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CONT'D.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL FARMERS ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION

DEVOTED TO SOCIAL, FINANCIAL, AND POLITICAL ECONOMY.

VOL. 4.

WASHINGTON, D. C., JANUARY 3, 1891.

NO. 16.

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SO FAR all the Alliance exchanges speak approvingly of the message of President Polk at the Ocala meeting. The outside press are divided, as usual, in their opinions, some conceding its soundness and practicability, while others pretend to discover ruin and disaster in its recommendations. One point seems quite certain; the people are thinking for themselves now, and will weigh all such public utterances in their own balances, and draw their own conclusions. The people can be trusted.

THE POWER OF MONEY TO OPPRESS

BY N. A. DUNNING.

While every demand made by the Alliance is founded upon ultimate truth, the necessity and correctness of the one asking for an increase of currency among the people can be at once demonstrated to the entire satisfaction of all candid thinking individuals. The statistics of the past quarter of a century prove the following propositions beyond a question of doubt:

1. That the per capita volume of currency has been constantly and materially lessened.
2. That bankruptcy and failures have rapidly multiplied in consequence.
3. That the national debt during this period has increased instead of being diminished.

It now remains for me to substantiate the above statements, which I will undertake to do as briefly and plainly as the facts and space will permit. The question of the amount of currency in circu-

lation is one that necessarily involves a resort to certain estimates, which should be fairly and carefully considered. It has recently, however, become a prime factor in partisan politics and financial duplicity, which subjects it to all the misleading statements and false assumptions that usually accompany a discussion of financial propositions under such conditions. The ordinary reader is many times led to mistake high-sounding phrases and uncommon words for good argument, and as a result becomes settled in an opinion without being able to give the shadow of an intelligent reason therefor. Another mistake is frequently made in always considering the deductions drawn by government officials from government statistics as absolutely correct, because the exact reverse has been proven in many instances. If the farmer would apply the same kind of logic when considering the volume of currency that he does to his corn crib or pork barrel, approximately correct conclusions would be easily obtained. If it was desirable to know how much had been fed to the stock or consumed by the family, it would be hardly fair to ascertain what remained in the crib or barrel, and assume that the difference had been used by the stock or family, especially when more or less had been loaned or sold to others. Just so with the government; it manufactures under fiat of law certain amounts of money, and when asked to give that portion which is circulating among the people it subtracts the amount on hand from the quantity manufactured and declares the difference to be in circulation. The plain fact is either overlooked or ignored that certain stringent laws are on the statute books which specifically demand that certain other portions of this currency shall be locked up and held as reserves, and consequently not in any sense in circulation; that other portions have been lost, destroyed, sent out of the country or used for other purposes. When proper deductions are made to conform to the law, and reasonable allowances given for other factors which conspire to reduce the amount, the following

table with a brief explanation will be found substantially correct:

CIRCULATION PER CAPITA.

Year.	Population.	Per capita.
1866.....	35,819,281	\$1,863,409,216 \$52.01
1867.....	36,269,502	1,350,949,218 37.51
1868.....	37,016,949	794,756,112 21.47
1869.....	37,779,800	730,705,638 19.34
1870.....	38,558,371	691,028,377 18.70
1871.....	39,750,073	670,344,147 16.89
1872.....	40,978,607	661,641,363 16.14
1873.....	42,245,110	652,896,762 15.45
1874.....	43,550,756	632,032,773 14.51
1875.....	44,896,705	630,427,609 14.04
1876.....	46,284,344	620,316,970 13.40
1877.....	47,714,829	586,328,074 12.28
1878.....	48,955,306	549,540,087 11.23
1879.....	50,155,783	534,424,248 10.65
1880.....	51,660,456	528,524,267 10.23
1881.....	53,210,269	510,632,433 11.48
1882.....	54,806,577	657,404,084 11.97
1883.....	56,550,714	648,205,895 11.48
1884.....	58,144,235	591,476,978 10.17
1885.....	59,888,562	533,405,001 8.90
1886.....	61,685,218	470,574,361 7.63
1887.....	63,535,774	423,452,221 6.67
1888.....	65,000,000	398,719,212 6.10
1889.....	65,000,000	366,999,982 4.72

The above calculations from 1865 to 1885 I carefully prepared and published in my book, "The Philosophy of Price." I have recently made the calculation from 1885 to 1889, and find by the census report that I have overestimated the amount of population, which would increase the per capita circulation about 40 cents each for these years. With this statement the above tables will stand the most searching criticism, and their truthfulness can be successfully defended. As a natural and logical result of such rapid per capita contraction of the circulating medium, the following table of business failures is given. While the figures in this statement are appalling, they do not give more than one-half or one-third of the actual number or amount. The real estate mortgage failures, the chattel mortgage failures, and the deed of trust failures are not and can not be given with any degree of accuracy, yet everyone knows they are numbered by tens if not hundreds of thousands. Besides these there are the railroad and corporation receivership; the vast amount of compromised indebtedness, and other forms of liquidation which are but different terms for business failures. By comparing this table with the one above it will be seen that the number of failures have kept even pace with the reduction in the volume of currency excepting the years which followed 1873 and 1878. At

this last date, the year which immediately preceded specie resumption, all values were nearly eliminated and left no room for further failures for some time.

The failures in the United States from 1865 to 1889 were—

Year.	Number.	Liabilities.
1865.....	520	\$17,625,000
1866.....	632	47,333,000
1867.....	2,780	96,666,000
1868.....	2,608	63,694,000
1869.....	2,799	75,054,000
1870.....	3,551	88,242,000
1871.....	2,915	85,252,000
1872.....	4,060	121,036,000
1873.....	5,183	228,499,000
1874.....	5,830	155,239,000
1875.....	7,740	201,000,000
1876.....	9,092	191,117,000
1877.....	8,872	190,669,000
1878.....	10,478	234,483,132
1879.....	6,658	98,149,053
1880.....	4,735	65,752,000
1881.....	5,582	81,155,932
1882.....	6,738	102,000,000
1883.....	9,184	172,874,172
1884.....	10,968	226,343,427
1885.....	11,211	267,340,264
1886.....	12,292	229,288,238
1887.....	12,042	335,121,888
1888.....	13,348	247,659,956
1889.....	13,277	312,496,742
Total.....	161,332	3,919,394,824

This table will not agree with Bradstreet's because a certain per cent is added for failures of a smaller amount than that agency recognizes.

After a careful examination of these tables the question must naturally present itself to every honest man, Was it necessary for 162,000 business men to pass through the horrors of bankruptcy and suffer the torture which always waits upon such conditions, or that \$4,000,000,000 of hard earned property should be unnaturally and wrongfully transferred, because of the power of an inadequate volume of money to oppress? Has the experiment been a success, and is the nation greater or stronger for having passed through this trying ordeal in order to make United States bonds bear a premium of 25 per cent? Human nature and honest connections revolt at the plain facts contained in this statement, and the universal verdict must be that conditions which conspire to bring about such results must be unwise and unjust. While the first table given discloses "the power of money to oppress," the second table furnishes ample proof of its existence.

But there is other and stronger evidence of the destructive forces

contained in the first table that can not be disproved. It is as plain as the noon-day sun and is found in the increase of the national debt notwithstanding the vast sums that have been paid as principal, interest and premium. A careful and thorough analysis of the following statement and table is requested of the reader:

The national debt in 1866 amounted to \$2,783,000,000. We have paid on the principal of the public debt \$1,599,665,312, and as interest on same \$4,540,726,049,

and a further sum of \$58,540,000 as premiums on bonds purchased, amounting in all to \$4,198,931,361. Yet we find the debt of the nation has actually increased if paid in the labor and products of the people (any person of ordinary intelligence knows it can not be paid in anything else); that is to say, it will take more labor products to pay what we now owe at present prices than it would have taken to pay the entire indebtedness in 1866 at the prices then. As proof of this the table below is given.

In regard to its correctness, reference is called to any authentic price lists of products for the years named:

INCREASE OF THE NATIONAL DEBT IF PAID IN FARM PRODUCTS.			
	Debt in 1866, \$2,783,000,000.	Debt in 1890, \$1,183,344,688.	Amount, 1890. Actual Increase.
Products necessary / Amount, 1866			
Beef.....	129,000,000	256,666,937	107,656,937
Pork.....	87,000,000	147,916,836	60,916,836
Wheat.....	1,007,000,000	1,912,222,448	905,222,448
Oats.....	3,262,350,000	5,917,773,340	2,755,423,340
Corn.....	2,218,000,000	3,944,448,893	1,726,448,893
Cotton.....	4,281,538,451	4,733,338,752	451,800,301
Wool.....			*Prices in 1867.

This table clearly shows that notwithstanding the national debt has been nearly twice paid in principal and interest, the portion which yet remains is larger than the original. This statement will not hold good, when mere dollars and cents are considered, but is absolutely true as regards the amounts of the products of labor that it is necessary to purchase these different sums of money. The matter stands about as follows:

Had the debt been contracted to be paid in wheat it would have taken, in 1866, 1,007,000,000 bushels.

We have paid on the prin-	Bushels.
cipal	1,786,460,000
As interest.....	2,823,328,000
As premium on bonds.....	62,770,000
Total paid.....	4,652,558,000
We yet owe.....	1,958,389,084

Had the debt been contracted to be paid in cotton it would have taken, in 1867, 7,092,000,000 pounds.

We have paid on the prin-	Pounds.
cipal	16,077,683,000
As interest	25,407,260,000
As premiums on bonds.....	565,000,000

Total paid.....	42,049,943,000
We yet owe.....	11,752,316,000

When it is remembered that all private indebtedness has gone through the same process; that a mortgage which was given prior to 1872, and remains half unpaid, is larger and more burdensome than when first given; that the man who has worked hard and economized closely during all these years to pay one-half or two-thirds of his indebtedness is no better off, and in nearly every case more in debt than when he first began, measured by the remuneration received for his own efforts, is there any wonder that wide-spread distress and discontent obtain among the wealth producers of the country?

THE DEMANDS AT OCALA.

On account of the continued and persistent misrepresentations by the press in regard to the action of the recent national meeting at Ocala, with reference to the sub-treasury plan, it is deemed best to give the plain facts in connection with that matter. During the evening of the sixth day the committee on demands made the following report, as shown by the official minutes:

Section 1. We demand the abolition of national banks, and that the government shall establish sub-treasuries or depositories in the several States, which sub-treasuries shall loan money to the people on approved security at a low rate of interest, not to exceed two per cent per annum: *Provided*, That real estate, non-perishable farm products shall be considered approved security; and that the circulating medium be increased to at least \$50 per capita, keeping the volume equal to the demand.

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 abuse now existing, we demand the government ownership of such means of communication and transportation.

7. We demand that 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.

Immediately after the adoption of the above Mr. Davie, of Kentucky, introduced the following resolution, which was adopted by a rising vote with only four members voting against it.

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

The vote by States on the first proposition was as follows:

Yes. No.

Alabama.....	4
Arkansas Alliance.....	2
Arkansas Union.....	2
Indian Territory.....	2
Virginia.....	4
West Virginia.....	2
New York.....	1
Kansas.....	8
Florida.....	3
North Dakota.....	2
South Dakota.....	3
Kentucky.....	4
Pennsylvania, not voting.	
Michigan.....	3
Louisiana.....	4
Mississippi.....	2
Indiana.....	2
Illinois.....	2
Missouri.....	2
Georgia.....	7
North Carolina.....	4
South Carolina.....	4
Texas.....	4
Colorado, not voting.	
Tennessee.....	1
Maryland.....	2
California.....	2
L. L. Polk, President.....	1

After a whole year of ridicule, abuse, false argument and misrepresentation, in a convention representing twenty-nine States, but seven votes could be found against it and only one state, Illinois, voting solidly in opposition. Even one-third of the delegation from Missouri, the home of the most

B. H. Clover, Vice-Pres....	1
J. H. Turner, Secretary....	1
C. W. Macune, Chr. Ex....	1
Jones, Judiciary Com.....	Absent.
A. Wardall.....	1

Tennessee, in voting 1aye and 3 no, explained that they would have voted 4aye on the section as it came from the committee before it was amended.

This would have made but seven votes against that portion of the report which contained the sub-treasury clause. The balance of the demands were adopted unanimously, as follows:

2. That we demand that Congress shall pass such laws as shall effectually prevent the dealing in futures of all agricultural and mechanical productions; preserving a stringent system of procedure in trials as shall secure the prompt conviction, and imposing such penalties as shall secure the most perfect compliance with the law.

3. We condemn the silver bill recently passed by Congress, and demand in lieu thereof the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

4. We demand the passage of laws prohibiting alien ownership of land, and that Congress take prompt action to devise some plan to obtain all lands now owned by aliens and foreign syndicates; and that all lands now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of such as is actually used and needed by them be reclaimed by the government, and held for actual settlers only.

5. Believing in the doctrine of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, we demand that our national legislation shall be so framed in the future as not to build up one industry at the expense of another; and we further demand a removal of the existing heavy tariff tax from the necessities of life that the poor of our land must have; we further demand a just and equitable system of graduated tax on incomes; we believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and hence we demand that all national and State revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government economically and honestly 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 abuse now existing, we demand the government ownership of such means of communication and transportation.

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South Dakota.....	3
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Pennsylvania, not voting.	
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Louisiana.....	4
Mississippi.....	2
Indiana.....	2
Illinois.....	2
Missouri.....	2
Georgia.....	7
North Carolina.....	4
South Carolina.....	4
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Tennessee.....	1
Maryland.....	2
California.....	2
L. L. Polk, President.....	1

After a whole year of ridicule, abuse, false argument and misrepresentation, in a convention representing twenty-nine States, but seven votes could be found against it and only one state, Illinois, voting solidly in opposition. Even one-third of the delegation from Missouri, the home of the most

unfair, unjust and misleading opposition, voted for the proposition. It was a complete victory for the supporters of the sub-treasury plan, and demonstrated that it or something better would be demanded and insisted upon by the intelligent farmers of this country.

A GOOD many papers throughout the country, a few of them claiming to be labor papers, have industriously sought for the last year to make the impression upon the public mind that there was a direct antagonism between the sub-treasury plan and the system of having the government loan money direct to the people upon real estate.

Time and again THE ECONOMIST has sought to dispel this illusion and to contradict these statements, but as yet there are many who have seen only one side of the question, and have been led to believe, on account of the publications in papers referred to, that there is more or less antagonism between the land loan system and the sub-treasury bill. It is gratifying now to be able to hail the world with notice that the position of THE ECONOMIST has been sustained by the recent meeting of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union at Ocala, where both systems have been put into one of the demands of the Order. In fact, so completely do these systems harmonize and go together that they have been linked hand in hand in the first demand made.

The truth of the whole matter is the land loan bill would be of very little practical benefit to the farmers and laboring people of the United States if they do not get the sub-treasury system first, because under present conditions the farmer is not getting a fair chance. There is a discrimination against him which, if allowed to prevail, will grow worse and worse, and were the volume of money increased to any amount and present conditions allowed to continue, it would only be a question of time when he would find himself worse off than he is to-day if possible. But should the sub-treasury system be inaugurated the discrimination against the farmer will be removed, and he, having an equal chance to get his share of the products of labor, will be benefited by every increase in the volume of currency thereafter.

Once for all let it be thoroughly understood that there is no antagonism whatever between these two measures; they go hand in hand like brothers. The Alliance desires the sub-treasury first as a stepping stone to the increase of the volume of currency, to the end that debtors may have justice done them and may be enabled to discharge their obligations under conditions equally as advantageous as those that obtained when the debts were contracted.

The association met at 2 p. m. pursuant to adjournment. In absence of President Dines, G. A. Gowan was elected chairman pro tempore.

A committee of five was appointed on transportation and freight charges. The association adjourned to meet at 2 p. m.

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A committee of five was appointed on agricultural implements and manufactures.

A committee of three was appointed to formulate a plan for the formation

of business agencies or exchanges, with recommendations, on approval of which by this association shall be referred through Brother Peek for consideration of the National Alliance. The committee appointed W. L. Peek, chairman, G. A. Gowan, W. W. Holland, and I. L. Polk, President.

PROCEEDINGS.

Annual Meeting of the State Business Agents Association.

OCALA, FLORIDA, Dec. 1, 1890.

The State Business Agents Association met in Hall of Donnelton Phosphate Co., with the following officers and members present:

President, J. B. Dines, St. Louis, Mo. Secretary, Oswald Wilson, New York City.

W. L. Peek, President Georgia Exchange, Atlanta, Ga.

W. H. Worth, State Business Agent, Raleigh, N. C.

G. A. Gowan, State Business Agent, Nashville, Tenn.

G. F. Gaither, State Business Agent, Birmingham, Ala.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

not forget the last clause of section 3, article 6.

I could go on and enumerate many things that suggest themselves, but do not wish to be tedious, and recognizing and feeling that this body will take such action as is necessary for its own advancement and good, and trusting the interest of our Order to your deliberations, and feeling confident that you will meet bravely, coolly, and unselfishly the great work which now lies before you, the realization of your responsibility and the necessity of having justice done to all represented, as we do to the humble as well as the high, that we must strive always to strengthen the ties that now bind us together in our common brotherhood; I assure you, as your chairman, that I am ever ready to aid to the full extent of my power the carrying out of our motto: "Equal rights to all and special privileges to none."

Let us, therefore, brethren, be true to our God, to our families, and to our country; and enter upon the business of the meeting with full confidence in each other's brotherly love, looking to the perfection and prosperity of all the ordinary features that are encumbent upon us, seeking to free the farmers from undue influence, within or without, striving to carry out the principles of our association as representative of our country.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. DINES, President.

Vice President Holland made a verbal report.

Secretary Wilson read the following report, which, on motion, was referred to committee on order of business:

To the officers and members of the State Business Agents Association:

Greeting:

As secretary of your association I have not much to report as to the actual transactions performed, but can offer some suggestions which I think will be a profit to all of us. This association dates its existence from May, 1888, when at the call of Brother Mancun, the business agent of Texas, representatives from several States met in New Orleans and formed the State Business Agents Association, of which I had the honor to be elected secretary. Through the exigencies of the yellow fever in Florida, that year, which more or less effected all Southern States, and the resignation of our chairman, Brother Clarke, of Tennessee, the association did not have another meeting until we were called together in St. Louis, last December.

The message of our worthy president points out some of the reforms needed and methods that we may profitably adopt. I can see before me many new faces, and I feel sure that none of you are as far advanced in this movement as myself. I look upon this business effort as one of the most important reforms to be undertaken by our organization, and I am ready and willing to make our association as strong and effective as any of the vast associations now controlling commerce in their respective lines.

We have a battle to fight in which we have arrayed against us capital, experience and ability, while on our side we have nothing but a large army of struggling producers, who are seeking relief upon every hand and do not appreciate the full importance of commercial reform. We see before us in nearly every other branch of commerce their representative associations and exchanges, by means of which they control that particular line of industry.

Our position with the National Alliance is not clearly defined, and I regret that some of our members look upon our work as merely an outside one, and that they do not appreciate the fact that our State agencies and exchanges are the leveler in prices in each State; no matter whether the consumer is a member of the Alliance or not, he is benefited by the general reduction in prices.

I think we should ask the National Alliance to create this association a standing committee with all the powers and privileges appertaining to same, and that they should make a provision in the constitution of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union for this purpose; and that the constitution of this association should be so

amended that we can maintain effective co-operation all along the line. The interests of our membership are as varied as the different States, and often they are in sections.

Until our association is sufficiently advanced and the membership appreciating its importance, I think the work should be divided off into standing committees representing the interest peculiar to each section. For instance, the South should have a cotton committee, the West a grain committee, etc., who can prosecute the work in that direction for the ensuing year. I think the time will come when we can employ a set of officials who will prosecute all national questions for the benefit of the entire membership.

I have made some contracts in different lines and have immediately notified the members of this association to that effect, but it seems they have not understood or appreciated the value of this association, hence have not given the proper attention thereto. I have pursued one line of investigation, which I think is very important to every farmer, viz: agricultural implements, seeds and fertilizers, and we attach hereto copies of correspondence which I have carried on this past year, with some suggestions in that line.

I desire, now, that this association take this matter up where I leave it off, and prosecute it to a successful issue. Permit me, in conclusion, to say that I am more than pleased at the interest manifested by your presence at this meeting, and I will look forward with a great deal of pleasure to the further efforts which will result from our deliberations, provided the efforts of our association are seconded by the work of each individual member. Our enemy cannot meet us successfully if we stand united, but if every agent attempts to work out this problem single-handed and alone, each will fall an easy prey to the powers of monopoly. I am convinced that we have gone as far as we can as individual agents, and that we still are far from giving our people the full relief they stand so much in need of, and that it will take something more powerful than State agencies to give our people commercial reform.

While perhaps I may be farther advanced in this than any present, yet I am terribly in earnest. I have seen our farmers fail, simply from a lack of cooperation. No one alliance has sufficient co-operation to overcome the coffee exchange, which regulates the price of every pound of coffee used in the United States. Our association can import coffee for all of the agents, thereby saving thousands of dollars to us in perfecting and carrying on our several State exchanges and business agencies.

As to the minute details of how a manager should conduct his exchange, we are at a loss to report any specific plan that could be adopted, from the fact that transportation facilities and peculiarities of local commerce are as different and various as the several States. But would earnestly recommend that each manager present give his experience and suggestions from which we may with profit call such as will aid us in perfecting and carrying on our several State exchanges and business agencies.

We, your committee, beg leave to report that, so far as we have been able to ascertain, the Alliance sewing machine, manufactured by the Foley Williams Manufacturing Company, is the best we have examined, and we would recommend a due consideration of same, with other goods they manufacture. The Sandwich Binder Company of Illinois submitted a proposition; which was referred to proper committee. We have examined the wagon of Hatcher Iron Wagon Company, and would recommend that our different members duly consider same, and when at all practicable use the same. Also, the same of Florence Wagon Company manufactures. We recommend for due consideration the Alliance Manufacturing Company of Virginia, which will soon manufacture wagons, plows, etc. We recommend the Wayne Agricultural works for those agents who can use such plows. We recommend that the agents of all the States consider the claims and propositions of the Chattanooga Plow Company, Brothers Wesson, of Kentucky; Meadows, of North Carolina, and Dalby, of North Carolina, exhibited samples of tobacco from their respective factories, and would recommend that the different agents use these goods whenever practicable, as they are Alliance factories. We recommend that all propositions from the different manufacturers be referred by the different agents receiving them to the proper standing committees. We further recommend, that it is the sense of this association to give due preference, all things being equal, to those manufacturers who have recognized and made contracts and prices to the various Alliance agencies.

Committee on transportation and freight rates—G. F. Gaither, chairman; T. A. Clayton, M. D. Coffeen, Oswald Wilson, G. G. Gross.

Committee on grain—M. D. Coffeen, chairman, Homer, Ill.; J. B. Dines, August Post, J. K. P. House.

Committee on fruits and vegetables—S. S. Howey, chairman, Pensacola, Fla.; W. K. Cessna, J. J. Rogers.

Committee on tobacco—W. W. Holland, chairman, Louisville, Ky.; A. R. Venable, Jr., W. H. Worth.

The committee on order of business was made the constitutional committee.

The following special committees were appointed by the president:

To obtain a ruling from the N. F. A.

and I. U. creating the association a standing committee of the N. F. A. and I. U., with all powers, and appertaining to the same—Oswald Wilson, chairman; T. A. Clayton, W. L. Peek.

(For results of action of this committee, see proceedings of National Alliance.)

Committee on amendments to existing patent laws, M. D. Coffeen, chairman; G. F. Gaither, A. R. Venable, Jr., made report, which was referred to the National Alliance for their approval and endorsement. (See proceedings of National Alliance.)

Committee to formulate a plan for operation of State exchanges and business agencies—W. L. Peek, chairman; W. W. Holland, G. H. Gowen.

On motion the association adjourned to meet at 2 p. m.

The association met at 2 p. m.

