guided by inspiration, when he wrote: "The money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all wealth is aggregated in a few hands and the public is destroyed."

The Pointers (Greenfield, Mo.) says: Yes, the Alliance are "losing ground" every day. One hundred and forty-ton farm mortgages were foreclosed in Jewell county, Kansas, at the last term of court. That's "losing ground" pretty fast.

The Alliance Watchman (Marshall, Mo.) says:

Let the Alliance make a concerted effort to convince the merchants of this and other counties that they should be for the Alliance and with it. We have no interests that should not be in harmony. The Alliance does not aim to cheapen what it buys, but to increase what it sells.

Remember this, merchants, and also that what you think the grasping disposition of the farmer is caused by absolute necessity. What the Alliance is for is a value for labor, no matter whether the labor is performed on the farm, in the shop, or behind the merchant counter.

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 21, 1891
To all who desire to become thoroughly posted upon the sub-treasury and land-loan system, I take pleasure in recommending, among other reform books, a book written by Brother Stephen M. Scott, State lecturer of Kansas; especially should each sub-Alliance secure a copy to be kept for the instruction of its members. The book is written in a plain and common-sense form, with questions and answers that may be easily understood. What we need is more just such documents as this in the hands of our people.

Respectfully, L. L. POUL,

TOPEKA, KAN., 1891.

BROTHER SCOTT: Your sub-treasury plan and land-loan system meets with our hearty approval. It brings out the true idea, to wit, that its great object is to give elasticity to our monetary system. It is not a scheme gotten up to benefit farmers or planters alone, but it affords a completeness to our monetary system which it never before possessed. It is thus a benefit to every class of people alike, except the financial pirate and speculator. Yours truly,

J. G. OTIS, M. C., from Kansas.

In order that the book may do the most good in the shortest possible time, we are authorized to state that any sub-county or State lecturer can procure a copy of above book by addressing the author at McPherson, Kan., and inclose 15 cents, postal note or stamps. The price of the book is 25 cents. This offer is made until January 1. Send your name and postal note or stamps at once. The books should be in the hands of every Alliance man in America.

The Alliance Times (Oberlin, Kan.) says:

More and more are the great masses of the people learning to comprehend the functions and powers of the government as their general agent. What right has that agent to issue the people's money to corporations, at a cost of 1 per cent a month, license those corporations to loan it to the people at a cost of 8 to 25 per cent? We believe with John C. Calhoun—that the people should not be required to pay interest on government credit, while said credit could be extended to them without interest. We believe Thomas Jefferson—that the power to issue money should be taken from the banks and restored to the people and to Congress, to which it rightfully belongs.

We believe, with James G. Blaine, not only that "the one defective element in the national bank system is that it requires the permanence of national debt as the basis of existence," but that any such system is inherently false and wrong and can not be justified on any principle of justice or equity.

Touching our present system, we entirely agree with late Secretary Windom in his last utterances upon the subject when he said that financial disasters had always come when unusual activity in business has caused an abnormal

surplus of capital.

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