In absence of bagging committee, the special order was dispensed with, and A. R. Venable, Jr., offered the following resolution; which, on motion, was adopted:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this association that any information in regard to contracts that may be of advantage to any other member of this association shall be furnished free of charge by a member of the association; but that any business transacted, purchases made, or orders given, shall be done for members of the association by one another for one half the usual charges: Provided, That no charge shall be less than actual service performed.

The association adjourned to meet at 9 a. m. to-morrow.

December 4, 1890.

The association met pursuant to adjournment, President Dines in the chair.

The election of officers was made the special order for 11 a. m.

Committee on manufactures and agricultural implements reported; which, on motion, was adopted:

We, your committee, beg leave to report that, so far as we have been able to ascertain, the Alliance sewing machine, manufactured by the Foley Williams Manufacturing Company, is the best we have examined, and we would recommend a due consideration of same, with other goods they manufacture.

Respectfully submitted,

Oswald Wilson, Secretary.

The president announced the following standing committees for the ensuing year:

Committee on bagging for cotton—M. L. Donaldson, chairman, Greenville, S. C.; Oswald Wilson, J. B. Dines.

Committee on cotton arrangements and tare—T. A. Clayton, New Orleans, La., chairman; W. L. Peek, G. F.

Committee on binder twine and hawser machinery—Dr. A. K. Fraim, Minneapolis, Minn., chairman; M. D. Coffeen, J. K. P. House.

Committee on agricultural implements and machinery—G. F. Gaither, chairman, Birmingham, Ala.; G. H. Gowen, W. H. Worth, W. K. Cessna, J. J. Rogers.

Committee on transportation and freight rates—G. F. Gaither, chairman; T. A. Clayton, M. D. Coffeen, Oswald Wilson, G. G. Gross.

Committee on grain—M. D. Coffeen, chairman, Homer, Ill.; J. B. Dines, August Post, J. K. P. House.

Committee on fruits and vegetables—S. S. Howey, chairman, Pensacola, Fla.; W. K. Cessna, J. J. Rogers.

Committee on tobacco—W. W. Holland, chairman, Louisville, Ky.; A. R. Venable, Jr., W. H. Worth.

The committee on order of business was made the constitutional committee.

The following special committees were appointed by the president:

To obtain a ruling from the N. F. A.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Executive Board upon complaint of any member of this association that any manufacturer or dealer has discriminated against or wronged the Alliance, to investigate the complaint; if after giving the parties complained against a hearing it shall appear that our Order has been wronged, then the committee shall so report to the members of this association with recommendations.

Resolved, That the members of the Alliance condemn as unworthy of patronage any manufacturer or dealer who discriminates against or refuses the business of the farmers' organizations when such business is tendered, the manufacturer or dealer on equally as advantageous terms as others.

Resolved, Committee on cotton and tare made consolidated report which was adopted and referred to National Alliance for approval. (See proceedings of National Alliance.)

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ARTICLE IV.

This association shall meet annually at the place of and on the Thursday before the regular meeting of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union.

ARTICLE V.

The officers of this association shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and executive board—who shall be elected at the regular annual meeting of this association and shall hold office for one year, or until their successors are elected.

ARTICLE VI.

SECTION I. The president shall preside at all meetings of the association and perform duties usually incumbent upon such presiding officer. He shall call special meetings upon request of the majority of State agents or managers whenever questions of general interest demand.

SEC. 2. The vice-president, in the absence of the president, shall perform his duties.

SEC. 3. The secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of each meeting of the association, print and mail to each member of the association a copy of the same, carefully record and file all papers belonging to the association, and do the correspondence of the association.

SEC. 4. The treasurer shall receive all moneys from the secretary and pay same on order of executive board signed by the secretary.

SEC. 5. The executive board shall consist of the president, vice-president, and one member of this association to be elected at same time and place as other officers.

ARTICLE VII.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

The executive board shall make assessments on a just and equitable basis for such amounts as may be needed by the officers and standing committees of this association, regard being had in the levying of assessments to the location and amount of interest the different States may have in the matter for which the levy is made.

ARTICLE VIII.

A copy of all contracts made and information obtained by the various standing committees, and members of this association, severally shall be furnished to the secretary, who shall carefully record and file the same for the information of the association.

ARTICLE IX.

The membership fee for this association shall be one dollar and the annual dues two dollars, payable in advance.

The hour having arrived for special order the election of officers was declared in order, and resulted as follows:

J. B. Dines, President, re-elected.

W. L. Peek, Vice-President, re-elected.

J. K. P. House, Treasurer.

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A MANUFACTURER'S VIEW.
THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST several months ago received a letter from a well known manufacturer of farm implements, which will be found of interest to those brethren who are now investigating the business effort of the Alliance:

As to dealing direct with the Farmers Alliance, Grange, and other organizations of that kind, I have to say that for some years back I have given the matter very serious and careful consideration, but up to this time I have not seen my way clear to deal direct with them. I would like very much indeed to have a conversation with some one who is thoroughly posted in regard to these organizations, with a view of posting myself thoroughly. It is rather difficult to write about such matters; first, because they ought to be strictly confidential, and second, because it would make quite a lengthy letter. But I have decided to bring out a few of the points in this letter, for your consideration.

In the first place, you know it has always been quite difficult to get any new implement well and thoroughly introduced among farmers; no matter how worthy the implement may be. I have been in this business ever since boyhood; in fact have never been in any other business for thirty odd years and in that time have introduced quite a number of good, first class implements, and have really been quite successful. I have learned however, that to introduce a new implement is very much like giving a ball to a horse, it has got to be forced down the horse's throat, and a new implement, be it ever so worthy, has got to be forced down the farmer's throat. Thousands, ~~say millions~~ of dollars are spent in getting these goods before farmers. They are very skeptical, and for the first few years it takes a great deal of money. If there is any money in introducing a new article, in order to get it introduced at all, and with reasonable rapidity, we must employ some one to go out and show the implement up. Not only to show it at fairs, but to show it in practical operation. Now it is not practical for any manufacturer to employ thousands of men to do that; it is very slow work. The only alternative, therefore, is to employ dealers and local agents, who have to depend for their compensation entirely upon the commission on their sales, and I assure you that these dealers and local agents earn all their commission; in fact, I do not believe that taking all the agents throughout the country, they have earned \$1. a day on goods of my class. Some few, of course have been successful and have done well; but like the gold-diggers of California, where there is one that has been successful there are nine that might better have worked on the road at \$1.50 a day. Farmers demand so much. They want us to send an implement, for instance, to Dakota, or some other far off State; they want to try it on, not a piece of ground, but on all the different kinds of soil they have. Then if they do not like it,

they want to return it, and if the harrow comes back, of course it is practically useless, for it has got to be all made over again, and it costs about as much to do that as it does to build one. Now, so long as farmers demand all this, of course the farmers have to pay for it. They cannot expect us to play the fiddle for nothing. I will admit, what you probably already know, that it costs more to sell goods of this kind than it does to make them up. It costs more simply because farmers make it necessary to do so much, and so long as they demand so much, they cannot expect to buy cheap. You must admit that where there is one farmer who will buy an implement in a businesslike way, just as he buys a pair of boots or a hat, there are ten who will want all the privileges that have been mentioned, and unfortunately the man who buys in a business-like way has to bear his share of the loss in selling to that class. That is what it amounts to in the end.

Now the question is, how are we to overcome this difficulty by dealing with the Alliance? Surely it cannot be expected that we shall furnish to the Alliance goods at a cheaper rate, or perhaps at the wholesale price, and give them the privilege of letting them out to farmers on the old plan, to be tried and sent back if some glib-tongued agent for some rival firm in the mean time calls upon them and talks them out of buying it. If we have got to do business that way we have got to do it ourselves, so that we can keep a strict oversight.

If you answer that the Alliance does not expect goods to be sent out in that way, but that they will buy them out and out, paying for them just as they would pay for any other commodities, I have to ask, who is to represent my goods; who is to show up the merits of the goods to the farmers and induce them to buy? It does not seem to me as though the officers of the Alliance would have any particular interest in my particular line, more than they would in any other. If I employ agents, of course they devote their time to my business, and it is their business to go and see the different farmers and see that they understand the implement, and then quite a large portion of the farmers buy, many of whom would not buy unless the matter had been brought to their particular attention. Therefore, in any effort to instruct the State's representatives in Congress, the Order must receive support from some of the political parties.

In regard to advertising, if I advertise in special Alliance papers I feel sure that I should offend dealers and agents, as they would get the idea that I was dealing directly with Alliances. Nevertheless, and after mature thought, I think I should take a line of advertising in Alliance papers. If I was going to do any advertising at all, but, as I wrote you in a recent letter, the outlook is so poor that I do not think it is going to pay me to spend any money in advertising just now. You may not know it, but I have been a very large advertiser, having spent as much as \$3,000 in newspaper advertising in one year, and it has paid me, too, but for the last few years it has not paid, and I do not believe that it is very safe to spend money in my line on advertising, and do not expect to do so.

delivery, or after trial, he may not give it until he has been written to several times, and then when it comes due he has no idea of paying it unless he has sold his cotton, or his wheat. Now, I have sent out for many years, on the first of November, which is my settling day, from 1,200 to 2,000 farmer's notes. Probably almost all of them are ultimately paid, but you would be surprised at the many of them that come back not settled, and that will not be settled for some days, weeks, or months afterward, all with the plea that they have not sold their wheat, cotton, or something has happened to prevent payment. All of this makes a great amount of labor, a great amount of detail work, and, of course, the farmer must ultimately pay for it, and, I repeat, it would be folly to attempt to sell our goods cheaper than we do unless we can sell them in a businesslike way. You take the majority of the manufacturers in the United States (I am speaking of those in my line) and they will be glad to do business on a profit of 10 per cent; I would, anyway, if I could do it as dry-goods men do business, viz., if I could feel that when I sent an implement to a farmer it was sold, and if he did not pay the cash down he would pay for it the day he agreed to pay for it, and not demand, first, the privilege of trial and sending it back to me, or, if he keeps it, to pay for it when he finds it convenient to do so. I repeat, 10 per cent would be a splendid profit on my line if I could do business in that way.

Question. Can I do business in that way through the Alliance, and at the same time be sure that my goods will be thoroughly well represented and pushed? I have never been able to find out that I could do it in that way. I will say to you plainly, I would like to deal through the Alliance, or through some such organization, and I hope the day will come when I shall be able to do so. If goods can be sold in that way in large quantities and in a business-like way, they can be sold for a good deal less than farmers pay now. All that I admit; but can the farmer be educated to do business in that way? There comes the rub, and after an experience of 30 years I must say that I am fearful that it will be a long time before the farmer will stand on such a platform.

In regard to advertising, if I advertise in special Alliance papers I feel sure that I should offend dealers and agents, as they would get the idea that I was dealing directly with Alliances. Nevertheless, and after mature thought, I think I should take a line of advertising in Alliance papers. If I was going to do any advertising at all, but, as I wrote you in a recent letter, the outlook is so poor that I do not think it is going to pay me to spend any money in advertising just now. You may not know it, but I have been a very large advertiser, having spent as much as \$3,000 in newspaper advertising in one year, and it has paid me, too, but for the last few years it has not paid, and I do not believe that it is very safe to spend money in my line on advertising, and do not expect to do so.

FLORIDA.

Tune—Beulah Land.
Oh Florida, so rich and rare,
Thy matrons kind and maidens fair,
Thy sires and sons, with social arts,
Have won the love of all our hearts.
CHORUS—Bright Orange Land! Sweet
Orange Land!
As in thy pleasant groves we
stand
We realize thy greatness rare,
And breathe for thee an earnest prayer,

And when upon our Kansas plain,
Or broad Dakota's field of grain,
Or in rich Colorado's mine,
We still will love this land of thine.
The Sucker sings his golden corn,
The Hoosier empties plenty's horn;
Each Northern State its treasures find,
But Florida hath all combined.
Then, when we reach our Northern
land,
And 'mid oursnows and ices stand,
Our hearts with love's most thrilling
rhyme,
Will sing of Flora's sunny clime.

During the excursion of the National Alliance through Florida, the above was composed by Brother Stelle, who is national secretary of the F. M. B. A. A glee club was organized on the train and the piece learned. It was afterward sung with a fine effect on several occasions.

NORTH CAROLINA SENATORSHIP.

Country Homes, of Asheville, N. C., gives the politics of the representatives of that State in the National and State legislatures as follows:

United States Senate, 2 Democrats.

House of Representatives, 1 Republican, 2 Alliance Democrats, and 6 Democrats.

State Senate, 1 Alliance Republican, 7 Republicans, 12 Democrats, and 31 Alliance Democrats.

State House of Representatives, 1 Alliance Republican, 18 Republicans, 62 Democrats, and 69 Alliance Democrats.

It is evident, from the above estimate, that while the Alliance can pass whatever it may unite upon in the State Senate, it cannot enforce any demand through the House. Therefore, in any effort to instruct the State's representatives in Congress, the Order must receive support from some of the political parties.

In regard to advertising, if I advertise in special Alliance papers I feel sure that I should offend dealers and agents, as they would get the idea that I was dealing directly with Alliances. Nevertheless, and after mature thought, I think I should take a line of advertising in Alliance papers. If I was going to do any advertising at all, but, as I wrote you in a recent letter, the outlook is so poor that I do not think it is going to pay me to spend any money in advertising just now. You may not know it, but I have been a very large advertiser, having spent as much as \$3,000 in newspaper advertising in one year, and it has paid me, too, but for the last few years it has not paid, and I do not believe that it is very safe to spend money in my line on advertising, and do not expect to do so.

NOVEMBER 20, 1890.
Hon. Z. B. Vance, Black Mountain, Buncombe Co., N. C.

DEAR SIR: After carefully considering the political situation in our State, I deem it wise to write you and ask the following question:

If the legislature instructs you to advocate and vote for the sub-treasury plan of financial reform, will you carry out said instructions in good faith? I hope that you will understand I do not reflect in the slightest degree on your devotion to the people of North Carolina.

Lina, but there are precedents where United States Senators have carried out instructions, and also precedents where they have disregarded them. I trust that you will give me an answer at your earliest convenience.

Very respectfully,
ELIAS CARR,
Pres. N. C. F. S. A.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
December 6, 1890.
Elias Carr, President N. C. Farmers
Alliance, Old Sparta, N. C.

DEAR SIR: In answer to your official communication of the 20th ult., which did not reach me until the 1st inst., I have to say that I recognize the old Democratic doctrine of the right of the people to instruct their representatives to the fullest extent to which it has ever been carried in North Carolina. I hold that the will of the people, clearly and unequivocally expressed, must be obeyed unless compliance would involve the representation in a moral wrong, in which case it would be his duty to resign and give place to a representative who would obey. Good faith in the observance of instructions and public pledges is absolutely essential to a government based on the popular will.

4. That these resolutions be sent to the Progressive Farmer and NATIONAL ECONOMIST for publication.

CONGRESSMAN ALLEN, of Mississippi, in a recent speech, said:

Very respectfully yours,
Z. B. VANCE.

WAR.

The following resolutions from Gold Hill Alliance, No. 1,565, of Rockingham county, North Carolina, are worthy a careful reading by every member of the Alliance. They show a business-like and effective way of meeting the cowardly and unfair warfare that is being waged by the opposition press:

Whereas numerous journals have published with ready haste the literature of the enemies of the Alliance, and have not on the other hand published the presentations of its friends so as to give a fair and impartial hearing on the subject; and, whereas certain journals clearly manifesting, by their words and their actions, that while they do not love political integrity and the people's welfare less, they love party success and plutocratic interests more; and, whereas certain secular journals are subsidized in the interest of certain political factions, aspirants for office, corporations or monopolies, and only insert light literature and taffy to induce the patronage of the masses; and, whereas certain political journals, professing a friendship for the agricultural class, by spleenetic innuendo, or by false or ex parte charges impugn motives and misdeeds to members of the Alliance, or misrepresent them as to principles, not with a view of benefiting the farmer but for the purpose of stealthily injuring him. Therefore,

Resolved, That we recommend that each sub-Alliance appoint a committee of three on publications and periodicals, whose duty shall be to call the attention of its Alliance to any printed production, misleading as to argument, falsely insinuating in language, slanderous as to motives impugned, or false as to charges made, and shall, if so

directed, call attention of the printer thereto in writing and in a business manner.

2. That should such publisher continue hissy or inadvertent hostility toward the people's interest, or shall publish his paper directly in some interest other than that of the laboring masses, then said committee shall report the same to its sub-Alliance, which shall take such action as it may seem most conducive to the purification of the public press, and to the prevention of the debasement of the popular mind.

3. That all correspondence with any public journal, or a transcript of all criticisms made, shall first be read before, and approved by said sub-Alliance, and then shall be tendered to the journal against whose utterances exceptions have been raised for publication, and upon refusal they may be published elsewhere as the sub-Alliance may direct.

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INDUSTRIAL UNION.
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BY THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST PUBLISHING COMPANY.
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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 national meeting at 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 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.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.ENTERED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT WASHINGTON,
D. C., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

N. R. P. A.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST HAND BOOK OF FACTS and Alliance information is now about ready and is sure to please. It contains the proceedings of the Ocala meeting, parliamentary rules, a concise description of each State, its products, population, size, and so forth. It has the postal, copyright, patent and license laws; the congressional directory, together with a more complete and valuable list of tables on productive and economic topics than can be found in books costing ten times as much. Every member of the Alliance, and every other person desirous of being posted on the important questions now before the public, can not afford to be without this book. The price is only 15 cents, or two copies for 25 cents, sent post-paid. Address NATIONAL ECONOMIST, 239 North Capitol street, Washington, D. C.

THE newspapers of the country are at present discussing the idea of "farmers in politics," just as though the farmer had ever been out of politics, and by implication assuming that 51 per cent of the population had heretofore exercised the political rights which obtain in the privilege of franchise in a perfunctory or machine-like manner without interest or care. To a certain extent this is true, and the very same class of papers and politicians who are deprecating what they contend is a change of conditions, are responsible for the situation. It is not so much that the farmers have been out of politics as it is that they have been trustful of the politicians. And the situation is not so much that the farmers have now gone into politics as it is that they have discov-

ered the real character and aims of their leaders. This discovery, because it comes so late, is all the more surprising to those who have so long enjoyed the fruits of such apathy, and they do not take kindly to the situation. It is an innovation upon the regular order of things political that the politicians are in no wise prepared for. That the country would be safe in the hands of the farmers no one will dispute. That they are the conservative element with all that term implies is also true. With such qualification, is there any probability of danger near or remote, to the nation by reason of their going into politics? If there is danger, wherein does it lie, and if there is no ground for fear, why all this foolish comment? The farmers have gone into active aggressive politics, and have gone in to stay. They were compelled to do so by the treachery of those in whom they had placed implicit confidence; they were forced to take this step in defense of their homes and families; they are being rapidly educated in their rights as citizens under the proper administration of just and adequate laws. These rights they propose to have, and that to the very last item. They propose, hereafter, to "hew to the lime, let the chips fall where they may." They propose to enforce to its fullest extent, the motto of their order "equal rights to all, special privileges to none." Politicians may demur and newspapers may continue their silly chatter, but the farmer in politics is here, and those who think he is not are quite certain to make a mistake. It is not partisan politics that this great industrial movement seeks to establish, but it is a purification of politics, a readjustment of economic legislation upon lines of fairness and equity to all classes of citizens that it is determined to bring about. If one method will not accomplish the object, another will be tried, but of the ultimate triumph no one need have a doubt.

J. B. DINES, president, and Oswald Wilson, secretary of the National Association of Business Agents, send out this week an important circular to all Alliances, and the membership will be greatly benefited if prompt reply is made.

IF THE American press and people would waste less time and sympathy for the Russian Jews, and devote more energy toward bettering the condition of the American pauper, they would not only enforce the old adage that "charity begins at home," but would find plenty to do and that at once. All this gush over foreigners in distress is made more sickening when a closer look is given to home surroundings. If the American people take care of their own poor first, it will require the greater part of their spare time; they will have no time to attend to the business of other nations.

AMONG the many kind things said of the editor of THE ECONOMIST by the Alliance press since the Ocala meeting adjourned, the following is clipped from the Alliance Home department of the Southern Alliance Farmer, of Atlanta, Ga. That department is edited by Mrs. Mildred Beryl Brown, and it is very gratifying indeed to receive such kind words of endorsement from so able and worthy a sister:

It is very gratifying to note the universal esteem in which Dr. Macune is held by the fraternity. On the floor of the late convention at Ocala, Fla., he commanded genuine admiration and the strictest attention. If he rose to his feet

are being introduced for the purpose of increasing the volume of money in the national treasury, but none to get it out direct among the people. Of what benefit, it might be asked, is an overflowing treasury without some means of placing the surplus among those who need it? The whole financial condition of the nation hinges upon these two points, shall the currency of the country go directly and consequently cheaply to the people, or reach them by the way of banks and bond owners, laden with tribute and interest. This whole contest is cheap money against dear money to the people, and that depends on the manner of its emission. In fact, there is virtually but one question to settle, and that is the method of getting money to the people; when that is done the whole will be decided. The reason the sub-treasury plan is so violently assailed is because it proposes a cheap, plain, practical and constitutional method of getting money from the treasury to the people. It is the principle of emitting money contained in this bill that is being condemned, no matter under what guise it may appear. It is the first proposition of the kind that has come before Congress backed by anything like an intelligent and popular demand, and hence all this abuse, ridicule, and misrepresentation. There is hardly any one who does not concede an increase of currency necessary, but when the question of placing it among the people is ventured, Wall street and its friends in Congress step in and dictate the policy. It has been true for years, and to this fact may be attributed the distress and disasters that are now so prevalent in the land. Let the Alliance papers and lecturers of the country devote as much space and time as possible to the discussion of the emission of money from the treasury, and the result will be gratifying beyond expectation.

EVERY member of the Alliance should send for THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST Hand-Book.

IN matters of finance it is always better to wait until the full hand of John Sherman is seen before deciding what will or will not be enacted into law. The bond provision proposed by Mr. Sherman as part of the plan of relief for the financial situation was stricken out by the caucus, but is now reported in a bill from the finance committee. This is done upon the principle which has long prevailed in legislation, that a part is greater than the whole. Wall street has demanded these bonds and no doubt will get them.

THE most important point in the education of the people upon economic questions at the present time is the emission of money from the national treasury. If that proposition was properly understood a larger portion of the fog and glamor which now surrounds the so-called money question would be cleared away. Hundreds of bills

THE REPUBLICS OF THE WORLD.

Brief Account of the Conditions Under

Which They Exist.

ARGENTINA.

The Argentine Republic now exercises jurisdiction over the greater part of what was formerly the Spanish viceroyalty of Buenos Ayres, the present Bolivia, Paraguay, and Uruguay having separated in the independent movement that resulted in a government at Buenos Ayres. The first impression on part of the patriots of Buenos Ayres seems to have been that the original jurisdiction of the Spanish viceroyalty should be preserved, with that city as the capital. This was resisted, and, force failing, a spirit of jealousy and distrust toward the city and State of Buenos Ayres resulted that prevented the peaceful consolidation of the present republic until 1862.

In August, 1534, Mendoza left Cadiz, with the largest and wealthiest expedition that had up to that time undertaken enterprises in the New World. In 1535 this band entered the sea-like estuary of the Rio de la Plata, following first the northern shore and then crossing over to the southern side, landed at the present site of the city of Buenos Ayres, so naming the infant settlement because of the admiration of the explorers for the splendid climatic conditions. The country was then explored, excursions inland ultima ely meeting parties from earlier settlements established through the conquests on the Pacific. Buenos Ayres was twice abandoned, and it was really 1573 before permanent occupation was assured, the Indians proving intractable and unconquerable. After the expenditure of much time, blood and treasure, and the trade of the country had been secured by the Spaniards, the restrictive character of the commercial laws governing the provinces prevented the growth and development of the provinces. Although the name given to the great river La Plata was because of the great quantities of silver ornaments worn by the natives, the eastern coast of the continent did not add greatly to the metallic stores of the conquerors. It was not the policy of Spain to develop agriculture, and hence the true value of the country, its capacity to feed and clothe human beings, was passed over as of no consequence.

In 1806 England set about reducing Spanish provinces in whatever place they were accessible to her, called Unitarians and those favoring state rights called Federalists. The house of deputies has 86 members, representing each a district of 20,000 inhabitants. The vice-president is chairman of the senate, with no other political

power. The president has generally the control of the army and navy and names his cabinet. The general division of powers is modeled closely after that in the United States, as is the case in all the South American republics. The State governments are well guarded in their prerogatives and exercise large and well defined jurisdictions.

Dr. Miguel Juarez Celman was installed as president October 12, 1886. By the census of 1887 the area and population by provinces and territories were reported as follows:

Provinces	Sq.-m.	Population
Buenos Ayres (capital)	521,322	
Buenos Ayres (provinces)	63,000	850,000
Santa Fe	18,000	240,332
Entre Rios	45,000	300,000
Corrientes	54,000	290,000
Rioja	31,500	100,000
Catamarca	31,500	130,000
San Juan	29,700	125,000
Mendoza	54,000	160,000
Cordoba	54,000	380,000
San Luis	18,000	100,000
Santiago del Estero	31,500	160,000
Tucuman	13,500	210,000
Salta	45,000	200,000
Jujuy	27,000	90,000
Total	515,700	3,876,654
<i>Territories</i>		
Misiones	23,932	50,000
Formosa	125,612	50,000
Chaco	191,842	40,000
Pampa	268,000	30,000
Rio Negro		
Neuquen		
Clubut		
Santa Cruz		
Tierra del Fuego		
Grand Total	1,125,086	4,046,654

It is with deep regret that THE ECONOMIST prints the following clipped from the Mississippian:

The legion of friends of Hon. R. C. Patty, chairman of the Democratic State executive committee and president of the State Alliance, will learn with deepest sorrow that he lies prostrate upon a bed of pain, which it is feared will prove his death bed. Mr. Patty has been in feeble health for a year past, and his arduous labors as chairman of the franchise committee of the constitutional convention brought on an entire collapse of his physical system. A sympathetic affection of the brain has followed, from which the best medical counsel of the State believe there is no hope of recovery. His death will bring sorrow to the entire citizenship of the State, by whom he was deeply and universally beloved. Dr. Mitchell returned from his bedside yesterday, bringing no hope or word of cheer.

Brother Patty is also chairman of the judiciary committee of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, and is an earnest worker in the Alliance movement. It is hoped his condition may not be so critical as reported, and that he may be spared for many years of usefulness to the Order.

Now is the time for small men who are connected with the Alliance to become conspicuous by opposing the sub-treasury plan. Such persons can find ready access to the columns of the opposition press and can be read, not for what they say but for what they are. A few examples of this character have already appeared; not much of an increase need be expected. It is a lonesome, unprofitable condition.

APPLIED SCIENCE
In Agricultural and Rural Economy.
EDITED BY DR. M. G. ELZEY.
WOODSTOCK, MD.

THE CHEMISTRY OF THE COTTON PLANT.

No agricultural subject is of greater and more general interest than the chemistry of the cotton plant in all its bearings. Cotton is one of the greatest of the great world staples, and a regular, sufficient and permanent supply of it to the world's commerce is a matter of leading importance to civilized man. The natural monopoly of the chief production of the world's supply, for all time, by the States of this Union south of $35^{\circ} 30'$ latitude secures to those States a dominant position in the industries of mankind. It must not be lost sight of by the present generation that they are not permanent occupiers of the soil of that domain, and that the right of posterity to have it transmitted to them with its productive capacity unimpaired is as clear as their own title to temporary tenancy. It is fortunate that the great staple makes but a slight draught upon the elements of the soil's fertility; but with the plant which produces the staple the case is widely different. The amount of seed produced is prodigious, and that used is largely composed of the leading elements of fertility. With regard to the seed, the oil they yield makes no important draught upon the resources of the soil, but the cake which is left is enormously rich in the elements of fertility. The true economy, therefore, is that the staple and the oil should enter the markets of the world, but the cake should in some form return to the fields which yield the crop. It should be the duty of the endowed agricultural colleges and stations to make all the details of the chemistry of the plant absolutely familiar to the planters and to keep the subject in all its economic relations constantly before their minds. It is but a short-sighted policy on the part of any agricultural people to export largely in the produce of their fields the elements of fertility of their lands, without an adequate return being conscientiously made. The cotton of this country is a section divinely favored beyond any other upon the face of the earth, and each generation should be made to feel that it must acquit itself of a charge of spoliation of the rights of posterity during its occupancy. The whole subject should, we repeat it, be put fully and clearly before them and kept before them. In the vast phosphate and marl beds of the section, along with the cotton seed, is found a provision by nature, or rather by nature's God, of a boundless supply of perfect manure. In another respect moreover is that section favored in this, viz.: that there the nitric ferment is capable of perpetual activity, and is preparing stores of fertility for the next crop, while during five months of winter in the northern States it is wholly inactive. The leguminous plants, moreover, especially the pea, are capable of condensing the atmospheric nitrogen and of arresting the escape of the soil by evaporation, whereas the

nitric acid by leaching into the drainage water, during a like period, when these resources are lost to the soils of colder climates. Thus nature, if intelligently seconded, recoups the soil for part of the draught of its fertility made by the previous cotton crop. The feeding of cotton seed to animals on the soils that produce the crop should be the sheet anchor of the agriculture of the cotton belt. Opposed to his view is the forcible agricultural fact that the effect of gypsum is very small in increasing the crops. For example, wheat, which ammonia sulphate very much increases, whereas its greatest effects are produced in the case of clover and other legumes on which direct application of ammonium sulphate produces scarcely any effect. The action of plaster on soils and crops is to this day little understood. The writer believes it to be a special stimulant to the growth of legumes, and that its most valuable use is its application to clover grown as a fallow crop. From this use of it he has personally observed again and again the most rapid improvement of the productivity of the soil at the smallest cost. This is a plan once regarded as the sheet anchor of successful agriculture by many most judicious farmers. It is a plan in the judgment of the writer at present far too much neglected. Gypsum increases the growth of the field pea in a manner not less marked and important than in the case of clover. Either clover or the field pea for a fallow crop to which gypsum has been applied is without any doubt the cheapest known method of supplying nitrogen to the soil.

THE CANE BORER.

The cane borer, the natural habitat of which is south of Virginia, has made its appearance here in central Maryland the past two seasons. In this locality it attacks the corn, boring through the stalk just as the ear begins to form, and immediately through the joint where the ear forms. The effect is that from this joint upwards the stalk wilts and dries, and the top falls off, leaving a mere stump, which of course produces nothing.

As a rule these insect pests do not succeed in effecting a permanent lodging beyond their natural limits of latitude, but sometimes they do.

In the immature form this insect winters in the old stalk, which fact implies that if this incursion hither shall prove a permanent colonization all our old fodder will have to be carefully burned, or, what is better, it may be chaffed by power cutters and steamed with ground feed of some sort, and thereby this new enemy, attacked in winter quarters, may be driven out of the country. We confess to being afraid of this fellow. The damage done by him in the writer's own corn field the past season was considerable. We were told when the potato bugs came here from Colorado that it was an extra limited incursion; a sort of foray, and they would die out. Nevertheless, these ten-lived vilians are with us still, and here apparently they mean to stay until, say, "the last syllable of recorded time." Our hope is that it may prove otherwise with the cane borer, or corn borer, as he is with us. Time will show.

CONCRETE WALLS.

The use of hydraulic cement, or water lime mortar, for building the walls of ordinary farm buildings has not perhaps received the attention it deserves. By making a thin mortar of about one part cement to three parts of sharp sand, mixed dry and then water stirred in to reduce the mortar to a consistency easily poured out of a bucket, large quantities of gravel, stone, or even old brick-bats may be mixed in to form the wall, which, when set, is almost as hard and durable as a solid stone. In fact, perhaps no better artificial stone has been invented than a mixture of one part Portland cement and three parts sand. This mortar properly tempered and allowed to set in moulds the desired shape soon forms a stone less affected by weather than most natural stones. Houses having walls so formed, built in the time of the Roman empire, are still in a good state of preservation. In building such walls for farm purposes no especial skill is required. Rows of scantling are set up as standards of the height of the wall and distance apart equal to the thickness of the wall plus the thickness of a plank on each side against the inside of the standards, forming boxes to hold the mortar until it sets, when the planks are raised and another portion built in the same way. A stable with walls of this material and covered with metal would be wind-proof, fire-proof, and lightning-proof, and could easily be made rogue-proof

and fool-proof; this last no small consideration in the case of a valuable horse. Another use of no inconsiderable importance may be made of it in the construction of paved walks from the dwelling to out-buildings about the premises. This in wet and muddy weather would prove an immense convenience in a country home. There is a concrete brick made with asphalt and far more lasting than the ordinary asphalt pavement. These bricks are not costly, and walks laid with them are very desirable. They make also excellent drive ways, floors for stables, etc. Such things are lacking to much too great a degree to our country homes. A small sum of money annually spent in this way in a few years tell largely in behalf of the comfort of the home.

Cause of Depreciation of Credit Money.

BY WILLIAM BURR COOPER.

The prevalent belief of the intelligent agricultural population of this county that existing evils are due to vicious monetary laws, and that in the adoption of a rational issue of credit money is to be found a remedy, suggests the importance of an inquiry into previous efforts in this direction which have so often resulted in a depreciation of the money tokens, even when they were based upon land values, as in the case of the French assignats. It is important in this investigation to recognize clearly the essential features of promises which determine their value in business transactions:

1. The element of definiteness must be present, as, for example, a contract to remove a specified number of loads of earth, lacks definiteness from the fact that it involves disagreement as to the size of the loads; but if a specified number of cubic feet had been named this objection would not exist.

2. The ability to fulfill the promise must be above question. A man without a horse and cart, and to whom no one would hire, could not make an effective contract to remove earth. A promise to pay a sum of money given by a man without available assets, and resting solely upon the probability that he will succeed in acquiring the necessary funds, and will apply them to the liquidation of the debt, would be discounted accordingly.

Before proceeding attention must be directed to the difference between gold and tokens. The gold coin contains the intrinsic value represented by the face, but other coins contain only a portion of the intrinsic value; and, in the case of paper money, it may be regarded as having practically no intrinsic value, being merely the means of transmitting the right to the value which it represents. A credit note, or money token, is a negotiable promise, and I desire to direct attention to the important fact that the depreciation of such notes has always been due to a weakness in the essential features of promises which I have specified, and not to the supply exceeding the demand, as is popularly supposed.

To show how deeply rooted is the idea that the market may be overstocked with a medium of exchange, the report of the inter-

society would be "fixed" in the soil. This effect of gypsum was undoubtedly much exaggerated by Leibig from theoretical data. In fact, loss of ammonia by evaporation from soils or even fermenting manure heaps has been very much exaggerated on the one hand, and the power of gypsum to "fix" ammonia equally overrated on the other. Opposed to his view is the forcible agricultural fact that the effect of gypsum is very small in increasing the crops. For example, wheat, which ammonia sulphate very much increases, whereas its greatest effects are produced in the case of clover and other legumes on which direct application of ammonium sulphate produces scarcely any effect. The action of plaster on soils and crops is to this day little understood.

The writer believes it to be a special stimulant to the growth of legumes, and that its most valuable use is its application to clover grown as a fallow crop. From this use of it he has personally observed again and again the most rapid improvement of the productivity of the soil at the smallest cost. This is a plan once regarded as the sheet anchor of successful agriculture by many most judicious farmers. It is a plan in the judgment of the writer at present far too much neglected. Gypsum increases the growth of the field pea in a manner not less marked and important than in the case of clover. Either clover or the field pea for a fallow crop to which gypsum has been applied is without any doubt the cheapest known method of supplying nitrogen to the soil.

What of the Future.

for the accumulation of a gold fund by which a portion of the notes may be redeemed on demand, and further demands may be satisfied in the order of their presentation as the fund accumulates, a stable money system may be established based upon mortgage security.

It is not the purpose of this article to elaborate the details of such a money scheme, but simply to point out the essential features which should be adhered to in order to prevent a depreciation of the notes.

What of the Future.

BY J. M. WHITEHEAD.

There is no longer any question but that the purpose of the Alliance is distinctly political. It has been stated by President Polk, in his message at Ocala, in language so clear and explicit as to admit no longer of doubt. This is as it should be. The avowed purpose of the Alliance is that of reform, State and national, and law-makers must first be made and they must be thoroughly imbued with the spirit. They must stand on the Ocala and St. Louis announcement of principles. It has been said that the Alliance is political but not partisan, and this rightly understood is well enough. But the great mass of men will attach themselves to some party, and we all know what singular power the thing "party spirit" exerts over a man. If no new party is to be organized having for its end the accomplishment of the objects sought after by the Alliance, the question will naturally arise: How shall the purposes of the Alliance ever be accomplished? The Democratic and Republican parties have both heretofore been dominated and controlled by the money power. Not a single plank in the Alliance platform (except, perhaps, on the tariff) has ever been incorporated in the platform of either. It is safe to say now that neither will ever indorse it openly and clearly without evasion or ambiguity from A to Z. The grip of money power on the politicians is too great. And say what we may, the politicians will not surrender the ships without a fight. They have got the machinery in their hands, and know how to use it for all it is worth. It is a waste of time to suppose that either of those old parties will ever come severally out on our platform. The most that we can expect is that they will turn their sails to catch the popular breeze and thereby hornswoggle some votes into their net. An Alliance plank, here and there, will be made to stick out in both of the party platforms conspicuously in 1892. Some grave questions will then confront the reform voter. It will be about this: The Alliance Democrat, seeing some sound timber in his party platform, will vote the old party ticket as he has always done. And so with the Alliance Republican. One of the old parties will score another glorious victory. This shows that the stability of the mechanism of exchange rests upon a basis of probability, and that it only pretends to be able to cope with the probable, ignoring the contingencies named as practically impossible. If a provision is made

for the accumulation of a gold fund by which a portion of the notes may be redeemed on demand, and further demands may be satisfied in the order of their presentation as the fund accumulates, a stable money system may be established based upon mortgage security. It must be a fair, square, direct fight for principle; anything less will certainly fail. If we cannot surrender the old party attachments for the glorious results that would certainly follow, then let us relapse into bondage and forever subside.

rupt, renounce our allegiance to the old machine and withdraw all affiliation or political association with those connected with the old party known to us to be wedded to the powers that oppress. It must be a fair, square, direct fight for principle; anything less will certainly fail. If we cannot surrender the old party attachments for the glorious results that would certainly follow, then let us relapse into bondage and forever subside.

The Industrial Revolution.

BY MERLINDA SISINS.

Down through the cycles of antiquity to the earliest records of history the world has witnessed an ever-changing panorama of bloodshed and carnage, ever resulting in the establishment of princes and potentates on the one hand and the prostration and impoverishment of the masses on the other. But after the lapse of many centuries the veil is being rent in twain. The light of hope is streaming through upon the faces of men. The lapsing years of the nineteenth century are to witness the dawn of a new era, a baptism of equal rights to all men; a flood light of good will, supplementing avarice and spoliation. As the result of an all-too long delayed and almost imperceptible growth of education in political economy, at last, after the graves of centuries have been filled with the worn-out victims of greed and hell-born oppression, the calloused hands that produced the food, raiment, and shelter for mankind are being raised to high heaven in witness of an oath that toil shall not go unrewarded forever; that kid-gloved non producers shall not feast upon the unearned fruits of others' toil. Now the Alliance, as I understand it, is for "equal rights to all and special favors to none." It is intended to foster and cultivate sectional fraternity and brotherly good will. Its design is not only to promote a better feeling between the sections, but to bring about closer relations, and kindlier symptoms between individuals heretofore estranged. To do this a mutual disposition to concession must be manifest. There can be no sort of question but that all men favorable to the principles announced by the Alliance at St. Louis and at Ocala, should work together if they would succeed. United they are a power that nothing can resist. Divided they fall an easy prey to their enemies. Is it fair and is it reasonable to expect that the adherents to these principles in our party will bodily go over to the other party and join their friends who will not move, or make any concession to meet them? The truth is, so long as we maintain our old party affiliations we are hampered and embarrassed in giving that hearty support to the principles our judgments approve, because we are conscious of offending friends associated with us, and who take a different view on these questions, and persons going over from one party to another would feel embarrassed in their new relation. They would not feel at home as they ought. They would feel as if it was expected that they were to take a back seat, and it would be extremely like human nature for their friends in the other party at whose instance they had gone to feel the same way.

There are few systems of credit

money now in existence which provide gold enough to redeem all the notes if presented simultaneously, and it may also be noted that if all the deposits in the banks were dematad at once, all banks would be overtaken by bankruptcy. This shows that the stability of the mechanism of exchange rests upon a basis of probability, and that it only pretends to be able to cope with the probable, ignoring the contingencies named as practically impossible. If a provision is made

for the accumulation of a gold fund by which a portion of the notes may be redeemed on demand, and further demands may be satisfied in the order of their presentation as the fund accumulates, a stable money system may be established based upon mortgage security. It must be a fair, square, direct fight for principle; anything less will certainly fail. If we cannot surrender the old party attachments for the glorious results that would certainly follow, then let us relapse into bondage and forever subside.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

seems determined, through combination, to crush all producers. The masses find that out of a total national wealth of \$60,000,000,000, 200 men own \$4,000,000,000, 400 men own \$4,000,000,000 more, 1,000 men own \$5,000,000,000; 2,500 men own \$5,250,000,000; 7,000 men own \$7,000,000,000; 20,000 men own \$10,000,000,000. Thus 31,100 men own \$35,250,000,000, or over one-half the total wealth. This has mostly been accomplished in the last thirty years through vicious legislation. The masses also find the prisons, insane asylums, and poor-houses filled to overflowing, caused largely by anxiety and discouragement. As the rich get richer, the poor get poorer. All these facts the producers are finding out at this late day, and the revolution is upon us. Let it come! we repeat it, sir, let it come! Give us liberty, or give us death! We have reached the last ditch. It has become a question of bread and butter with an impoverished people. The gold barons will never yield an inch until driven to the wall. Will you farmers and laborers unite together at the ballot box, or will you wait until there will be no remedy but the bayonet? This is the burning question of the hour. May God help.

Appeal of the Parasites.

By J. H. ROBERTSON, MT. VENCO, VA.

We who alone are endowed with wisdom and knowledge to make your laws, solicit your aid against those, our enemies (the supporters of that ridiculous, impractical, unconstitutional scheme called the sub-treasury), who would rob us of our business and of our living by teaching you to look after your own interest, and to apply the same business principles to your public servants that you apply to other hirelings. We who have made a business of politics (which we call the craziness of the many for the benefit of the few) ought to know better how to make laws for you than you can possibly know. Therefore, when our enemies point you to the prosperity of the purer days of the republic, and to the farmer president, old George Washington; when they show you how in these times you are robbed by the very laws which ought to protect you, tell them you are too busy to look into such matters; when they show you how their sub-treasury plan will enable you to reap the profits of your industry, which we are now enjoying, tell them that you propose to pay closer attention to your plow, to your anvil, to your plane, and that you must leave all these things to the politicians; when they tell you that it is to the interest of the public to take charge of the provisions which you have made for public sustenance, tell them that their bill is class legislation; when they tell you that their bill will take you out of the power of the speculator, who reaps a larger per cent by holding your produce until it is needed for consumption, tell them that their bill is communistic; that it will destroy enterprise by interfering with legitimate methods of gaining wealth; when they would take you out of the power of the rich

and check the centralization of wealth by giving you cheap money, tell them that their bill is socialistic and impracticable; when they show that their bill will break the strength of usury and interest, and establish a low rate of interest, because no one will go to the usurer at a high rate if he can get money from the government at a low rate, tell them that their bill is unconstitutional; when they tell you that their bill will take you out of the power of the commission merchant because you will not be compelled to pawn your crops to him when you can get 80 per cent of its value from the government, tell them that their bill is ridiculous; when they solicit your vote against us tell them you must stick to your party or the country will be ruined. Our family is, as you know, about equally divided between the two great parties, consequently one half of us will always continue in power. We hold the legislative, judicial, and executive offices; therefore if you give us your support, and should at any time get into trouble before our courts, we will be able to see that you come to no harm. If any of you, our supporters, should want a public school or other small office, if there is any surplus we will divide this surplus among you. In conclusion we would say to our Democratic friends, tell the supporters of this wicked bill that it is only a Republican trick to break the solid South; to our Republican friends we would say, tell them that it is a Democratic trick to compass the overthrow of the great Republican party. If you are a Democrat you had far better vote for a Republican than for any supporter of this awful scheme. If you are a Republican you should likewise vote for a Democrat if necessary to defeat the supporters of this scheme, which threatens the overthrow of the financial, legislative and executive systems of our government, by which from generation to generation we have been enabled to rule the people.

The Farmers Alliance And Prohibition.

By W. H. HENRY MARYSVILLE, TENN.

In an article under the above heading in THE ECONOMIST of December 13th, Rev. H. G. Cowan, Allenwood, N. J., says: "It would ill become a minister of the gospel to oppose prohibition, and for a Farmers Alliance paper to say a word against that principle would be unkind, unwise, and unjust. Let it be understood, therefore, that whatever strictures appear in this article in reference to this subject apply not to the theory or principle of prohibition, but to the organized party that champions that principle." *

"That prohibition of the liquor traffic would result in great benefit to farmers and laborers is axiomatic. The Farmers Alliance can never favor the licensing of the liquor traffic, because:

"1. It is a monopoly, and the Alliance is opposed to all monopolies."

"2. It is a great source of corruption in both social life and in government, and the Alliance is opposed to all corruption."

Brother Cowan says: "No reform is final, but there must be progress

all along the line. I believe in prohibition, but unlike our third party friends, I can not believe that all blessings flow from prohibition." Neither does any sane man. While I am an Alliance man in every fiber of my being, I don't believe that all blessings flow from Alliance principles. And the point I make is this. If the prohibition of the liquor traffic is desirable for the great benefits it would result in to farmers and laborers, and if it is not becoming a minister of the gospel to oppose it, and unkind, unwise, and unjust for an Alliance paper to say one word against the principle, and if the Farmers Alliance can never favor the licensing of the liquor traffic, for the two indisputable reasons assigned by Brother Cowan, why does not Brother Cowan use the three columns of the ECONOMIST in an endeavor to bring Alliance brethren up to the progressive standard of reform in regard to prohibition, which he insists on for "other reformers," and so make it possible for all the reform elements of the country to unite in a common cause against monopolies and corruption, instead of endeavoring to excite the jealousy of Alliance reformers against prohibition reformers by arraying before them the fact that there are engaged in the prohibition movement lawyers, merchants, bankers, etc.

Does not Brother Cowan know that there are scores of Citizens Alliances organized all over the country for the benefit of the multitudes of lawyers, merchants, and others who are ineligible to our Order, but whose co-operation we dare not despise, and whose influence and help we earnestly invite?

Now, as a prohibition Alliance man, I do not intend to make any strictures upon the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union for any failure on the part of the Union to apprehend in regard to the prohibition question the truth which Brother Cowan emphasizes in regard to "other reformers," that "no reform is final," but I do ask such members as Brother Cowan, and all who like him feel that the prohibition of the liquor traffic would result in great benefit to farmers and laborers, to speak out in our Order, and help, as far as possible, to educate all the brethren to understand that the whisky monopoly is the worst enemy of all the monopolies the farmers and laborers have to contend with. So that hereafter there will be no hesitancy in any of our deliberations to declare against it, not as the only enemy, the farmers and laborers have, but as one among the many that is worthy of our steel, just as Iowa, Kansas, Dakota, and Nebraska have done in the West, and as I hope Georgia and Tennessee will do. Again, I insist that if the prohibition of the liquor traffic is a thing to be desired because of the great benefits thereby resulting to farmers and laborers, and is approved by such men as Powderly, of the Knights of Labor, and Brother Cowan, of the Alliance, and if it has been endorsed by the Alliances of the West, it ought to be agitated in our Order until it is endorsed by the members of every Union in every State.

Price, single copy by mail, 60 cents; \$6 per dozen. Agents wanted. Address D. Reid Parker, Trinity College, N. C.

The Maryland Agricultural College.

This institution has provided for a chair of biology and comparative anatomy and another of horticulture and botany, which indicates a desire to make the school one of applied science, which a school of agriculture ought to be, as distinctly as a school of medicine.

However, it is rather a crude idea that one man is at the same time a biologist and a comparative anatomist. Again some of the best horticulturists have been guiltless of all knowledge of systematic botany, whereas the greatest botanist is not apt to be a good gardener. It takes four good men to teach those four things. A good professor of the theory and practice of scientific agriculture ought to be the central figure.

A professor of agricultural engineering, and one of sanitary science, ought to have places in every such faculty. After a while, it may be hoped, we shall have at least one school of agriculture somewhere in the world organized and officered as it ought to be. The subject is new and difficult, and the public must have patience, hoping for the best, with long suffering forbearance for some inevitable failures.

The greatest of our medical teachers have been great practitioners. Mere school men are not apt to succeed as well as teachers of applied science, and after all the best school work is merely preparatory for the life work in the great school of experience.

Book Review.

A copy of *Alliance Songs*, by E. O. Exall and Dr. D. Reid Parker, has just been received. It is a choice collection of 192 pages of new and appropriate songs set to music for use, as it states, at Alliance meetings, industrial unions, conventions and all social gatherings. The whole work shows great care and a complete knowledge of what the Alliance needs. If there is any one thing that will aid in making the sub-Alliance meetings pleasant and enjoyable it is good music. The authors of this book evidently thought that the Alliance was entitled to as good songs, good music and good things generally as any other class of people. Acting upon that belief they have prepared at great expense a perfect gem in the shape of this song book. Now let the brethren show their appreciation of this effort by making liberal purchases. The book is readily worth the money, and every member of the Alliance that can sing ought to have a copy. It was carefully examined by the committee on music, who reported as follows:

The committee appointed to report on music by the last national meeting beg leave to state that they have thoroughly examined the Farmers Alliance songs, a collection of words and music of new and familiar songs and hymns, for use in the Alliance industrial gatherings and the home circle by Prof. E. O. Exall and Dr. D. Reid Parker, and most cordially and earnestly recommend it to the members of the Order. The work is admirably gotten up, the sentiments are pure and elevating, and the music especially adapted for the purposes intended.

Price, single copy by mail, 60 cents; \$6 per dozen. Agents wanted. Address D. Reid Parker, Trinity College, N. C.

THE REFORM PRESS.

The Discussion of Current Topics in the Organized States.

The following, from the Jacksonville (Fla.) Standard, will be read with interest by Alliance members:

Mississippi (Kosciusko) Clodhopper says:

W. C. Crum, Esq., will "turn over a new leaf" the 1st of January, 1891, by removing his Farmers' Advocate from Tampa to New York city, and change its name to *The Wall Street Farmer*—the first issue to come out January 3.

Mr. Oswald Wilson, secretary of the National Association of Business Agents, will be associate editor and business manager of *The Wall Street Farmer*. The success of the enterprise is already assured.

The Advocate has a very large list of Florida subscribers, and the National Association of Business Agents represents twenty-one States.

There is no farmers' journal devoted to the business interest of the Alliance as the *Wall Street Farmer* will be, and this insures it an immense circulation and very great influence.

The Standard wishes them all the success they deserve; they are sure to win wealth and fame. Mr. Wilson leaves Jacksonville to-day for New York to prepare for the first issue, and Mr. Crum will leave here Christmas day.

The Ripley (Tenn.) News says:

Senator Vest presented a memorial to the Senate reciting the financial depression prevalent and asking Congress to immediately consider and pass a bankrupt bill in accordance with the plan mapped out.

It would be well for Congress to comply with the request,

as it looks like the Government will need to avail itself of its provisions before Mr. Harrison's time expires.

The Bevier (Mo.) Appeal complains:

Failures for lack of available money are growing more and more numerous in the commercial world, and yet Congress has taken no effective step toward practical relief by increasing the amount of money in circulation. Bills by the dozen have been introduced, but it will require more than that to satisfy the clamorings of the people.

The Rural Home and Sentinel (Topeka, N. C.) says:

Nothing should deter our organization from demanding our legislators, not to vote for any man for Senator who is opposed to any of our demands, and especially this sub-treasury plan.

Let the sub>Alliances at their next meeting be heard from about this matter.

There is no time for dallying.

The failure by our next legislature to send a man to represent us in the United States Senate who will agree to work for this plan and who will agree to do all in his power to have the bill passed.

The Demorest (Ga.) Times says:

There are no sects alii in morals—why should their be i government?

Why not the men who

lie in g o morals good laws, impartial justice and progressive civilization stand ogeth r and wipe out ecional differences?

The Weekly Toiler, State organ of the Order in Tennessee, takes ground on the third party move as follows:

We are free to say that we are not a believer in the multiplication of political parties. We do not believe that, as a rule, it is the proper policy to pursue when a large element of our country happens to want certain measures passed by Congress, which it thinks its interest and justice to demand, to go at once and form a political party based

on those demands.

We have already in this country quite a number of political parties, representing almost every

political principle, embracing every

political sentiment and opinion,

and almost every citizen belongs

to one or the other of them. From

present indications we do not know

what the faction may develop—we think

the true policy is to postpone consideration

of the third party question, and

thus we see that to use such a rope in

elevating 4,000 pounds weight, there is

a pull of 15,000 pounds necessary.

But to use an aluminum rope there is only

half such a pull required, and of course

making allowance for friction the pull required would be 15,000

pounds.

This will subject such a rope to

a strain of 13,000 pounds per square inch

of cross section. That is as high a lim-

it as a good engineer will allow. Such

a rope at first will be safe under a strain

of 60,000 pounds, but, if often sub-

jected to, it will rapidly deteriorate.

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NEW PREMIUM LIST FOR 1891

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST adopts a course never yet pursued by any newspaper in America. It gives its subscribers the benefit of its advertising space. It has earned implements and machinery by advertising, and proposes to donate them to the subscribers securing the largest accession to the subscription list. Read the following unparalleled offer and go to work at once. You can benefit humanity, make money and secure the everlasting gratitude of your friends, by inducing them to subscribe for this, the very best labor paper in America.

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FIRST GRAND PRIZE.

For the largest list of yearly subscribers, each at one dollar, secured between now and the first day of July, 1891, we will give as a premium a Steam Power Hay Press, one of the best in the market, price \$500. This press delivered on board of cars at St. Louis, Missouri.

SECOND GRAND PRIZE.

For the second largest list of yearly subscribers turned in, at one dollar each, between this and July 1, 1891, we will give as a premium a Saw Mill, complete, ready for operation. List price, \$300. Delivered on board of cars at Salem, N. C.

THIRD GRAND PRIZE.

For the third largest list the premium is a Wind Mill, complete. List price, \$200. This Mill is manufactured and delivered on board of cars in Indiana. It is one of the best wind engines manufactured, and is an article that should be on every well equipped farm. The winner of this prize will be at liberty to take two small Mills should he prefer.

FOURTH GRAND PRIZE.

Consists of a Feed Cutter. List price, \$80. Complete, ready for operation. Free on board of cars at factory at Salem, Ohio.

FIFTH GRAND PRIZE.

Consists of a choice between a Grain Drill and a Walking Cultivator, manufactured in Ohio.

SIXTH GRAND PRIZE.

Is a Sewing Machine, high arm Singer pattern.

These are special, and in addition to this unparalleled offer we also make the following standing offer, which will obtain regular on subscriptions sent in by those who do not care to compete for the prizes:

Regular Premiums for Clubs.

For one new name and \$1 we will send as a premium the National Economist Hand-Book of Facts and Alliance Information, containing about 130 pages of statistical and other well selected matter; or, one piece of sheet music, entitled "Clasp Hand in Hand Like Brothers," dedicated to Mrs. Ben. Terrell.

For two new names and \$2 we will send as a premium one copy of "Philosophy of Price," by N. A. Dunning, bound in paper; or, one copy of bound volume of THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, No. 1, containing 418 pages of solid reading, including the articles on "Railways," and "History and Government." It is a valuable premium.

For three new names and \$3 we will send a three months subscription to the new monthly, the NATIONAL ECONOMIST LIBRARY OF EXTRAS.

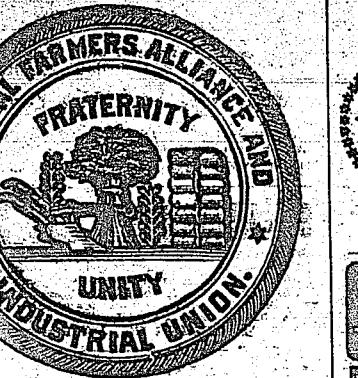
For five new names and \$5 we will send as a premium one copy of the new Alliance song book, entitled "Farmers Alliance Songs," by E. O. Excell and D. Reid Parker, recently endorsed by the Supreme Council; or, two copies of bound volume of THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, Nos. 1 and 2; or, six months subscription to the new monthly, the NATIONAL ECONOMIST LIBRARY OF EXTRAS.

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no better. I shall use it in the future, and do not hesitate
to recommend it to others.

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and two boxes of Iron Vegetable Tonic. I wish to say
that your remedies have proven very effective, especi-
ally the two named above.

Very respectfully, ORRIS A. BROWNE,

Proprietor of National Staples.

Any of the remedies may be purchased at regular
price, or all of them, packed in a case, with a Box
Iron to administer balls, an injection funnel and tube
for giving injections, and the Horse Owner's Hand-
book, for \$12.00.

If your druggist does not keep our remedies, send
to the factory for them. The price must invariably
accompany the order.

We can show you good authority that from \$75,000 to \$150,000
per month Farmers make from \$200 to \$800 during the winter.
Traffic has great success selling our 10 USEFUL
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anyone who sends us a stamped envelope and a postage stamp.
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Send for "THE HORSE OWNER'S HAND-
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careful consultation it was mutually and unanimously agreed to unite our Orders upon the basis adopted December 5, 1890, basis between the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union and the Farmers Mutual Benefit Association, to adopt the St. Louis platform as a common basis and pledge our Orders to work faithfully and earnestly for the election of legislators, State and national, who will enact the laws to carry out the demands of said platform, and to more effectually carry it into effect recommend the selection of five men from each national body, two of whom shall be the president and secretary, respectively, who shall with similar committees from other labor organizations form a Supreme Executive Board who shall meet as often as may be deemed necessary, and upon the joint call of a majority of the presidents of the bodies joining the confederation, and when so assembled after electing a chairman and secretary they shall be empowered to do such things for the mutual benefit of the various Orders they represent, as shall be deemed expedient; and shall when officially promulgated to the national officers be binding upon their bodies until reversed by the action of the national assemblies themselves, political, educational, and commercial, and hereby pledge ourselves to stand faithfully by each other in the great battle for the enfranchisement of labor and the laborers from the control of corporate and political rings. Each Order to bear its own members' expense on the Supreme Council, and be entitled to as many votes as they have legal voters in their organization. We recommend and urge that equal facilities, educational, commercial, and political, be demanded for colored and white Alliances men alike, competency considered, and that a free ballot and a fair count will be insisted upon and had for colored and white alike by every true Alliance man in America. We further recommend that a plan of district Alliances to conform to district Alliances provided for in this body, be adopted by every Order in confederation, with a district lecturer, and county Alliances organized in every county possible, and that the lectures and officers of said districts and counties co-operate with each other in conventional business, educational, commercial, and political matters.

NOTICE is hereby given all papers with which THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST is clubbing that under no circumstances will any rate be made for less than 90 cents net to THE ECONOMIST on and after January 1, 1891.

ONE of the most absurd pieces of folly yet indulged in by the a partisan press, who are blindly used to everything that the Alliance has done or proposes to do, flooding of their columns the Ocala meeting with statements calculated to convey the story or indirectly, that the meeting of the National Alliance and Industrial Union to endorse the sub-

A greater falsehood seemed to be perpetrated upon the people. The plan proposed, the same as

is, by a re-indorsement of the platform in question, but by the addition of specific demands mentioned, torsing the thing as it lies committee upon thin

sentiment in regard to that measure during the last year. Such indorsement of the bill would have been strongly opposed at the St. Louis convention, but at Ocala it was so nearly unanimous that only four members of the body voted against the adoption of the sub-treasury bill by name as above stated. Why, in the face of this, these papers should have the audacity to speak out to a reading public and say the Ocala meeting failed to indorse the sub-treasury plan is one of the mysteries that must remain unsolved until they make a confession of their sins.

CONSIDERABLY APART.

The Washington correspondent of the Chicago Herald says of Senator-elect Brice:

He is here to advise against pressing free coinage of silver as a policy which is likely to react against the party, especially in the East, and do infinite harm. He has been telling the Democratic Senators that there is no crisis in the financial affairs of the country, that there is plenty of money, and that radical remedies are likely to do more harm than good. Mr. Brice has not hesitated to tell his party colleagues that, in his opinion, it would be a weakness to permit the silver craze to take possession of the party and lead it to lengths from which it would be impossible to retreat. Coincident with the appearance here of Mr. Brice is noted a better front among the many Democratic Congressmen who are not believers in free coinage. The New York and New England men have practically decided that if the question of free coinage comes up in the House they will vote their convictions, no matter what their party brethren from other sections of the country may do. Without the support of all the Democratic members of the House it will be very difficult to push a radical silver bill through that body.

The above is without doubt the highest Democratic authority on silver legislation in the country and indicates clearly the position of the Democratic party in 1893. At the recent meeting of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union the following demand was unanimously adopted:

We condemn the silver bill recently passed by Congress, and demand in lieu thereof the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

If the Republican papers and frightened politicians will compare the statements of Mr. Brice with the resolution passed at Ocala, they can form some idea of how far the Alliance has been led into the Democratic camp. The Alliance demands free coinage of silver, and will work and vote for it. Let there be no mistake on this point.

AN ERROR SHOWN UP.

Says the New York Evening Post:

A BROTHER in Mississippi writes as follows:

Apparently the idea has found lodgment in Washington that it is not a lack of currency that afflicts the country, but a want of confidence in its goodness, and that confidence is not to be restored by doing more of the thing that has cost thirty-one millions of gold to appear since the first of August. Quite certain now that a free coinage will meet many great obstacles and will not pass Congress without a rousing debate and an

exposure of all its enormities and dangers.

Just such expressions of financial imbecility from the great dailies find an echo in the babbling of some worthless, witless crank, and are alike dangerous to the welfare of the people, and disgusting to the good sense of thinking men. The assumption that \$31,000,000 of gold was exported on account of silver coinage will not stand the test of investigation. Since 1878 there has been a continued silver coinage of \$2,000,000 each month. In 1888 the imports of gold and silver exceeded the exports by \$12,923,803. While in 1889 the exports of gold and silver exceeded the imports by \$67,678,460, of which \$49,671,101 was in gold. If the coinage of silver drove this amount of gold from the country in 1889, why was gold imported in 1888 under similar conditions? In 1890, \$4,253,047 in gold and \$8,545,455 in silver was exported in excess of imports. Here are three distinct changes in the course of precious metals within three years under the same silver coinage laws. If these changes prove anything, it is that the export and import of gold depends altogether upon other causes than the coinage of silver. France has more silver than all the nations of Europe combined, and, under the assumption that silver drives out gold, should be lessening her stock of gold continually; yet the director of the mint reports that France received \$27,692,855 of the \$61,435,989 exported from the United States in 1889. The question arises, if France with \$700,000,000 of silver can retain \$900,000,000 of gold, why should not the United States with but \$116,298,802 of uncovered silver be able to retain \$375,607,111 in gold? If \$31,000,000 of American gold has been exported, as claimed, it has been through other causes than the coinage of silver. It has gone quite likely to pay interest and dividends on alien investments to pay for the use of a foreign medium of exchange that the home government refused to supply. Some such statements as the one quoted have heretofore been accepted as true, but the recent innovation among the producing classes of investigating such matters will doubtless lead to more carefully considered utterances in the future.

By reference to your books you will find that my subscription expired May 25, 1890. I send you \$1, but if THE ECONOMIST is to be diverged from the course in which Dr. Macune ran it I do not wish it sent to me. I do not know whether the paper is still under his (Ma-

cune's) supervision or not, not having seen a copy in several weeks, and if some one has taken charge of it who will run it in the interest of one of the old parties I do not care to read it. THE ECONOMIST under Macune's management was the only non-partisan paper I ever saw. If you do not get my meaning, I simply mean this: The Democratic press of the South and the Alliance press of Mississippi, at least, try to lead men to believe that the Alliance and the Democratic party are one and the same thing. We want a paper that will "pander" to neither old party, but teach Alliance doctrines and expose the sins of either of the old parties if need be. This thing Macune could do; this thing Macune did do. There are blind partisans enough in the Order to change the tone of THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, and I did not know but that they had done it. Hoping I have given no offense, I remain praying for the success of THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and the overthrow of monopoly.

The brother is assured that there has been no change in the editorial management or policy of THE ECONOMIST. This he would have known had he received his paper regularly. The Democratic papers in the South accuse THE ECONOMIST of leaning to the Republican and the third party; the Republican papers of the North declare it is an agent of Democracy, and the third party papers condemn it for sticking to the old parties, while the people from all sections stick to it as an impartial and unprejudiced exponent of the truth. All this shows that the paper is preserving its original character as a non-partisan publication, and that it cannot be coaxed or driven into a partisan fight. It will criticise one party for error as readily as it will the others.

THE Baltimore Sun is a great paper. It is a very great paper indeed. But there is one question which that paper will soon certainly have to solve; and that is whether any paper can be great enough to long survive the reactionary effect of having purposely misrepresented the great farmers' movement in this country. Reactionary, because such misrepresentation must naturally be reactionary in its effect. The farmers of this country have peaceably and quietly gone to work in their own way to study the evils that afflict them. They have made war on no person or set of persons, on no political party, and still upon the say so of the party press the Sun sees fit to join in a cry of defamation in the following language:

The sub-treasury bill is a panacea which has already lost much of its original popularity in the South, and whether its insertion into the Ocala platform was the work of honest conviction or political intrigue, the South is not likely to be deluded permanently by it. States saturated with Republicanism is a better ground for the spread of paternal and socialistic doctrine

than the Democratic South. Whatever is the truth about the purposes and plans of the Northern delegates to Ocala, the charges and rumors show that the Alliance cannot escape being dragged into politics even if it wishes to remain neutral. It contains, or ought to contain, too many votes to be allowed to continue as an independent organization. The secrecy which attaches to it is favorable to the scheme of the politicians on the inside, or the outside, who depend upon using it. The Democrats in it want to do all they can for the farmers, and at the same time do as much as they can for the Democratic party. The Republicans in it want to use it to help the Republicans. The third party men in it are logical. As long as the thing remains in its present form, and the Republicans and Democrats will not cease their efforts to control it, and as long as it keeps up its pretense of secrecy, ways that are dark and tricks that are vain will be numerous in its councils.

Brothers of the Order will no doubt be greatly surprised to find as great a paper as the Sun taking it for granted that its councils are filled with ways that are dark and tricks that are vain.

THE reader is presented with a pointed and well written article on political neuralgia in another column, from Brother S. B. Brelsford, of Wrightsboro, Tex.

THE Alliance men of Kansas are impressed with the great purpose of the Order, which is that the strong shall help the weak whenever their greater strength is needed, and serves as the basis for much that the Alliance does in business co-operation. This cane is a real curiosity; two large knots that grew on the side of the stick have been ingeniously carved into frogs, and a perfect representation of an alligator is also carved on the side of the stick. This valuable relic was presented to Brother Macune as the originator of the business system of the Alliance, he having been the first State business agent. These tokens of confidence and respect are made doubly valuable by the calumnies and criticisms of the opposition upon the very things that the brotherhood show and express their approval of.

THE following clipped from the Boston Traveler speaks for New England, and is in direct opposition to the interests of every other section of the country:

In the end it should turn out that all this trouble over the force bill was a blind for the purpose of preventing any financial legislation, let no reader of THE ECONOMIST be surprised. The discussion of it has already started afresh the fires of sectionalism, which will be supplemented by another contest over the tariff if political intrigues in both the old parties can bring it about. This will place the two sections in their old-time attitude, the financial conditions will be overlooked and the work of spoilation can go on uninterrupted.

THE editor of the Ottawa (Kan.) Journal has devoted some patient labor to the work of collecting data relating to railway freight makes a comparison of

cost of carrying in Kansas and Iowa, and as one result shows the difference in the rates on canned goods, meats, flour, iron ware, lumber, and other heavy articles used by the masses. These are included in classes 4 and 5 of the schedule. The table runs in ten-mile divisions, from 10 to 500 miles. The rate is put in cents and hundredths of a cent for 100 pounds weight:

Miles.	State.	Class 4.	Class 5.
10.....	Kansas	10.00.....	7.00
	Iowa	7.00.....	5.18
50.....	Kansas	21.00.....	15.00
	Iowa	10.00.....	8.00
100.....	Kansas	30.00.....	27.00
	Iowa	12.00.....	8.40
150.....	Kansas	42.00.....	32.00
	Iowa	15.50.....	11.80
200.....	Kansas	52.00.....	47.00
	Iowa	18.60.....	13.00
300.....	Kansas	74.00.....	55.00
	Iowa	25.00.....	25.00
400.....	Kansas	80.00.....	70.00
	Iowa	30.00.....	25.00
500.....	Kansas	96.00.....	78.00
	Iowa	35.00.....	30.00

ognizes the possibility of making such change, but also expresses a willingness to join with other commercial nations in the adoption of a common ratio between gold and silver. The approaching conference is evidently to be a meeting of more than usual importance.

Just such efforts as this have been made every time the demand for free coinage by the people became loud enough to attract attention. It is done for the purpose of diverting attention from that subject under the belief that the government was attempting to do something in that direction. All such conferences have been failures, and will be, for the reason of their being controlled by the money powers of Europe, who will never consent to anything less than the tribute they demand. If the United States will come to their terms arrangements for monetary ratio can be entered into, but under no other conditions will the

subject be considered. This so-called Pan-American Conference will be controlled absolutely by Europe and Wall street, and will as usual amount to nothing. The matter will bear a little figuring. When the United States debt was refunded in 1870, it was stipulated in the bond that it was payable in coin of the then weight and fineness. This meant both gold and silver. The gold dollar consisted of 23 22-100 grains of pure gold, the silver dollar of 37 1/4 of pure silver.

"And the full orb'd moon I see, love, Peep through the clouds silvery white." Silver and gold, silver and gold, the poor man's god and the rich man's soul,

Pay as you take, pay as you bring, You've got a new master, you've got a new king.

Hurrah for you! Stop sentiment and give us facts and logic. You promised to give us your ideas on money.

All right, Doctor, money is the yardstick of value not necessarily having any value in itself, adopted by national consent or decree.

Anything is money, made so by law, Harry Hinton; and the having of intrinsic value is not one of the necessary qualities of money. Certainly not, Doctor. Stop the use of gold as money throughout the world and the quantity in a dollar would not be worth ten cents, for its only value would depend on its limited utility in the arts.

Well, then, Harry Hinton; if gold and silver are comparatively worthless metals in themselves, tell us why they were adopted as measures of value.

Take away, Doctor, the idolatry of the ancients, we'll mention their qualities which made them the most fitting: First, scarcity; second, indestructibility; third, labor in procuring; labor being the source of all value, labor is the inherent quality of all measures of value, and all other qualities are merely incidental.

That brings the question down to a focus, Harry Hinton, that labor is the measure of value. The question now simply remains, and it is the only question, Which is the best representative or measure of labor? The answer comes up naturally and spontaneously, the immediate products of labor.

That is true, Doctor; but we need something light and easily transported; hence the need of the yardstick, money. This is not only the measure of value, but the proxy. Gold has been adopted all over the

world as the measure and proxy of value or labor; silver in a greater portion of the world, and paper money localized in all the nations. Then, we have it, Harry Hinton, money is the measure and substitute of value or labor. How many different kinds have we in use in the United States?

We have three different kinds—specie, which derives its value from universal faith and use; specie certificates from same source; property certificates, which derive their value from the worth of the property represented as in the case of national bank bills and bullion certificates, and fiat money in the greenback based on the faith and credit of the government.

Which kind is the best, Harry Hinton?

Since all the material, out of which money is made, is of little value, its utility is based on faith and credit. Gold, universal; silver, nearly so; fiat money and property certificates, local. The value of money is arbitrary and absolute, a kind of heathen faith and credit fastened upon the nations by the tyrannical dictates of law.

You have not answered my question, Harry Hinton, which kind of money is the best?

We would say that money which represents value or labor directly, and at least cost; for it would not cost over two cents to print a hundred dollar or a thousand dollar property certificate, as in bank bills and bullion certificates; while it would cost much labor to dig this much gold out of the ground, and certificates even of this metal is much better and would cost the same to print.

Then you say money which cost the least is the best, Harry Hinton.

What is fiat money, Harry Hinton?

Fiat money, Doctor, is all money promising to pay so many units of value with no security except the credit and ability of the government to pay.

Then, Harry Hinton, all bonds of the United States are large bills of fiat money.

Certainly, Doctor, nothing but fiat money with another deadly and damnable fact that the holder is hired at a stated salary each year to handle it, called interest.

Well, Harry Hinton, do you believe that these things were foreseen and maliciously concocted?

Certainly, Doctor, but not by the American Congress, for it did not have sense enough; but by the agents of the London and American banks, together with a few slick scoundrels called leaders.

We cannot now repair the wrongs done to America's toiling millions, but we can so manage the financial machinery in the future as to do justice to all. What course would you pursue, Mr. Hinton?

So, so; and when the people come and promise a bona-fide security and basis for the issuing of money to them this wisegentry with bleared eyes and holy horror call it unconstitutional and absurd, and a whole pack of jackasses and hounds is set to yelping and braying. The same thing occurred when Jackson demolished

I shall not attempt this herculean task, Doctor. Let them retain their old unit of value; let them exercise the same old faith and worship at the shrine of the same old idolatry; but let them give the people property certificates based on such property as the people possess and stop this confounded favoritism in issuing property certificates to the rich on their bonds and silver bullion. Yes, out of due courtesy to the golden heathen faith we will retain the old

unit of value, and supplement the issue over and above coin issue by property certificates retaining the same unit. It seems that there is no new principle involved in the issue of property certificates on land or land products, as that is now the practice of the government in respect to bullion and bonds. It is simply a question which class the government favors, the rich and the few or the poor and the many. That is the Alpha and Omega of the whole question involved in the discussion of the sub-treasury plan. There is a convenience in handling this species of property belonging to the rich. This we admit. But the property of the many can be properly arranged to make to subserve the same purpose.

Then, Harry, you would do away with all fiat money and have only two kinds of money, specie and property certificates, and all money should have the same unit of value and be of equal debt-paying power.

That is my ticket, Doctor, in war and peace, and the amount of issue shall depend upon the power of the government to maintain its purity. It appears to me to have been the height of folly and tyranny for the government to have picked out a favored class and to have issued to it alone money, and to have made this class the incubus and nightmare of the nation.

Well, Doctor, by the contraction of the money in which a debt was contracted doubled the purchasing of the debt and decreased the wherewithal to pay said debt. This increased the demand for money. The increased demand for money increased the interest. The pets of the government and the British had the gold. Nothing else was money in full sense. Interest on money was worth more in profit than the product of labor. Interest has under this financial treachery absorbed in a few years the property of the common people. English investors finding such a premium on money are fast putting under subjection the industries of the land.

That is sublime and climactic. What next, Colonel?

I've said enough, Doctor. Behold I send you as lamb among wolves. Go place one foot upon the Rocky mountains and the other upon the Alleghanies and neiglike a Bucephalus to a nation asleep in slavery. The heathen will then rage and imagine a vain thing, but if the truth make them free, they will be free.

masses against the oppression of the classes. The people against the government's fostering tyrants. A struggle of the people for freedom, and nothing more and nothing less. Why did this course of financial bosh sway in America, Harry Hinton?

Doctor, I'm inclined to believe it was ignorance and superstition on the part of some, open bribery and corruption on the part of some, and the influence of British finance on the part of others.

Do you suppose that Great Britain would interfere with the financial plans of any nation? What next, Mr. Hinton?

It would knock the tail from those kites called United States bonds, and bring them down to par.

That is all healthy. What next, Mr. Hinton?

It would disenthral the nation from the money mistress of the world, Great Britain, and stop the efflux of gold to pay the profits on English investments, for America would have enough money of her own for all purposes.

That is good and healthy. What next, Mr. Hinton?

It would give importance and dignity to the rural and laboring people, upon whose shoulders, most writers concede, rest the permanency of our institutions, the truth and integrity of Christian conduct and the glory and grandeur of the nation.

Well, Doctor, by the contraction of the money in which a debt was contracted doubled the purchasing of the debt and decreased the wherewithal to pay said debt. This increased the demand for money. The increased demand for money increased the interest. The pets of the government and the British had the gold. Nothing else was money in full sense. Interest on money was worth more in profit than the product of labor. Interest has under this financial treachery absorbed in a few years the property of the common people. English investors finding such a premium on money are fast putting under subjection the industries of the land.

That is sublime and climactic. What next, Colonel?

I've said enough, Doctor. Behold I send you as lamb among wolves. Go place one foot upon the Rocky mountains and the other upon the Alleghanies and neiglike a Bucephalus to a nation asleep in slavery. The heathen will then rage and imagine a vain thing, but if the truth make them free, they will be free.

arrangement have upon the industrial energies of our people?

It would secure to the smaller property holder the permanency of his possessions by making the interest on money less than the rewards of labor, and instead of interest or capital absorbing the substance of the land, labor would find an equal chance and encouragement.

That is a consummation devoutly to be wished, Mr. Hinton, by every patriot, philanthropist and Christian in the land. No sound man can object to that. What next, Mr. Hinton?

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united action of the Alliance, in toiling mills of the Alliance in the will make use all their power and slay that the Alliance of the your, and especially of Georgia, craftily an addendum to the Democratic party, and that all the "change" the Southern Alliance leaders wanted was a change from Republicanism to Democracy. While such talk as this has had but little or weight with men, who are personally acquainted with Southern Alliance leaders, yet its bad effect upon the great mass of our membership in the Northwest can hardly be estimated; and now, when our national organ comes forward in a strong article endorsing, by implication at least, the Georgia plan of railroad regulation, and by the same implication opposing a change of conditions inaugurated and upheld by Georgia Democrats, it becomes doubly important to the continued well being of the Alliance in this section that the Georgia plan be proved to be the best obtainable, and that Georgia Alliance leaders, and our national organ, are not upholding it simply because it emanated from that "grand old leader" and Democrat, Robert Toombs. I think you will readily see my point, and I trust that you and the Alliance brethren from Georgia will accept what I have to say in the same spirit of fraternal kindness and earnest inquiry which prompts its utterance.

I think it is demonstrable that the Georgia plan of regulating the railways by commission, is the same plan which has proven utterly inadequate in this State to accomplish anything except the enrichment of the railroads. The gentleman whose "lucid explanation" you quote, and who is chairman of the Georgia railway, proves by figures made in 1879, previous to the establishment of the commission, and by figures made in 1890, eleven years after the establishment of the commission, that freight charges have been reduced nearly one-half and the charge for passenger traffic reduced two-fifths. While Mr. Trammel asserts that this is "an immense reduction in charges for freight and passengers", he nowhere claims that the reduction resulted from any act of the railway commissioners, but leaves his readers to infer what he was perhaps too conscientious to assert, that such was the fact.

Another report showing the general tendency of freight rates to decrease (?) as the years go by, is that of J. R. Dodge, the statistician of our Agricultural Department, who, in his monthly report for December, 1889, on page 507, gives a table showing what he is pleased to term, "leveling of prices" going on between the East and West, from which I glean the following:

Price of corn, New York, in 1870, 87 cents.

Price of corn, Nebraska, in 1870, 36 cents.

Price of corn, New York, in 1889, 49 cents.

Price of corn, Nebraska, in 1889, 17 cents.

Price of oats, New York, in 1870, 58 cents.

Price of oats, Nebraska, in 1870, 30 cents.

Price of oats, New York, in 1888, 32 cents.

Price of oats, Nebraska, in 1889, 15 cents.

Price of corn, Nebraska, in 1889, 17 cents.

Price of rye, New York, in 1870, 58 cents.

Price of rye, Nebraska, in 1870, 30 cents.

Price of rye, New York, in 1888, 32 cents.

Price of rye, Nebraska, in 1889, 15 cents.

Georgia railway stock..... 1870, 201.

Central railway stock..... 1888, 121.

This is a good showing truly for the railroads. But what about the property produced and owned by the farmers and mechanics and laborers generally in Georgia? Has it increased in value in the same proportion as railroad stock has? Illinois was among the first State to adopt the plan of regulating railroads by commission. The law creating a board of railway commissioners was enacted in 1871, eight years previous to the Georgia law. The commissioners each receive a salary of \$3,500 per annum and the secretary of the board \$1,500. Besides this the board is allowed \$800 per year for office expenses. The records show that the reduction (?) in freight charges, since the establishment of the commission, has been fully as "impressive" as has obtained in Georgia since the establishment of her commission. But a great many of our farmers believe that the fact

that had railway charges continued until to day as high as they were in 1871, they would, in many instances, have absorbed the entire value of the article shipped, had more to do with bringing about the "immense" reduction that the board of commissioners had. In the matter of the value of railroad property in Illinois our commissioners can make fully as good a showing as Mr. Trammel has for the Georgia commission; for instance, their last report (1888) contains the following table showing the income and outgo of our railroads for a period of four years:

Income	Outgo,
Including Taxes	
1885..... \$56,960,964.16	\$37,330,760.33
1886..... 55,677,361.06	35,561,452.68
1887..... 56,860,287.34	35,266,302.19
1888..... 61,333,515.45	41,610,543.07

A cool \$80,000,000 absolute net profit as the result of four years' business is a pretty good showing, don't it?

Illinois is the grandest railroad State in the Union. Her mileage in 1888 was 13,022, and exceeds that of any other State by more than 1,400 miles. She is also the grandest agricultural State in the Union. The value of her agricultural products in 1888 exceeded that of the next best State by \$53,238,117. Suppose we compare the profits of these two callings in which Illinois so pre-eminently excels. Having already shown you the profits made by our roads for the years 1885 to 1888, I will now call your attention to some figures on farming compiled by our State Agricultural Board for the same years. Be it remembered that our agricultural board is composed of Republicans whose interest as partisans is served in making the best possible showing. Their figures on the wheat crop for the years 1885, 1886, and 1887 show a loss to the farmers for those years of \$7,784,466, and for 1888 a profit of \$2,496,405. Their figures on oats for the first three years show a loss of \$19,214,676, and for the year 1888 a profit of \$352,297. Their figures on rye show a loss for each of the four years aggregate \$1,489,866. Their corn figures show an aggregate loss the first three years of \$47,233,477 and a profit for 1888 of \$10,370,294. Taken all together their figures show an aggregate net loss to the farmers of \$59,503,536. The same reports show that the average of the wheat crop the first three years was 12 1/3 bushels, and in 1888, 14 bushels. The average rye crop for the four years was 17 1/2 bushels. The corn crop averaged 25 1/2 bushels per acre for the first three years, and 30 bushels for 1888. Figures like these speak for themselves, and it is perhaps in the contemplation of the story they tell that Illinois farmers find their justification for condemning the plan of regulating our railroads by commission.

A Suggestion.

BY S. G. MULLINS, CORSICANA, TEX.
I wish first to express my high appreciation of the NATIONAL ECONOMIST as the organ of the National Farmers Alliance and

January to April 21, 1885..... \$1,60

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THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND
INDUSTRIAL UNION.
PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT WASHINGTON, D. C.,
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Advertisements inserted only by special contract. Our rates are thirty cents per page line. Discounts for time and space furnished on application, stating character of advertisement required.

The publishers of this paper have given a bond in the sum of \$300 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 Louisville:

Whereas THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, our adopted official organ, has so boldly 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.

Address all remittances or communications to

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ENTERED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT WASHINGTON, D. C., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

N. R. P. A.

SILVER COINAGE.

The following is a press report dated Philadelphia, Jan. 3:

To day Judge Harley B. Morse and George C. Merrick, of Denver, Col., called at the United States Mint, in this city, with a brick of silver weighing 514.8 ounces, and presented it to the weighing clerk and demanded that it be coined into money for them. Upon their demand being refused, they waited upon Col. Bosbyshell, superintendent, and made the same demand verbally of him. Colonel Bosbyshell refused to accept the brick for private coinage, and Messrs. Morse and Merrick presented him with the following formal demand in writing:

"PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 3.
"Col. O. C. BOSBYSHELL, Superintendent of United States Mint at Philadelphia, Pa.:
"DEAR SIR: We, George G. Merrick, George F. Batchelder, Harley B. Morse, and Robert J. Coleman, citizens of the State of Colorado, United States of America, tender to you and to the proper officers in charge of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, a bar, or ingot, of silver 'bullion,' marked and identified as follows: From Boston and Colorado S. M. C.—fine, weighing 514.8 ounces troy, 999 fine, and demand, as of right, under the Constitution and laws of the United States, that the said silver bullion be received and coined into silver dollars of the weight of 412½ grains troy standard silver, for the use and benefit of the depositors, and without unnecessary delay.

"HARLEY B. MOSS
"GEORGE G. MERRICK."

After presenting the above demand, Mr. Merrick asked Colonel Bosbyshell to give them a certificate or letter certifying that he and Judge Morse had offered their silver for coinage, and that it had been refused by him, so that they would be saved the trouble of proving that fact in court, where they proposed to refuse the right of the Government to refuse the bullion. In compliance with their request, Colonel Bosbyshell gave them the following letter:

Messrs. George G. Merrick and Harley B. Morse.

Gentlemen: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your offer of this date of a bar or ingot of silver bullion, described as said offer to be received and coined into silver dollars of the weight of 412½ grains troy standard silver, for the use and benefit of yourselves as depositors, and beg to decline such offer on the ground that it is a violation of the laws and regulations of the mint service to deposit silver for private account. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

"O. C. BOSBYSHELL."

After receiving Col. Bosbyshell's

written refusal to receive their bullion, the two gentlemen wrapped their brick in paper and departed. The ground upon which Messrs. Morse and Merrick based their demand is, they claim, a constitutional one, and denies the right of the government to make what is known as "seigniorage." At present the market value of silver bullion is 103½ cents per ounce, while the mint value of an ounce is 129,29,100 cents. When the government buys bullion it pays the market bullion price, and makes the difference, which is the "seigniorage" between that price and the legal tender value. It is this seigniorage to which the gentlemen who presented their silver brick at the mint to day think they have as much right as the government. In speaking of the ground upon which he based his claim for free coinage, Mr. Merrick said: "We will carry this case to the Supreme Court of the United States. We say that it is the constitutional right of an American citizen to bring his gold or silver bullion to any United States mint and to receive therefor coin of lawful weight and fineness for his use and benefit based on the value of the metal deposited. Congress has no authority to demonetize silver or limit its legal tender. The act known as the 'Bland bill' restores by operation of law the coinage by the mint of silver dollars of the weight of 412½ grains standard silver to all the provisions of the act of January 18, 1873, applicable to that dollar, including the fourteenth section of said act."

Another point will be raised, that the coining of the standard silver dollar was suspended, and the unit of money changed from silver to gold by fraud and collusion. This will be fully sustained by the expose made by Senator Stewart last spring. Further than this, it will be shown that silver was never demonetized by an act of Congress, but by the revisers of the general statutes. Section 15, of act 1873, reads:

WITH this issue THE ECONOMIST begins to run a department devoted to the Association of State Business Agents, and will be a new feature, which will be of great interest to a large portion of the readers. At the last annual session of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, at Ocala, the State Business Agents and Exchange Managers of the different States perfected their organization of a National Business Agents Association, and were accepted by the Supreme Council as a standing committee of that body without mileage or per diem. They will be the active co-operation of the entire membership. They have gone to work in earnest to perfect and develop the business interests of the Order, and it is to be hoped that they will receive the active co-operation of the entire membership. They have appointed a regular committee of three to edit their column. This committee is composed of G. A. Gowan, of Nashville, Tenn.; W. W. Holland, of Kentucky, and J. J. Rogers, of Virginia. They will, no doubt, make this column a very interesting feature of THE ECONOMIST, one that will benefit the Order generally.

It will be noticed that the restrictions relative to legal tender properties are confined to the said "coins," which were: the trade dollar, half-dollar, quarter-dollar and dime. It did not refer to the standard silver dollar, as that was not included in the list of said coins. It therefore follows that this act did not demonetize the standard silver dollar, but did suspend its coinage, and that every silver dollar outstanding was a full legal tender under this act.

But in the revision of the statutes of 1874, section 3586 of the Revised Statutes, is made to say "the silver coins of the United States shall be a legal tender at their face value of these bonds in national bank currency and loan it out among the people. There are very few banks, in fact but 11, out of the entire 3,290, that do not take out this 90 per cent in currency and make use of it. This is the true situation under existing laws. Nearly one-half of the banks now

have a capital of an aggregate amount northwest \$3,000,000 of bonds on to provide the United States South to secure circulation. If this proposed measure is adopted, each one of these banks will be allowed to withdraw its bonds down to \$1,000. The difference between the amount of bonds held for circulation now, and would be under this new provision, would be fully \$38,000,000, and the contraction which would follow would be 90 per cent of this amount, or \$34,200,000. There is no way of disproving these conclusions. With these bonds at a premium of 25 per cent, and the avowed declaration by the banks and comptroller of the currency that bank circulation is unprofitable, who will doubt that such banks will sell their bonds, reap the benefit of this enormous premium and retire their currency? Of course this would furnish a certain amount of bonds that could be purchased by the Treasury, but in that operation not one dollar is added to the volume of money in circulation. If banks with \$50,000 capital are permitted to withdraw their bonds, banks having a greater capital will demand the same privilege, which will no doubt be granted.

THE force bill was set aside and the bill to prevent a contraction of the currency taken up in its place Monday, January 5. This action was a surprise to those who have been pushing the bill, and many predict it will not again be brought out. The vote stood as follows:

Yea—Senators Bate, Perry, Blackburn, Butler, Carlisle, Coke, Daniel, Eustis, Faulkner, Gibson, Gorman, Gray, Harris, Jones of Arkansas, Jones of Nevada, Kenna, McConnell, Morgan, Pasco, Pugh, Ransom, Reagan, Shoup, Standiford, Stewart, Teller, Vance, West, Wall, Washburn, Wilson of Maryland, and Walcott—34.
Nay—Senators Aldrich, Allen, Allison, Cameron, Casey, Cullom, Davis, Dixon, Dolph, Edmunds, Evans, Frye, Hawley, Hiscock, Hoar, McMillan, Manderson, Mitchell, Morrill, Platt, Plumb, Power, Quay, Sanders, Sawyer, Sherman, Spofford, Stockbridge, and Wilson—29.

Paired—Senators Carey, Farnsworth, Head, with Padlock, and Smith, Farwell, George with Blair, May, and Voorthies, Warren with Turpie, Wright with McPherson, Dawes with Colquitt, Hale with Hampton, Barbour with Squier.

Absent and not paired—Senators Blodgett, Chandler, Ingalls, Pettigrew, and Pierce.

There is but little doubt among those who are supposed to know that a measure containing a provision for free coinage of silver will be passed by the Senate, and the belief is that the House would be glad of the opportunity of undoing at this late date what it did during last session. Of course all such prophecies must be taken with a full knowledge of the power of Wall street over financial legislation. It is not probable that they will surrender without a desperate fight, and the probabilities are more than even that certain modifications will be accepted that will render the bill abortive, as has been done before. The only factor that will force free coinage is the fear of the people and a dread of the political graveyard.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

THE REPUBLICS OF THE WORLD.

A Brief Account of the Conditions Under Which They Exist.

ARGENTINA—II.

A notable feature of the distribution of population is the rapid increase in the size of the cities. The figures above for the city of Buenos Ayres are for 1889, and include over 150,000 foreigners. In 1887 other towns had populations as follows: Cordoba, 66,600; Rosario, 55,000; Tucuman, 40,000; Mendoza, Parana and Salta, each 20,000; Corrientes, 15,500. When the city of Buenos Ayres was made the federal capital it was set up as a province, and a new capital became necessary for the State of Buenos Ayres, so that in 1884 the city of La Plata was founded, and in three years grew to contain 40,000 people. The cities have materially grown since 1887, an undue proportion of the immigration being added thereto. From 1882 to 1889, inclusive, the immigration increased from 51,000 to 289,000 per annum, including a total of nearly 1,000,000 persons of whom about two-thirds were permanent addition to the population. This influx represented nationalities in about the following proportions out of each 100 persons: Italians, 70; Spaniards, 10; French, 8; all others 12.

The unit of account is the silver dollar. The national bank notes are a legal tender, with some disqualifying exceptions, but have fallen to as low as 43 cents as compared with gold. This national banking scheme was inaugurated in 1887, and follows closely the provisions of that of the United States. It is largely controlled by foreigners, generally English creditors of the government, and may be safely considered as subject to all the objections shown to inhere in the American system, as it can be so managed as to prevent that flexibility demanded by the interests of the producers. There are no strictly government issues of paper.

The attention of the world has recently centered on Argentina, because of the shock caused by the fall of the most conspicuous financial establishment in Christendom, brought about by speculation in the enterprises of the republic and her people. Much misrepresentation has been repeated, and there is a wide misunderstanding as to the real condition of the country. An effort to bring out the facts is therefore justified, though it shall make this chapter longer than was intended when the idea of compiling these sketches was conceived. There is difficulty in securing official data covering the last few months, though statistics for several years, ending with 1888, furnish testimony which enables the writer to challenge investigation into the conclusion drawn therefrom. To start with, the revenue of the government for 1888

largely increased over its average for several years. The figures for 1888 are: Revenue, \$57,671,711; expenditure, \$50,801,631. This looks healthy, as do the next two years taken together, as shown in the following estimated government budget:

	1889.	1890.
Import dues.....	\$39,750,000	\$48,000,000
Railway.....	120,000
City taxes.....	3,300,000	3,950,000
Banks.....	4,054,000	7,700,000
Stamps and Post Office.....	5,300,000	6,050,000
Sundries.....	7,700,000	8,670,000
Total.....	\$60,224,000	\$74,370,000

	1889.	1890.
Expenditure.....	\$15,611,213	\$16,237,406
Finance.....	24,746,772	25,989,893
Instruction.....	8,757,829	9,517,026
War.....	8,310,780	9,507,839
Marine.....	2,908,712	4,029,440
Foreign affairs.....	1,446,120	2,600,280
Total.....	\$61,781,428	\$67,881,884

The year 1889 was comparatively a crop failure, and it is said that a small quantity of American and Russian wheat was imported; as the people could not buy foreign commerce fell off, as shown by a gain in 1890 in imports over customs of \$8,000,000. The expenditure under the department of finance is suggestive.

March 31, 1890, an official statement classified the debt of the republic as follows:

Internal 5 per cent. bonds.....	\$ 31,544,974
Bonds to guarantee currency.....	154,946,728
Foreign debt.....	87,905,807
Floating debt.....	10,466,560
Total.....	\$284,864,069

The bonds to guarantee currency are the property of national banks, in the custody of the Government, in almost exact imitation of the system in force in the United States, and bear interest at 4½ per cent. Since this statement the foreign debt, which then bore 6 per cent interest, has been replaced at 3½ per cent, the Barings acting for the republic. Certain guarantees of income on railways and for public works are omitted from this statement. The American consul reported December 31, 1888, that the public debts of the country and provinces were officially stated in Buenos Ayres as follows:

	Foreign.	Interior.	Total debt
Argentine Republic.....	\$129,18,962	\$207,322,480	\$336,41,442
Different provinces.....	193,577,582	20,104,670	213,682,252
City of Buenos Ayres.....	24,044,752	24,044,752	48,089,504
Total.....	\$322,595,544	\$251,471,902	\$574,659,446

The debts of the provinces are all of recent origin and were created ostensibly for the establishment of national banks or the building of railways. That of the republic has been rapidly accumulating, having grown from \$47,500,000 in 1870 to \$86,300,000 in 1880, to \$141,300,000 in 1887, and fairly jumping to \$336,41,442 the next year. Thus in a time of profound peace, when the country had no means of income save what

could be taxed from agriculture, this debt has grown until over \$16,000,000 had to be set aside in 1888 for interest.

Aside from the debts of the republic and provinces, the debts of the people are considerable. There are banks with branches at many convenient places that loan on land, an easily-transferred form of debenture having been provided. These cedulas more than a year ago summed up \$404,000,000, something more than \$100 per capita. There is also a vast debt for railway construction held by foreign lenders. The length of railways is now considerably in excess of 7,000 miles, representing a capitalization of about \$240,000,000, while about 2500 miles not yet complete have absorbed possibly one-third the cost of construction, or \$25,000,000 more. During the year 1888 the government paid out \$3,000,000 in gold to make up guaranteed profits, since which time the policy has been adopted of refusing this guarantee unless the roads were in proper condition and suitably equipped for service. The government has also undertaken a system of river and harbor improvement which has cost immense sums, and which was speculative in its character, in so far as it was expected to aid in securing immigration and developing a commerce which does not yet exist.

The provinces and municipalities have each its own budget, the whole involving an annual tax of \$37,000,000.

The republic has undertaken to inventory its assets, evidently bent upon justifying its financial operations. The lands in the provinces belong to the provinces, but there are immense bodies of land in the nine territories which the government offers for sale. This was put a year ago at 420,000,000 acres, but a large part of it was in the southern part of the country, where the climate is not attractive and where the Indian tribes have possession. The total value of the republic's assets were put at over \$700,000,000, while the lands of the fourteen provinces were estimated to be worth \$2,720,000,000.

It is ridiculous to say that though the finances may be wrong the country is all right. It is through its finances that a government is a burden or a blessing to a people. But the republic is peculiarly unfortunate in that the balance of trade is against its people. From 1882 to 1888 the excess of imports over exports has steadily increased, the total for the seven years being \$164,905,966. This caused a steady drain of gold out of the country, and the administration adopted the plan of buying back gold with bonds (interest payable in gold), thus keeping up bal-

ances in the banks, but increasing the public burden. The provinces for four or five years have followed the example of the government, so that the day which was certain under such a system came, and the Barings were swamped. All the gold was drained out of the country, all the cedulas that the European financiers would take were unloaded, all the railroad securities possible were placed in the world's bourses, with the result that the merchandise of the countries becoming creditors came to the republic in place of the precious metals that were expected. The plan of controlling labor by controlling money worked successfully. No people's money, like greenbacks, stood in the way. Whether the speculator shall meet the fate of the wicked who dug a pit and fell therein, or whether the day of accounting shall turn over to the spoilers a great country and a brave people to be bondmen, is yet the question to be decided. Now Argentina stands a pitiable spectacle of maladministration and of national dishonor.

LION SAY, the French economist, has his say against the financial plans of the Farmers Alliance. He declares that unless reaction shall take place in public morals American credit cannot recover from its abatement.

It is a little rough for a Frenchman to lecture any nation on the question of public morals, but still worse for one supposed to be learned in the financial history of his country to condemn a measure that in 1848 saved his people from irretrievable ruin. If he had read the full text of the sub-treasury plan he would have recognized in it a counterpart of that plan which brought relief when everything else had failed.

Marion Cannon.
[Pacific Rural Press.]

The President of the California State Alliance is a man of no ordinary quality. Coming to the late meeting in San Jose for organizing this State Alliance, unacquainted with and known to but few delegates, he shrank from the appointment of temporary chairman. Finally accepting the charge, he used his best unbiased judgment in the appointment of assisting officers and committees for the session. The work of organizing proved his good judgment and gave satisfaction to the very earnest members of the meetings. During the labors of the session, he gave abundant proof of his large perceptive faculties, keen, quick discernment of character and ability and adaptability. For the position of permanent officer, he was elected with great unanimity after frequent requests to be excused from that important position. The San Francisco Examiner has given the following pen-picture of Mr. Cannon in its issues:

"Born in Virginia in 1854, he removed here in 1852, and has been for the past 16 years a resident of Ventura county, where he is engaged in conducting a large ranch. President Cannon is a man of great force of character, a good speaker, and of pronounced executive ability. He is a prominent Mason. He is a typical California rancher. This afternoon, when the correspondent met him under the arcade porch of the Revere house, Ventura, he was smoking a large cigar and had just finished a substantial noonday meal. He had on a black slouch hat that effectively concealed his gray hairs and his rather broad forehead, a suit such as a man might wear to go a-plowing, or to come to town for his mail, and the lack of a vest showed that he wore a brown cheviot shirt with white pearl buttons in front, with collar attached to the shirt and with no necktie."

APPLIED SCIENCE In Agricultural and Rural Economy.

EDITED BY DR. M. G. ELZEV.
WOODSTOCK, MD.

CO-OPERATION IN RURAL ECONOMY.

A friend in Grand Ledge, Mich., sends the following communication from the Kaweah Commonwealth, upon which comment is invited:

The annual report of the Secretary of the Interior contains the following passage:

"The Governor of California, in a letter dated September 24, 1890, which was solicited by the secretary, states in substance that the greatest difficulty will be in the extinguishing of private rights. No doubt the lands set apart for the park will be found covered with private claims, the annihilation of which will be exceedingly expensive. The cost should be borne by the United States government, California extending all necessary protection in the way of legislation."

The secretary then evidently recognizes the difficulty of extinguishing the rights of a community, which has acted as good faith as have the Kaweah colonists. He certainly knows what he is writing about, as there is an ample amount of evidence in Washington at his disposal to substantiate our claims.

It seems to us a curious thing to note, that while one of the officials of a free republic calmly speculates on how to suppress the efforts of a co-operative institution, the British government under a monarchy, has only a short time ago made a special land reserve near Victoria, B.C., for the establishment of a co-operative colony similar to ours. This fact needs no further comment.

The Kaweah colony is an experiment in social science applied to the economics of rural life. It is one of the signs of the time which prophesy that all things are becoming new, old things passing away. On every hand the hum of these mighty workings smites the listener's ear. The noble principle of co-operation has always been difficult of introduction into rural industries, and especially those of agriculture. The culture of each farm or parcel of ground is in itself a complete industrial enterprise, and essentially in competition with every other like enterprise. In every such enterprise capital and labor co-operate, but the difficulty is in arriving at an equitable adjustment of the share of each in their joint product. The application of experimental research to the solution of this problem, which is not insoluble, is a thing of profound interest to mankind, and must have the sympathy of every man who is not either wrong-headed or bad-hearted. We are, even at this late day, in all that affects our own well-being, the most profoundly informed and the best intentioned of us, merely "infants crying for the light."

The specific matter proposed in the clipping above quoted is as to the justification of government in exercising the power of eminent domain as against a co-operative community. A co-operative community is a corporation, and the power of eminent domain is as effective in the case of a corporation as in the case of an individual. This so-called right of eminent domain is a despotic power wherever lodged, and may be, and very often is, like other acts of despotism, utterly without justification before God or man. The question

which lies behind this is, what business has the government to be taking the people's property for a lot of parks to be kept in order with the people's money? We have been told by a great constitutional lawyer that the word agriculture is not in the constitution as a reason why we could not have a secretary of agriculture; certainly the words Kaweah Commonwealth are not in the constitution; ergo, the government cannot recognize the rights of any national parks! The word park is not in the constitution. There is no "specific grant" in the constitution authorizing the government to create and maintain national parks, any more than there is a "specific grant" of power to build warehouses and store cotton. If to build warehouses and store cotton or wheat be "paternalism," what is the creation of national parks to be maintained by a lot of paid officials and hired employees? Is that "paternalism" also, and if not why not? We say the exercise of the power of eminent domain is an act of despotism, essentially justifiable or unjustifiable. It is a good example of the general truth that all forms of government contain within themselves elements of despotism. Our friend contrasts our free republic with a monarchical England, and shows that monarchical England can be "freer" than free republican America. It is evident that the word free in this connection is utterly without sense or meaning. England is in fact a much more democratic government than the United States. The monarch of England is possessed of less power than a member of the House of Commons. The President of the United States possesses many of the most dangerous powers of a real king, to wit, the power of massing an army at Washington to witness the inauguration of a successor, or to veto "the most wholesome and necessary laws," though passed by two-thirds less one of the people's representatives elected by them for that very purpose. All is not gold that glitters, and neither is everything freedom which is free. We deceive ourselves with names and terms, and so defeat our own best intentioned efforts. For example, how easy is it for the greatest fool, the most empty-headed ass, to hiss "paternalism!" at an earnest, patriotic and sensible man, and not even suspect himself of self-stultification when he defends and votes for the public school, the national banks, a national park, a pension law, or a brass general, as the case may be. If our friend supposes that the words free republic have any meaning, we suggest a re-examination of the grounds of his belief. Let us beware of deceptive terms, and catch phrases, and party shibboleths, that have no meaning; but are armed with venom and potency, and aimed at the heart of all co-operative effort, which would shake off from the shoulders of men the burden of the new slavery of control. Before leaving the question we suggest to our friend that a condition precedent to the success of co-operative communities is that the individuals composing such communities shall be freemen, and not

slaves subject to control by those who control the price of labor through monopoly of the currency. "Control is the essence of ownership." If a man controls the price of the products of your labor he controls your labor in production, and he owns you; you may not be his chattel but you are his bondman. Shall it be written? Yes. "Tell the truth!" You are his slave. If you join certain of your fellow men in productive industry you are slaves in co-operation, as you are slaves individually. Over there on the Pacific side, Jay Gould controls everything; does he own everybody? Are you people that man's slaves?

A NEW DEPARTURE.

It is said Colonel Polk, president of the Farmers Alliance, has been selected to deliver the oration at the laying of the foundation of the new Agricultural College of South Carolina, at the homestead of Calhoun. It is certain that we should, under the old dispensation, have had no such selection. The orator would have been, had the occasion occurred before the advent of the Alliance, a lawyer and a politician, although no lawyer and no politician either knows, or ever knew, anything important to be said on any such occasion. If the orator is to be a mere talking machine, well and good, a lawyer will do. But if he is to be in his own person a living representative of the spirit which ought to animate the occasion, let him be a farmer by profession, and one who is in knowledge qualified, and by association, by interest, by brotherhood, fit to speak. Let not such an occasion any more be made the opportunity of some aspiring demagogue to advertise himself. Col. Polk is a farmer, and he makes a good speech at the same time.

DECREASE OF RURAL POPULATION.

Some take the ground that you can't prove anything by the figures of the recent census. Keeping probability in view, we may, however, venture to reason upon these figures, subject to correction. Certain writers in the December Forum show that if we take account only of cities of 3,000 and upwards population all the increase of our entire population for the decade which is just closed has been absorbed by the cities. If this be nearly correct it is entirely certain that the actual bona-fide rural population, living in genuine country homes, has suffered serious decrease during the last ten years. This is a country where good land within short walk of a railroad station, and within fifteen miles of the capital city, can be bought for less than ten dollars per acre. Yet some there are brazen and foolish enough to contend that American agriculture is prosperous, and that no complaint arises except from such farmers as are too lazy to be willing to work, and have banded together to devise means by legislative enactment to compel others to contribute to their support. It is basely false, and none know it better than those making this infamous allegation. But what has caused this great depression of agriculture and this desertion of rural life in this vast domain of virgin soils? Why, say some, over-

production. It is excess of plenty which impoverishes the people. Let the truth be told. What is it which is depopulating the country and sapping away the very formation of national existence? There is one only and true answer. It is misgovernment. It has been done by the prostration of two, and those two, the chief attributes of the sovereignty, or supreme power of the people, to the service of the base design of a favored few. Those two chief distinctive attributes of the supreme power of a great people are the powers to make money and to impose taxes. It is the abuse of these two fundamental functions of the supreme power of the people—the so-called sovereignty, which has gone so far to convert the people into two classes, millionaires and tramps. The farmers are dealt with by those who have falsely administered their government as the Egyptians dealt with the Israelites, taking straw from them, and demanding more bricks. The exodus followed, and hence, also, the present exodus from country to town.

LIQUID ELECTRICITY.

A reader of THE ECONOMIST, and a member of the Alliance encloses a letter advertising liquid electricity, otherwise called the water of life, said to be a discovery of the breeder to keep them true to a selected, typical, intermediate form, preserving the desirable qualities of both original species. The time and patience required to bring about such a result are so great that it was long held to be impossible. How in the meantime the numerous breeds, which breed perfectly true, had been formed, no one thought it worth while to explain. The manner in which mongrels vary is perfectly characteristic, and completely distinguishes them from hybrids. Let us keep in mind that mongrels are the offspring of crossed varieties or breeds; hybrids of crossed species. The first generation of mongrels will resemble, some one parent, some the other and some neither.

In every generation there will be found a few individuals very nearly intermediate in character between the two breeds originally crossed, and these individuals being mated with each other, will in each succeeding generation produce a larger and larger number of individuals like themselves, and in most cases after five or six crosses uniformly will be so far established that the few individuals which vary from the new type may be weeded out, even by one not expert in such matters. However, even after the lapse of many generations variation reappears, especially under adverse conditions and hardships. Atavistic reversion, as it is called, also rarely exhibits itself in the case of a single individual. This term is a technical one derived from the Latin *atavus*, an ancestor, and implies that the likeness of a remote ancestor whose type is very different from the present form of the breed, suddenly appears in the case of a single individual, when the vast majority of a breed prove true to the present type. We think that this so-called atavism has been exaggerated, and its importance suddenly magnified. Genuine

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

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cases of it are infinitely rarer than many great writers, Darwin, notably, have made it appear. For example, the writer has bred Southdown sheep for more than twenty-five years, and has never yet seen or heard of a case of atavistic reappearance of the spotted face or legs formerly common to the breed. Among cattle the Devons are, so far as is known, entirely exempt from any such phenomenon. Much has been made of the fact, that an occasional black calf is recorded to have been born among the semi-wild white cattle of Chillingham Park, which have not been crossed with any kind for six hundred years. Melanism or abnormal blackness is recognized as a disease, precisely as is albinism. According to the observations of the writer melanism is much more frequent than albinism. He has seen, for example, a number of black rattlesnakes, never a white one. He has seen also a good many black goose snakes, or spread-heads, never a white one. Among birds melanism is also common, albinism is also of common occurrence. Among squirrels both melanism and albinism are far from uncommon.

It may be safely asserted that any hypothesis constructed upon merely pigmentary characters is a most unsubstantial fabric.

Yet it is upon color marks that by far the greater proportion of the reported atavistic cases are made to rest. Another factor doubtless appears in many of them, to wit, a stolen, unknown, and utterly unsuspected cross. It is not intended to deny the existence of true cases of atavism; the present contention is, that a majority of the supposed cases when closely analyzed appear to be probably the result of other causes; very often of disease. The cause set down as belonging to the mysteries of heredity is really of pathologic origin. Insisting that atavism has been unduly magnified by great writers, nevertheless admitting its reality, we desire to point out that it is a peculiarity of mongrels, and has not been observed among hybrids, although atavism has been theoretically confounded with the reversion of hybrids by successive approaches in successive generations to the original type of one or the other of the parental species. In the case of all-fertile hybrids without exception this complete reversion of all the individuals to one or the other original type has been invariably observed. That the sudden reappearance of the likeness of a remote ancestor affecting a single individual of a group, which likeness is in a great majority of cases not transmitted to offspring by the individual, is the same phenomenon as the reversion by degrees of an entire group of hybrids to a parent form, it is perfectly absurd to maintain. Yet in the writings of many of the greatest naturalists this is assumed as a matter of course. In point of fact reversion, as invariably observed among hybrids, is never observed among mongrels at all.

No one would pretend that if fox hounds and water spaniels were crossed and the mongrel offspring inter-bred after five or six genera-

tions all the inter-bred mongrels would be found to have reverted completely to the type either of hounds or spaniels. Everybody knows that no such thing will happen. In the case of hybrids those who have paid attention to the matter know that it is what invariably has occurred, and the inference is justifiable that it will occur always.

When distinct species are crossed, as in the case of common mules, either the offspring will be utterly sterile *inter se*, or in the few cases in which the hybrids are capable of offspring complete reversion to the type of one of the parent species results in a few generations, or else the mutual fertility of the hybrid race is soon exhausted and reversion goes no further than an occasional case of atavism.

The continual appearance of new breed, especially of swine, sheep, pigeons, and poultry, which breed perfectly true except in extremely rare and occasional individuals, proves that it merely takes time and patience by crossing and selection to produce such new breed.

The American trotting horse is a new breed in rapid process of formation before our eyes. The manner of its evolution is very similar to the development of the English race horse, or so-called thoroughbred. The subject of heredity is vast and complex, but the actual known facts should be fairly treated, whether they conflict or not with famous hypotheses and fashionable fads of pseudo science.

THERE ought to be a certain amount of responsibility for truth and veracity attached to the publication of every great metropolitan daily. It should be a recognized principle, in order to occupy such position, that a paper should advocate such truths as would redound to the good of the community and should, under no circumstances, misrepresent a great truth, especially when such misrepresentations are liable to injure the interest of a large number of its readers. If such responsibility exists, or if such paper is under any obligation to be true to its readers, the Washington Star seems to be woefully ignorant of the fact. In a recent issue it says "when the Farmers Alliance fathered the sub-treasury bill it took one step toward the distribution by the government of money and food among the people." If it knew anything about the sub-treasury it knew this was untrue. If it did not know anything about it, it had no business making such a publication.

HON. IGNATIUS DONNELLY was elected president of the Minnesota State Alliance. Mr. Donnelly is well known in political and literary circles as an able and capable man. The Alliance should prosper under his management.

THE REFORM PRESS.
The Discussion of Current Topics in the Organized States.

Farm, Stock and Home, (Minneapolis, Minn.) has some reflections on the stringent money market:

The Secretary of the Treasury asserts that there has been an increase in the volume of currency since July of \$103,000,000, yet during the past 60 days there has been a veritable epidemic of commercial failures, among old, staid, well-reputed and extensive establishments, too, and every failure is attributed to stringency of the money market. The situation confirms the correctness of the position taken by F. S. & H. some months ago, that "volume of currency" had come to mean one thing, and "circulating medium" another. It matters not how much the "volume" may be increased if its wings are so clipped by centralizing forces that it cannot circulate. The increased volume was chucked into Wall street, the people paying roundly—in anticipated interest, premiums on bonds, etc.—for the favor done the street, but secured no advantages to themselves, evidenced by the enormous number of business failures caused by a stringent money market, and all because "volume of currency" did not become "circulating medium."

The reasons why it did not become that healthy medium are numerous, but the chief one is the contracted purchasing power of the fundamental wealth producers of the country. No matter how plentiful money may be in first hands, the average man cannot get a dollar that he does not in some way labor for. If the farmer has nothing to sell "volume of currency" is a "barren ideality" to him; and if what he has to sell costs to produce as much as he gets his power to purchase is so weakened that ultimately it will weaken every industry and business in the land. The fact that in the aggregate the farmers of the country are making no money; that, relatively speaking, farm values have shown an alarming decrease during the three decades last past, has infinitely more to do with present financial conditions than a "stringent money market," for the last condition is really the result of the first. Failures almost unparalleled in number and magnitude following close upon an expansion of \$103,000,000 in volume of currency.

The Free Lance (Ashland, Ill.) says:

Mr. Guld says he will make those railroads that carry your produce to market pay double to the lucky stockholders; rates are going to be put up and kept up. Verily, this is enough to give the backbone to even the confiding Peruvian farmers, who proudly voted the Plutocratic Demo-Republican ticket at the last election. How those farmers must love those strong hands that are robbing their children unto nakedness.

The Industrial Age (St. Paul, Minn.) says:

In the past the people have created money, gold, silver and paper, and by giving a small class the control of the distribution, they have placed themselves in the power of this class to impoverish them. In the future the people (the government) should control the distribution of money for the benefit of the whole people. All real wealth is created by labor, and is exchanged by means of money, which is created by law, and law is only the will of the people legally expressed at the ballot box.

The Alliance Leader (Bolivar, N. Y.) says:

The honest people of the country irrespective of party, are expecting to see some action taken by the House of Representatives on the resolution recently offered by Representative Dockery, and now in the hands of the committee on rules, authorizing an investigation of the charge that twenty seven Senators and Representatives joined pools formed to speculate in silver, while the silver bill, which afterward became a law, was pending at the last session.

This is too serious a charge to be pigeonholed. Let the investigation proceed. If there be guilty men in Congress, show them up, regardless of their political, social, religious or financial status.

Country Life (Trinity College, N. C.) says:

The County, State and National organizations are all based upon the sub-Alliance and the individual membership. How important then that each and every member do his or her whole duty, faithfully and continuously, until all of our Alliance principles shall prevail and abound throughout the entire length and breadth of our land! We have great reason to rejoice over the good work already accomplished, and this should inspire us with fresh courage to valiantly fight the great battles before us. Principalities and the united powers of darkness are arrayed against

us to defeat every movement of the people. Remember, brethren, that you are engaged in a warfare that is to liberate you and your children from the thrall of class legislation and place you on an equal footing with all other classes; but if you should, from indifference and neglect, fail to use this opportunity, you and your posterity will have to pay the penalty. The pleading voice of your heroic ancestry is calling to you this day to assert your manhood and stand invincible for right and justice to all. You cannot afford to surrender and go back captives to the rusty old flesh pots of bondage. Strike out from this very hour for the high plains of equal rights, and never, for one moment, hesitate or look back, until the glad day of deliverance shall have to pay the penalty.

The Rice (Kan.) Eagle, says:

"Closed its doors." "Another big failure." "Another big firm goes under." Such announcements as the above fill the daily papers, and yet Congress spends its time in hatching schemes to benefit the very men who are responsible for it. The rascals should be turned out and kept out.

The Cuthbert (Ga.) Liberal Enterprise thinks Alliancemen can profitably spend a year "picking their fangs, getting solidly together and applying Alliance glue to their backs so they can stick together." It says:

Congressman Carlton wants bondholders to deposit their bonds with the United States Treasurer, receive their full value in greenbacks, and continue to draw interest on the bonds. This is a good device to benefit the bondholders. All the propositions as for an increase of the currency (excepting the sub-treasury plan) have but one object in view—aiding the bondholders. It reminds us of the old story of the white man and Indian who had been hunting and killed a turkey and a crow. The white man proposed a division to the Indian, by saying, "You take the crow, and I'll take the turkey, or I'll take the turkey and you take the crow." "Humph," said the Indian, "white man say Indian take crow every time."

The Alliance Times (Anderson, Ind.) says:

The Alliance is a political organization and teaches politics; its principles are purely political, its intentions are political, and the man or woman who is thinking of becoming a member with any other understanding had better not send in his application for membership. While it is political it is non-partisan. Some people do not know the difference between politics and partisanship. Politics is the science of government; partisanship—well it is anything to beat the other party, regardless of principles or anything else.

The Alliance Herald (Montgomery, Ala.) in its New Year issue, says:

The amount of money which will be paid out as dividends and interest today is over equal to two-thirds of the volume of currency of the country. The accumulation of this large sum in order to meet these demands has gradually withdrawn it from circulation and contributed to no insignificant extent, in enforcing the terrible stringency which has obtained in finances for the past month.

It seems to be a time of investigation in Kansas. The Osage Times says:

How is it that Secretary Higgins, who is a practical printer, has not until now discovered the robberies that have been perpetrated on the people of Kansas by its State Printers? Is he like a number of other Republican leaders, endeavoring to bring about a reduction in fees and salaries simply because the offices are being turned over to parties of an opposition faith?

Custer County Beacon (Broken Bow, Neb.) says:

By striking down silver and thus enhancing the value of gold, the bondholders have realized an immense profit if not a dollar in interest had ever been paid them. And by this demonetizing act alone, they had been enabled to add thousands and millions of dollars to the burden of the original debt.

Little River Pilot (Richmond, Ark.) says:

The pleasant and harmonious meeting of the Farmers' Alliance at Ocala, Florida, has proven beyond the shadow of a doubt that the ghost of sectionalism no longer stands between the farmers of the north and the south, the east and west. They met on one common platform and together consulted over their interests and laid plans to protect themselves and their posterity. May the blessings of God rest upon the works of the noble order.

Lafayette County Statesman (Oswego, Kas.) says:

There is another trade-dollar swindle in the financial incubator. It is a plan to coin a "pan-American dollar" for use in the central American nations, just as the trade dollar were made for use in Japan. It is not to be a legal tender anywhere—oh, no! that would spoil the little game—but merely a con-

venience of trade. They might be paid out in Central and South America for sugar, coffee, etc., but they would soon come back in the purchase of implements, flour, etc. Once in the hands of the public a discount of 25 or 50 percent would be established, and the "honest financier" harvest a few millions more.

stand together for political action, if they ever do, such victories as this will sink into insignificance besides the grand results they will obtain. The letter says: "In your last issue, is given a statement of the Georgia Alliance committee, it seems to me, trying to explain away the action of the Alliance in supporting Gen. Gordon for the Senate. As I understand the Senatorial contest in Georgia, Gen. Gordon would not pledge himself to the Alliance demands for the relief of the people, and, under the circumstances, this brought the Alliance to an open fight on Gen. Gordon. Now, in the third paragraph of the address, the committee say: 'The suggestion that a single member of the legislature, who is an Allianceman, was moved or controlled in his vote for or against Gen. Gordon by an undue influence, is absolutely without foundation.' Then, I presume, as Gen. Gordon was elected Senator, it is Gen. Gordon first, last and all the time with the Georgians, Alliance or no, Alliance. The impetus given to this industry is due largely to Mr. H. R. Duval, the president of the Florida Central & Peninsula Railroad, who had Cuba seed distributed free of charge among the farmers and encouraged them to plant. As the management of this crop requires considerable skill and knowledge, at certain stages of culture, he had an agent, a practical grower of experience, to give instruction to any one who desired to avail himself of his services. This agent will go to any farm, the only condition being that he is to be met at the railroad station and transported to the farm and back to the station. There is no charge for his instruction.

As we go down the southern branch of the road and reach the orange section, they cultivate vegetables and strawberries. The town of Lawtey is particularly well known as a successful strawberry growing point; but all along the line in this region this industry is more or less followed.

As we near Ocala on this road we find ourselves in the region of the natural orange groves. Here the wild trees, Montgomerie county, Kansas. Quite a number of such answering resolutions have been received, some of which will be published in later issues. "Whereas we have received numerous evidences of fraternal feelings from our western brethren and sisters, prominent among which is the resolution of the ladies of Verdigris Alliance No. 873 in Montgomery county, Kansas; and whereas we are more than willing to give the backbone to even the confiding Peruvian farmers, who proudly voted the Plutocratic Demo-Republican ticket at the last election. How those farmers must love those strong hands that are robbing their children unto nakedness."

The Farm Record (Burlington, Kan.) says:

When farmers want a stay law, so they can hold possession of their homes until times get better, and they can work out some problem that will enable them to pay off the mortgage, for they are called socialists, anarchists, repudiators, etc.; but when the wealthy importer asks time in which to pay the duty on his imports in bond, it is considered wisdom on the part of the government to grant the request without delay.

The People's Paper (Bloomington, Neb.) gets down to the Indian question: "When designing men go among the Indians and report back fine crops and good times among them, when every word is false they say, and upon such reports the government cuts rations and allowances until the Indians are threatened with starvation and death in a most horrible form, can one place give the blame with them? Is not the blame secondarily with the government and primarily with the rascals who make their false reports? Are they not indirectly murderers? And should they not be shot or hanged for their inhuman perfidy?"

The traveler who comes to Florida should keep by him a map of the country and consult it on his way. We had such a map. It can be obtained free of charge on application to Mr. A. O. MacDonell, at Jacksonville, who is the general passenger agent of this road.

Among the most attractive sights here are the silver springs, a short distance out of Ocala. Into a basin, 600 feet in diameter, the spring issues in one body of clear, pure water, filling the basin 60 feet deep, and flows away through the silver spring running into the romantic Ocalawha.

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SEE ISSUE OF THIS PAPER, DECEMBER 27, 1890.

The Ingersoll Liquid Paints are the only paints known to science that will successfully resist the action of the sun's rays, salt air and water, so destructive to all other paints, particularly in the Southern climate. Hon. O. H. Kelly, founder of the Order Patrons of Husbandry, writes from Florida: "The Ingersoll Paint, which I have thoroughly tested in this climate during the past five years, is certainly the best air from the Gulf has no visible effect." Thousands of farmers and Alliance members in every State testify from personal experience the truth of this.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

We want to hear from the Pur. Agt. of every Lodge in the United States within the next thirty days—for appointment as Agt. Write for particulars "under seal," sending certificate of authority signed by Ex. Com.; also forward list of all property owners in your Lodge, with post office addresses; will write them requesting they order through you, Presidents, Secretaries and members. Let us hear from you. Remember, we sell you "DIRECT" at full wholesale prices, saving you the entire middleman's profit, and furnishing a paint which forty-eight years use has proved to be the most durable and color-lasting known.

Sample cards painted with the paint, confidential wholesale discounts, and particulars free. Write at once.

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NEW PREMIUM LIST FOR 1891

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST adopts a course never yet pursued by any newspaper in America. It gives its subscribers the benefit of its advertising space. It has earned implements and machinery by advertising, and proposes to donate them to the subscribers securing the largest accession to the subscription list. Read the following unparalleled offer and go to work at once. You can benefit humanity, make money and secure the everlasting gratitude of your friends, by inducing them to subscribe for this, the very best labor paper in America.

SPECIAL PRIZES.

FIRST GRAND PRIZE.

For the largest list of yearly subscribers, each at one dollar, secured between now and the first day of July, 1891, we will give as a premium a Steam Power Hay Press, one of the best in the market, price \$500. This press delivered on board of cars at St. Louis, Missouri.

SECOND GRAND PRIZE.

For the second largest list of yearly subscribers turned in, at one dollar each, between this and July 1, 1891, we will give as a premium a Saw Mill, complete, ready for operation. List price, \$300. Delivered on board of cars at Salem, N. C.

THIRD GRAND PRIZE.

For the third largest list the premium is a Wind Mill, complete. List price, \$200. This Mill is manufactured and delivered on board of cars in Indiana. It is one of the best wind engines manufactured, and is an article that should be on every well equipped farm. The winner of this prize will be at liberty to take two small Mills should he prefer.

FOURTH GRAND PRIZE.

Consists of a Feed Cutter. List price, \$80. Complete, ready for operation. Free on board of cars at factory at Salem, Ohio.

FIFTH GRAND PRIZE.

Consists of a choice between a Grain Drill and a Walking Cultivator, manufactured in Ohio.

SIXTH GRAND PRIZE.

Is a Sewing Machine, high arm Singer pattern.

These are special, and in addition to this unparalleled offer we also make the following standing offer, which will obtain regular subscribers sent in by those who do not care to compete for the prizes:

Regular Premiums for Clubs.

For one new name and \$1 we will send as a premium the National Economist Hand-Book of Facts and Alliance Information, containing about 130 pages of statistical and other well selected matter; or, one piece of sheet music, entitled "Clasp Hard in Hand Like Brothers," dedicated to Mrs. Ben Terrell.

For two new names and \$2 we will send as a premium one copy of "Philosophy of Price," by N. A. Dunning, bound in paper; or, one copy of bound volume of THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, No. 1, containing 418 pages of solid reading, including the articles on "Railways," and "History and Government." It is a valuable premium.

For three new names and \$3 we will send a three months subscription to the new monthly, the NATIONAL ECONOMIST LIBRARY OF EXTRAS.

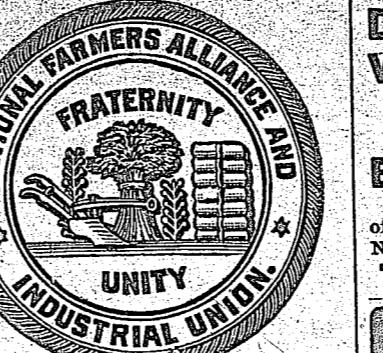
For five new names and \$5 we will send as a premium one copy of the new Alliance song book, entitled "Farmers Alliance Songs," by E. O. Excell and D. Reid Parker, recently endorsed by the Supreme Council; or, two copies of bound volume of THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, Nos. 1 and 2; or, six months subscription to the new monthly, the NATIONAL ECONOMIST LIBRARY OF EXTRAS.

Clubs of ten, one copy of "Philosophy of Price," by N. A. Dunning, bound in cloth; or, one year's subscription to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST; or, one year's subscription to the new monthly, the NATIONAL ECONOMIST LIBRARY OF EXTRAS.

Clubs of fifteen, one copy of "History of the Wheel and the Alliance, and the Impending Revolution," by W. S. Morgan.

To secure either of these club premiums it is not necessary to send all of the names at once, but notice of intention to claim the premium should accompany the first order. Address—

NATIONAL ECONOMIST,
WASHINGTON, D. C.



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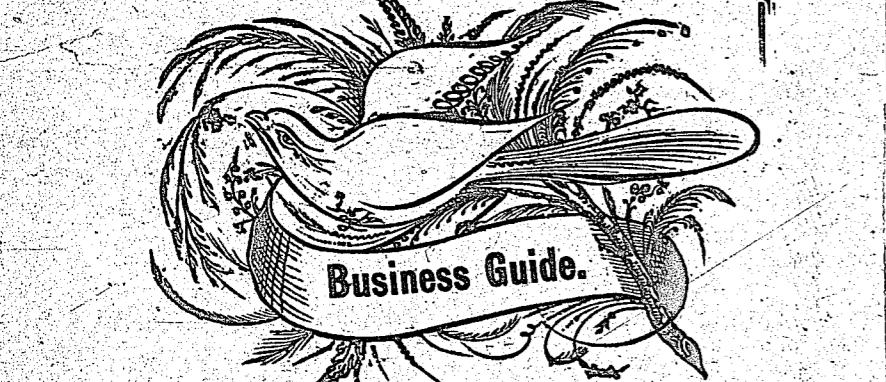
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sults to certain sections of the country. It seems to me this is a valid objection. Some States and many counties will have no warehouse. They will remain a prey to speculators and the full success of the scheme be thereby threatened. Why not use the present means of marketing and storage? Then every bushel or pound of non-perishable product will have the same opportunity offered it, and by one shipment it will reach the market.

The matter of loan by the government and the payment of interest is objected to by some. I have spoken of this above. The government should not lend one cent of money, and the citizens should not pay one cent of interest. The immediate beneficiary of the flow of currency should be made to pay the whole expense of the marketing, storage and sale of his product, but not one cent more; similar to what under a system of free coinage the owner of bullion pays.

There are other objections, such as the danger of the increase of government officials and the method of their selection which have so often been fairly met and fully answered that I only refer to them. Every matter of detail will be fully discussed when the measure is pressed in Congress and an opportunity given to adopt the best system. No doubt after it passes from the hands of the law makers experience will teach the necessity of a modification in other details, until the system becomes more or less perfect in its working.

STATISTICS WANTED.

Statistics are valuable or not, as they have been accurately prepared or otherwise. They are not always conclusive evidence of the facts they seem to establish. Upon some very important points of dispute in economics there are absolutely no reliable statistics to be had. At this time one of the most important things to be considered for the next few years is the fluctuation in prices in the market in which the farmer sells. All the statistics now to be had show quotations of leading markets in this country, and they are based on the gold market of Europe, and show absolutely nothing of the fluctuations in farm price that result from the power of money to oppress by its scarcity.

Fluctuations in city prices do not fully represent fluctuations in farm prices, because freight represents a large proportion of city price and freights go up as prices go down, and vice versa, thereby tending to show stability in city prices when there has been a wide range in farm prices. For this same reason the method of the Department of Agriculture, which estimates the

farm price by States to be the New York price less an average estimate for freights, is utterly worthless as an evidence of the fluctuation of farm price.

There seems but one way to get correct evidence on this subject, and that is from the farmers themselves.

For this purpose THE ECONOMIST will send out soon, as a supplement, a blank form, on which a report is asked. A great many farmers can, from their own books, tell for ten years back exactly at what time they sold wheat, oats and corn. Others can refer to the books of their merchants and grain buyers. In the cotton and tobacco districts nearly every one can get the required data from the warehouse books.

A hundred thousand of these blank reports will be sent out, and every farmer who gets one is requested to fill it out in full if he can, or get different farmers for different years and fill it out for the whole ten years in the same market.

This plan will cost THE ECONOMIST several thousand dollars by the time the facts are all compiled, but it will furnish evidence of a reliable kind that should awaken the Fifty-second Congress to the necessity for action to relieve agriculture. It will show the true cause for the depressed condition of agriculture.

Every friend to the cause is requested to co-operate and help in this effort, and while working for the cause of the oppressed people, assist their most devoted and trusted champion, THE ECONOMIST, by securing for it a club.

Statistics, manipulated in the interest of the exploiting class, have long been a potent factor in producing apathy in regard to some of the most glaring economic evils, and thereby rendering quiescent a large class of honest, conservative people, which, once aroused to the true situation, will be of great assistance in the reform movement. This is a chance to get the necessary data to demonstrate facts that will arouse all such to action.

Positive evidence of truth is all that is asked for; no doctored evidence in favor of farmers or any other occupation. The absolute truth will be compiled regardless of the consequences; and should conclusions be developed that differ from preconceived ideas, such ideas must give way and the true conclusions be accepted.

From one hundred thousand actual reports from farmers themselves, showing date of sale, grade of product, and price received for the last ten years, a table of average yearly maximum price, minimum price, and mean price, can

be accurately prepared and the true fluctuation in farm prices correctly shown.

No one will get any direct pay for this work, but it is hoped that all will be amply repaid by the benefits that must flow to all agriculturists from the results. Surely the people can well afford to hunt up the data and fill out the reports when THE ECONOMIST undertakes all the labor and expense of preparing the blanks, sending them out, and compiling the result.

MORE OBJECTORS CONFOUNDED.

THERE seems to be a fatality connected with nearly all opposition so far to the sub-treasury plan. When W. C. Oates, Congressman from Alabama, led off in an attack upon this measure he based his argument almost entirely upon its unconstitutionality. Unfortunately for this gentleman, and very much to his chagrin, an examination of the Congressional Record revealed the fact that only a few years previous he had argued just as boldly and much more eloquently the absolute and certain constitutionality of a measure that contained precisely the same principles involved in the sub-treasury bill, viz: Government loans to the people. Since this disclosure but little has been heard from Mr. Oates on this subject. Again, Senator Carlisle undertook the task of wiping out the whole matter with a single article from his pen.

The Senator, however, labored under the difficulty of either having not read the bill at all, or very carelessly, because, as the recognized champion of the liquor interest in Congress, he had voted for and advocated the same provisions as they now exist in the revenue laws of the country. When it was shown that Mr. Carlisle was willing to grant privileges to corn after being made into whisky, that he was unwilling, on account of constitutional objections, to grant to the corn before such transformation, his effort to kill the measure proved a failure and his letter became a subject of ridicule. Republican and Democratic Senators and representatives were free in giving their opinions on every occasion that the bill was a gross violation of constitutional law, until it was proven by the record that Senators Plumb, Allison, Garland, Maxey, Frye, and others, together with Representatives Cannon, Breckinridge, Kelley, Henderson, and others, had voted for and urged government loans, and the Supreme Court had pronounced the measure unconstitutional. Then a change occurred and the question of constitutionality was dropped. After this the details of the bill were

more vigorously assailed by the partisan press in general, and the Republican press in particular, assisted by a few venturesome members of Congress. This sort of criticism has continued with more or less activity, but with little effect among the people, for the reason of its being clearly shown that the present silver law contains every principle contended for in the sub-treasury plan, which made such criticisms appear unjust and unfair. This was supplemented by recent documents sent to Congress from the Treasury Department recognizing the value and necessity of a flexible volume of currency. Taken altogether the opponents of the principles laid down in the sub-treasury bill have been forced, one after another, to consent, whether willingly or not, to the soundness of its doctrine.

But last, and by no means least, attention is called to the laws of the State of Missouri governing the inspection and warehousing of grain. It seems almost cruel to break up the symposium of opposition to this measure that through jealousy and partisanship has ruled the Alliance in that State for nearly two years past, but plain facts seem to justify such a course.

On page 125 of the public acts of the State of Missouri for the year 1889 may be found the title of an act approved May 11 of that year, relating to the inspection and warehousing of grain.

It provides that all warehouses of a capacity of 50,000 bushels or over may become public warehouses upon petition and payment of a license. A board of railroad and warehouse commissioners may appoint a chief grain inspector for the State, who gives a bond in the sum of \$50,000, who can appoint sufficient deputy inspectors, who give bonds for \$10,000, with assistant inspectors to do the business in all such warehouses, said commissioners and chief grain inspector to fix the fees for inspection at a rate that will pay the salaries of all the inspectors and assistants. No one but regularly appointed inspectors or assistants are permitted to inspect or weigh the grain, the commissioners to establish in all cases the different grades. The manager of the warehouse shall publish in one or more papers in the vicinity of the warehouse, in the month of January, the rates of storage for the ensuing year, which shall not be increased during that time. All grains in proper condition are taken in storage, and upon application of owner, accompanied with evidence that all charges which may be a lien are paid, the warehouseman can issue a receipt subject to the owner or consignee of the grain, stating in its face the

amount and grade that has been received and in store, such receipt to be transferable by indorsement. Upon return of this receipt, accompanied by a tender or payment of the proper charges for storage, etc., the grain shall be turned over to the holder of the receipt. The warehouseman shall publish weekly a sworn statement of the amount of grain in store, post one in his warehouse and send copy to the board of commissioners. He shall have the power to sell at auction under certain conditions grain that may be in store, and the power of the State of Missouri may be invoked whenever necessary to enforce the provisions of this act. Space will not permit the printing of the whole measure, but if the provisions of the sub-treasury plan are unconstitutional, impracticable and undemocratic, as claimed, by what process of reasoning can the Democratic, practical and constitution-loving State of Missouri place this law upon its statute books?

Every detail of the sub-treasury bill that has been so unsparingly denounced is found enacted into law by this statute.

The bugbear of paternalism has been transferred from the nation to the State. The much-dreaded swarm of officials is duly provided for. The rich harvest for speculators because of their knowing the exact amount of grain in store, so much feared by Senator Vest, is also included in the bill. The auctioneer is there likewise, and class legislation is also a feature, because only localities that can support warehouses of 50,000 bushels capacity or over can enjoy these privileges. In fact, this act passed by the legislature of Missouri contains every feature of the sub-treasury plan that has been complained of with but few exceptions, one of which is the issuing of money on the certificate. That alone contains the main principle of the measure. If this law can be defended upon the grounds of justice and equity, the sub-treasury plan needs no defense. Would it not be well, under these lights, for the leaders of the Alliance in the State of Missouri to clear the record of their own State of such legislation before they assume so much more virtue or knowledge than they are willing to concede to others? Are there any others who are anxious to break their heads against this plan?

BETTER THAN THE LODGE BILL.

We recommend and urge that equal facilities, educational, commercial and political, be demanded for colored and white Alliance men alike, competency considered, and that a free ballot and a fair count be insisted upon and had for colored and white alike, by every



ROBERT C. PATTY.

Too late for the last issue of THE ECONOMIST came the sad news of the death of the honored president of the State Alliance of Mississippi at his residence in Macon, December 31, after a protracted illness. Brother Patty was an able and useful worker in the farmers' cause. At Meridian, Miss., he was a leading spirit in the great work of consolidation there accomplished, and at St. Louis he did efficient service as a member of the committee on conference, and during part of the session presided over the National Council with signal ability. At the time of his death he was chairman of the judiciary committee of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union. Besides positions of trust and honor in the Order, deceased was a leader in the affairs of his State, being known and honored for his sterling qualities as a citizen and as a public servant. The entire Alliance brotherhood will mourn his death, because of his usefulness as a member and his high qualities as a man.

true Alliance man in America." That is what the Supreme Council said by a unanimous vote at Ocala, and it is a much more efficient way of securing fair elections in the cities and in the South than is the Lodge bill. If there were no other reason, the fact that this will cost the government nothing, and that the Lodge bill would cost millions, is sufficient to justify the Order in doing as it did at Ocala, condemn the Lodge bill and adopt this. But let it be remembered, by white and colored alike, that the Alliance stands pledged to this, and thereby guarantees the colored voter more perfect justice than has ever been shown him by any association or party.

MORE BOND JUGGLING.

Senator Sherman, from the Committee on foreign relations, reported the substance of the following bill as an amendment to the Nicaraguan canal bill of February, 1889.

The capital stock of the company is to be limited to \$100,000,000. The existing stock and contracts of the company are to be made to conform to the requirements of the bill. To secure the means to construct and complete the canal the company is authorized to issue bonds in denominations of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000 to an amount not exceeding \$100,000,000, to be dated January 1, 1891, and to be payable January 1, 1891, with interest at the rate of three per cent, payable

as interest, of which \$62,265,500 remains unpaid by the roads, making a total to date of \$126,886,111 as principle and interest that will be a total loss. The interest yet to be paid will make the entire loss to the people foot up more than \$150,000,000. Let no one mistake about this; the securities that Congress authorized to be taken for this guarantee are not worth a single dollar. In view of this, do the people want to go into another experiment that will involve a greater loss? \$100,000,000 of bonds running one hundred years at 3 per cent would at simple interest amount to \$300,000,000, or \$400,000,000 principal and interest. This will be the exact loss to the people unless future legislation should make it greater. The canal is of no use, and even if built would belong to a monopoly and will use it to their detriment with the same of the public and contempt, the only being in pretended in

thing is a wicked to help under an already sorely distressed people. Let the reform papers take up the matter and demand of Congress to go no further in that direction.

THE NATIONAL REFORM PRESS ASSOCIATION.

The constitution and by-laws of this association are published in another column, together with the names of the various papers represented at the formation of the organization. It is believed that this organization will be a valuable auxiliary to the reform work that must be done by the reform press in behalf of the producers of this country. There are many ways in which reform papers can be of assistance to each other by being organized. They can send each other advance sheets of all matters of interest. They will stop any jealousy or rivalry, and each will appreciate the other, and by quoting from, help the local fight. They can save each other from being imposed upon by fraudulent advertisers or by letter writers who only seek a chance to serve monopoly. All reform papers that can stand on the platform should unite in the move without delay.

ANYTHING TO BEAT THE FARMER

The following item comes from Kansas and indicates the real position the two old parties hold to each other:

Dr. S. F. Neely, of Leavenworth, the leader of the nine Democrats, is on the ground, but he does not talk. Some time ago he was quoted against Ingalls, but recently he has been in Washington in consultation with Senator Gorman and others, and it is thought he will try to swing the Democrats to Ingalls at the proper time.

It seems to be the leaders of both the old parties against the Alliance, and nothing less. Republicans will aid Democrats and Democrats will assist Republicans in

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

order to prevent the Alliance from obtaining political power. The politicians of either party look upon the success of the Alliance as destructive of the advantages they have so long enjoyed, and will undertake any measure, no matter how unfair or stultifying it may be, to break its force. With Ingalls receiving Democratic votes in Kansas, and Palmer receiving Republican votes in Illinois, what better evidence would the people want to confirm the already growing suspicion that the two old parties are really one as against any new element in politics. Present appearances seem to indicate that the near future will see the aristocratic element in the two old parties join issues in an effort to completely and effectually overthrow and subvert the will of the people.

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to what under a system now the
coinage the owners members in
the Illinois legislature. The sit-
uation is clearly set forth and the
result of electing a Senator from
either of the old parties plainly
stated:

The standing of the three farmer members of the lower house of the general assembly in the coming Senatorial fight is no longer one of uncertainty. While it is not known who their candidate will be, it is certain that it will not be John M. Palmer.

Representative Cockrell in an interview this evening said that under no circumstances would he or his colleagues support Palmer, because that he stands on old democratic doctrine, that the government can make nothing legal tender but gold and silver.

"We say," added Cockrell, "that gold and silver as circulating medium for our country is inadequate. What we desire is a per capita circulation, and we want an American system of finance. We have come to the conclusion that money is neither silver nor gold or any other material. If Palmer is elected he would spend his six years in Washington fighting tariff measures while the money trust is squeezing your values and profits into their incomes and robbing us all of our homes. We elect our man or force Republican or Democratic party to adopt our policy. If the Democrats are able to get a Republican vote and elect a Senator without the three farmers, that will simply be a Republican funeral."

A BROTHER from Illinois writes to THE ECONOMIST as follows:

I have a special request to make, and that is, that Georgia and Alabama send oral elections be fairly and thoroughly explained in some near future number of THE ECONOMIST. I ask this for the good reason that it would appear to some of our brethren in the North that our Democratic Alliance brethren had not voted as a unit in these elections, and the result gives our enemies good cause for accusing our Order of not standing firm in the cause. See St. Louis Democrat in late issue. It is also prophesied freely here that the Democratic party will swallow the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union in 1892. It is a hard task for old soldiers of the North to leave their party for the Alliance, and it will be an insult to ask them to follow the Alliance into the Democratic party.

From the amount of misrepresentation and falsehood that has been published in the partisan press of the country it would not be at all strange if a good many

of the brethren throughout the land endorsed the above sentiment and felt like calling on THE ECONOMIST for a like explanation. It should be remembered in the North and West that the fight was made in the South in the States of Alabama and Georgia and North Carolina, within the party lines, the Alliance held itself strictly aloof from partisan politics, and all action that has been taken by Alliance men has been taken by them individually, and they can not be called to account by the Alliance or any one else. Brethren who take the view expressed in the above letter should remember that the partisan press throughout the country is interested in making things appear exactly that way, and should also remember that the Farmers' Alliance in the South have done all they proposed to do, and even more. In Georgia they elected every Congressman who started in to elect, and that too by a greater majority than was expected. They elected their governor and several of their State officers and controlled the legislature by a large majority. The candidates having run within the Democratic party on a Democratic platform are under more or less obligations to that party, and no matter how much the result is deplored, no one has a right to call them in question. Had there been a distinctive Alliance movement, as there were in many places in the West, their first fealty would have belonged to that; but as it is, it is an individual matter and must so remain.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Topeka Capital, the paper that contributed so largely to Republican defeat in Kansas at the late election by reason of its unfair, untruthful, and malignant ravings, has discovered another "bloody shirt" pointer in the number of warehouses that the South would obtain in the distribution under the sub-treasury plan. The correspondent finds in it a "southern scheme," and concludes as follows:

Pray tell us, Mr. Southern Alliance Committee, who prepared this bill and got a northern man to introduce it into Congress. How do you propose to meet this shrinkage or the losses that will necessarily occur through thefts, fires, cyclones, etc.

I am a reader of THE ECONOMIST, and cut the following from the article of O. D. Jones, in the issue of December 20.

In answer to this question it will be only necessary to say that the property would be insured under the rules of common sense and good business principles. To ask such a question discloses the fact that the inquirer is not only unacquainted with the principles of the measure, but ignorant of the plain provisions of the bill itself.

It would be proper for him, as well as others, to obtain a copy of the bill and give it at least a careful

reading before attacking it. For the further information of this disciple of the doctrine of sectional hate, it might be well to state that two bills were prepared by the committee; one was introduced in the Senate by a Democrat, Senator Vance, and the other introduced in the House by a Republican, Mr. Pickler. This was done for the express purpose of taking from the measure all appearance of sectionalism. It is a well-known fact that Congressman Pickler made his canvass upon the principles of this bill and was re-elected, and that too by Republican votes. But the bill was not prepared by a committee from the "Southern Alliance," for the very good reason there is no such organization. It was prepared by the legislative committee of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, which organization is composed of thirteen so-called southern and twelve northern States and three territories, which fact does not carry with it the idea of a very strong "southern" domination. When it is known that the States of New York, Ohio, New Jersey, and Iowa are almost ready to form State organizations, the conditions are changed, as viewed by this correspondent, from a "Southern" to a "Northern" Alliance. Again, these bills were formulated by C. W. Macune, of Washington, D. C., and A. Wardall, of South Dakota, which is additional evidence of the error into which this correspondent has fallen. The sectionalism which this writer seeks to revive is fast being eliminated by the teachings of the Alliance, and the hope is entertained that ere long the occupation of such as this correspondent will be a thing of the past.

THE following letter, which needs no explanation, has been received by THE ECONOMIST, and being the first complaint made by any one as to the facts published by this paper it is here published. Mr. C. Wood Davis should know, as do all the other readers of THE ECONOMIST, that the paper is in no way responsible for the figures of its correspondents:

I am a reader of THE ECONOMIST, and cut the following from the article of O. D. Jones, in the issue of December 20.

In Kansas the roads are capitalized for \$7,000 per mile and assessed for \$3,000, and the railroads are clamoring for a "reduction" to \$2,000 per mile. Other States will show a condition nearly as bad.

The truth is bad enough, and that is that the railways of Kansas are capitalized for \$52,155 per mile and assessed (not taxed) for purposes of taxation at an average of \$6,356.28 per mile. So long as the Dispatch says, "This is an object lesson which cannot be too carefully studied by our citizens at the present time." But when it pro-

ceeds to assert that "the sub-treasury scheme does not differ in essence from the national mortgage banks of the Argentine Republic, or from its national pawn shops," we must demur to this very evident case of "begging the question." There is no need to enter a metaphysical inquiry as to the "essence" of the two schemes, but we want to see, by reference to plain facts, how far the position of the two people, and the schemes of the two people, are alike or are different; and the more the two systems are compared, the more, I think, we shall see that their system is not our system, and that our ways will not be their ways.

In this is found the true theory of money. It is worthy of careful consideration.

THE much-disputed Bering Sea difficulty over the right to catch seals by the English has resulted in an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States by that government. The court is asked to decide whether a British ship in times of peace can be arrested fifty-nine miles from land under the pretense of having violated an internal law of the United States. The New York Sun Says:

If that decision should be unfavorable to our contention it would be felt to be conclusive against us, and it would put an end to the controversy so far as the question of jurisdiction is concerned. If it should be in our favor it would manifestly weaken the British position in regard to their general claim. The dispute bids fair to be taken out of the domain of diplomacy altogether, and to be finally settled over Mr. Blaine's head. Or it may be that, if it were once settled, the best offices of diplomacy would then find scope for their exercise in devising a modus vivendi by which, while respective rights might be secured, the seals would be protected and their extermination prevented.

The Argentine Failure
BY E. M. KING, BANANA, FLA.

There is an article in the Farmers' Alliance department of the Florida Dispatch of December 18, headed "A Sub-treasury Bill in South America." It is intended as a warning to the farmers of America, who have indorsed the sub-treasury bill formulated by the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union.

As the picture drawn of the financial catastrophe in the Argentine Republic may frighten many friends of the farmer's measure, as well as furnish arguments against it to its enemies, our earnest attention should be directed toward ascertaining the causes of the Argentine failure, and to discovering how far their system of finance is identical with the farmers' proposed system, and how far the proposed systems are apart or dissimilar.

No doubt the failure in Argentina was due in a great measure to apparently unlimited lending and borrowing, and as the Dispatch says, "This is an object lesson which cannot be too carefully studied by our citizens at the present time." But when it pro-

ceeds to assert that "the sub-treasury scheme does not differ in essence from the national mortgage banks of the Argentine Republic, or from its national pawn shops," we must demur to this very evident case of "begging the question." There is no need to enter a metaphysical inquiry as to the "essence" of the two schemes, but we want to see, by reference to plain facts, how far the position of the two people, and the schemes of the two people, are alike or are different; and the more the two systems are compared, the more, I think, we shall see that their system is not our system, and that our ways will not be their ways.

Now the important question comes. Where did all this vast sum of borrowed money go to? For in the answer to this question lies very much of the "essence" of the scheme. I take my information from the Daily News, which is reviewing the work of commission of inquiry into the state of Argentine finance, composed of delegates from England, France and Germany. Nominally the money was borrowed for the development of the country and the prosecution of public works, a dangerous wide programme to begin with, but practically it went to paying off interest on old debts, and the surplus went into the hands of speculators—official operators on the Buenos Ayres Bolsa, or Stock Exchange.

A goodly sum must have gone in the purchase of a splendid set of jewels given to Madame Patti when she sang at their opera house—presented to her, if I remember right, by the President himself, and said to be a more magnificent gift than from any "crowned head."

Apart from corruption and speculation the money obtained in such profusion from Europe during the past five years has been put to use, i. e. ornamental, rather than useful public buildings. Among these are enumerated government offices, monuments, opera houses, and theatres. But the finest of them all was, of course, the temple of the god money. Here is a description of it:

The annual report of the Buenos Ayres Stock Exchange committee for the year 1888 is an extraordinary document. The superficial area of the building in which transactions have been so numerous and feverish for years past is something beyond conception, even in London. The enlarged and complete building is represented as occupying 5,100 square yards; that is to say, if it be a square each side of it is seventy-two yards long, and the whole area would more than cover an acre field and give sufficient room for a game of cricket. The number of members appeared as 4,566 in the year in question. The figure is half as many again as the members of the London Stock Exchange.

No need to ask where the money went to with such a flock of corruptors around. How much is it likely the farmers got of it?

I quote again:

Of the immense cultivable area included in the Argentine Republic, not 1 per cent is under tillage, and the money which might have gone to draining and fencing lands, to improving farms, and to developing useful and reproductive works has been so largely sunk in ornamental brick and mortar.

No wonder the enraged people of Argentina broke into open revolt, and President Celman barely escaped with his life.

No such result is likely to follow the legitimate demands of the American farmers. The fund they claim will, under their own careful and economical control, be expended in "draining and fencing lands," in improving their farms, and in the production of real wealth. It would occupy too much space to show the course of reckless speculation following the in-

flux of all this borrowed money, of the dishonesty and stock jobbing, and of the fast and furious rush down hill to rash and ruin, bringing with it, I am delighted to find, the downfall of the house of Baring Bros., the prime mover and chief cause of the wreck of this fine republic, and all this misery, this ruin of families, with the prospect before an industrious people of toiling for years under a heavy burden of debt and taxation, has been brought on them principally in order to satisfy the vulgar ambition of one man; that the head of the house of Baring might be created a peer, with the title of Lord Revelstock; that he might outvie all his associates in luxury and magnificence, and be distinguished as one of the chosen companions of a fat, greedy, debauched prince.

Do the farmers of America propose to sell themselves or their country to any money "kings" for any amount of gold? If they do they will certainly meet, and will deserve to meet, the fate of the Argentines. But I know them better. Their sub-treasury bill is not the Argentine system. Its promoters are honest workers and wealth producers, and not financial sharks. Their motives are different, and they need have no fear, if they exercise due deliberation and caution, that they are at all likely to meet a similar fate.

I may say also that when both sides of the case are fairly presented, no one—having any regard for truth—can affirm or reaffirm that the American farmers' sub-treasury bill and the Argentine scheme are alike either in "essence" or in fact. I before expressed my delight at the fall of the house of Baring, but in this I was a little "too previous." The house of Baring will not fall; the Bank of England comes to its rescue and is "nursing" its securities, and all the other banks help to prop it up. No matter how many poor Argentine families are ruined, the great banking interest must be upheld.

The whole subject of Argentine financing, its speculation, borrowing, lending, and squandering deserve our closest attention, as it presents a most interesting and instructive lesson.

Some nice little complications may arise in Argentine if Mr. Blaine's reciprocity scheme be carried out.

The Sub-Treasury.
BY JIM M. KANE, OSAWATAMIE, KAN.

The sub-treasury plan of the Alliance seems to be an obstacle that many of our local Democratic papers cannot, and will not, approve of, as well as R. Q. Mills, of Texas. They appear to be as ignorant as stumps of the laws now in force that are comparatively the same as is asked for by the Alliance for the farmers.

At the bonded whisky warehouse at Kansas City, Mo., the government furnishes a dray that goes to the still-house and carts the whisky to the bond house, i. e., the basement of the government post-office building. We have not asked for the government to take our wheat, corn, oats, and cotton from our farms. Eighteen to twenty million a year is appropriated for the improvement of our rivers, so that the

ordinate citizen may build and run his steamboat with more security; yet the farmer must have no warehouse. Millions have been appropriated for the signal service ostensibly to aid the steamships. Millions of acres of land have been appropriated to aid railroads; and as land became a drug in the farmer market the "paternal" government issued bonds in aid of building them; and, worse still, has sat quietly by and watched these railroads "charge all the traffic will bear" on corn, hogs, cattle, etc., and gave the farmer no protection whatever from these extortionists. Hundreds of thousands are appropriated for hog cholera, fever in cattle, sugar in Kansas, silk experiments, and special favorites to hunt for bugs, flies, and worms. And the "paternal" old government just handed the whip and reins of the whole dominion over to the national banks with an understanding that Congress and the President should "play" government, provided the people kicked; but under this arrangement and our Vice-President holding appointment as financial agent of Great Britain, and Secretary Windom employing the vaults of the Treasury into Wall street, they seem to be in about the same fix that the farmers are—without enough money to do business. Mr. Mills, too, seems to speak with authority when he says: "The Democratic party believes that the citizen is able to take care of himself and run his own finances."

Signed by—

R. H. COWEN, Chairman,
W. H. CURTISS, Secretary,
H. P. SMITH,
W. D. CHASE,
JOHN K. FAILING,
State Alliance Relief Committee.

A Needed Work.

BY A. C. CALHOUN, RAYVILLE, LA.

I write in behalf of an idea that has grown upon my mind, as I have, from time to time, read the splendid articles on the currency in THE ECONOMIST. We need and must have a new text-book on the subject of political economy to be put into the hands of our boys and girls, whose teachings shall be in full accord with our ideas of money, currency and the function and duty of government in its relations to a medium of exchange for the people. I am in thorough and full accord with the platform laid down at the St. Louis convention and so ably advocated by your grand paper during the year that has just closed. Our schools are now full of political economies whose teachings, all at variance with these ideas, are every day being instilled into the minds of our boys and girls. We cannot stand this. It will never do. We ought by all means to have a new book in accord with rational ideas on this subject, and it would be a bonanza, for it would take like wild fire all over the country. Please give this important matter so much attention as may be necessary to put the right kind of a book within the reach of all our schools before the end of this year. It is hardly probable that you have either the time or the inclination to take the matter in hand yourself, but it is probable that you can command the services of such person or persons as would, if properly encouraged, make just such a book as we are sorely in need of. Remember that even our State agricultural colleges all over the country are full of books whose teachings are at variance with our ideas on this subject, and it will never be changed until we change it.

Appeal.

HURON, S. D., December 24, 1890. Pursuant to the authority given us by the State Alliance of South Dakota in session at Mitchell, November 27, 1890, and with the approval of the executive committee of the State Alliance, we make this appeal to the Alliance and all other labor organizations in the United States.

Our farm population have struggled most heroically for the past two years against a burning drought. They have labored and prayed that they might be so blessed as to be spared the humiliation, if humiliation it is, of appealing to the benevolent for aid in their sore distress. In sixteen counties of our State we find the crop of the present year to have been almost a total failure. This, in addition to the more extended failure of last year, leaves many of our members in a destitute and pitiable condition. Not less than five thousand of our families are in need of aid. Many members of our Order are in need of flour for bread, while many more are without corn or oats to feed their horses, no vegetables for their families, children out of school for the want of clothes to protect their bodies, and seed grain for the coming spring, and no money to make purchases. A large percentage of our people have, from time to time, been obliged to mortgage their stock and their homes to purchase provisions, groceries, and clothing for their families; and to pay taxes and interest, trusting each year in a kind Providence for a coming crop to relieve them of their distress. In thousands of these homes nothing but hay is used for fuel, and when the cold storms shall sweep down upon these cheerless habitations, as surely they will, no mortal pen can tell the suffering that will ensue. While making this appeal to you we do not forget the relentless, untiring exertion that is required on the part of the laborer in all sections of our country to gain a livelihood. We fully realize the condition that confronts us; but to you who have enjoyed a reasonable degree of prosperity, to you who have enough aid to spare, we come, asking that you may contribute whatever you think proper in the way of wheat, corn, oats, millet seed, or other grain suitable for feed or planting; clothing of all kinds (old or new); boots and shoes,

bedding, and any or all articles used in a farmer's home, or money with which to purchase the same. All donations, from whatever source, shall be received and distributed to the needy members of our Order under the direction of this committee, and every precaution will be taken to prevent misappropriation or imposition. We propose to relieve our worthy needy and to see to it that all relief is properly distributed and receipts given for the same. In the spirit of our association, and realizing the kindly feeling of one toward another in our fraternity, we send forth this appeal in full confidence that you will give it a hearty response. Any one pleased to make contributions to this relief fund may deliver the same to any of our solicitors duly commissioned, in writing, by our chairman and secretary, and countersigned by the president and secretary of the State Alliance, with the seal of the Alliance affixed thereto; or such contributions may be sent direct to W. H. Curtiss, secretary, whose headquarters are at Kimball, Brule county, South Dakota. No shipment of donations to the secretary must be made until after corresponding with him and receiving his instructions as to where to ship the same.

Signed by—

R. H. COWEN, Chairman,
W. H. CURTISS, Secretary,
H. P. SMITH,
W. D. CHASE,
JOHN K. FAILING,
State Alliance Relief Committee.

A Needed Work.

BY A. C. CALHOUN, RAYVILLE, LA.

Ideas of economic reform in a plain, honest, dignified manner, according to all others the same rights and privileges it demands for itself. During the late election, especially in Kansas, it was demonstrated beyond a doubt that men who were ineligible to membership in the Farmers Alliance not only sympathized with that organization, but cast their ballots for the Alliance candidates. In fact, this feeling became so strong that it found expression in the formation of a secret Citizens Alliance, which did good work in the campaign. When, at the late national meeting at Ocala, the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union determined to restrict its membership again to the country, the necessity for an organization similar in character which would provide a home for its friends in towns and cities became at once apparent. Acting upon that idea a National Citizens Alliance was organized, and is now ready for active operations. The farmers and farm laborers and others have a home in the Alliance and are taught the principles of that order. The city mechanic, laborer and others have a home with the Knights of Labor, and receive instructions from that body. Even the colored man has the privilege that belongs to the Alliance and shares in its educational benefits. But there is a class, the great body of business and professional men, that are entirely neglected and given over to the tender mercies of the two old parties, where they are compelled to remain whether so inclined or not. Such men come in daily contact with the farmer, they not only sympathize with him, but in a business way are compelled to share his losses and misfortunes. These men know that conditions are wrong; that there must be a change in financial affairs or they themselves will be ruined. At present this potent force is unorganized, and as a consequence its power for good is lessened; it is either fighting in small detachments or keeping its real sentiments disguised. It is to mould such energies into one mass, to give form and dignity to such a cause, and to bring together these scattered forces into one grand army of reform with definite objects, a unity of purpose, and a continuity of action, that this organization seeks to effect. The work of education will be pushed with all vigor through the national organ. Speakers, lecturers and printed matter will be sent out as fast as the means at hand will permit. It is a noble effort, one that should receive the approval of all candid men, and to which material aid should be generously supplied.

The National Citizens Alliance
From The National Citizens Alliance.

The object of this organization is both educational and political, and predicates its ultimate usefulness and benefits to the people upon the belief that nearly all men will do their duty when plainly and honestly informed. There seems to be a broad field for work of this character, and this organization will attempt to occupy it, and earnestly labor for the principles which it represents. In so doing it will make war on no other industrial organization seeking to ameliorate the condition of the people through other methods. It will simply propagate its own

Progress.

BY J. H. ROBERTSON, MT. VENCO, VA.

In past ages when people rolled their tobacco to market, and cut their grain with reap hooks and hauled it hundreds of miles in wagons; when the year's produc-

tion limits as possible), can not become a common carrier; in fact they say that it cannot do anything according to their limitations that can be done by private corporations; that is at all profitable to the corporations or that could relieve the masses from unjust oppression. To all these we wish to say the rose only has another name, for the government is transacting business daily, and a large amount of it, that properly comes under the head of banking. In the year 1888 the post offices that issue money orders issued one hundred and thirty-one million, forty-two thousand one hundred and eleven dollars worth. The postal notes were issued to the amount of over twelve million dollars worth, in all over one-hundred and forty-three million dollars worth of money exchanges that the government made for the people on the same principle that banking is done, at least having the same effect. A money order is another name for a sight draft, a postal note is only another name for a check for cash on presentation. These men who profess to believe that the government can not go into banking are either humbugged themselves, or are trying to humbug somebody else. Now we will look into the carrying business. The government has taken full charge of the mail and the biggest fool politician in the country has more self respect than to go before the people and claim that the government can not go into the letter carrying business, or that it ought not, and if he could be found who would so exhibit his folly, he would rather the United States should carry his mail than any private corporation. When the government first took charge of the postal department, it no doubt confined itself to the carrying of letters and newspapers, but as time proved the efficiency of the service, and the cheapness of the expense, other articles were added from time to time until now, instead of the law saying what kind of merchandise is permissible in the mails the printers find it much easier to say what is excluded. Thus the government becomes a public carrier of freights. It is not long since (no doubt at the solicitation of the express companies) a bill was introduced in Congress prohibiting the mails carrying merchandise, but the public had become so used to the great convenience of a cheap, safe and quick mail service for small packages of merchandise that a howl went up from all over the land and the bill never breathed after it was ventilated. This is another name for the rose. To deceive the people to some extent and to make sure the compensation the postal department mostly demands prepayment, thus it differs from the common express company for freight, which usually collects charges on delivery to the consignee. We thus find that what the wily politicians say the government can not constitutionally do, it is doing, and doing better than the private corporations do, and at much cheaper rates. The people have become used to it and like it, and you

could not get them to consent to a change. The railroads could be put under the absolute control of the government, and run in the interest of the people more satisfactorily and more cheaply than at present, and if it were done for a period of ten years the people would no more consent for them to go back into the hands of private corporations than they would now be willing for the mails to be turned over to the management and control of Vanderbilt or Gould. If the mails were now under the management of private individuals, or corporations, and they were making the same profits out of them that they are out of the railroads, telegraphs, and telephones there would be plenty of constitutional lawyers like Carlisle, Mills, Oates, and their kind, who would say it is undemocratic and subversive of good government to put them under the management of the general government. Another objection to control is the patronage it is able to bestow on its favorites, but in patronage these constitutional lawyers have no doubt their greatest inducement to hold the views they express. Federal or executive patronage either are subversive of democratic government, and both should be gotten rid of as soon as possible. Then the true needs of the people will be attended to more carefully and the wants and needs of the politician's friends will not hamper him so much in the discharge of his duty. Let the government assume ownership and control all monopolies, and then the people will prosper.

THE Southern Mercury (Dallas), official organ of the Farmers State Alliance of Texas, has been for several issues making important improvements in its make-up and appearance and in its editorial department. It has now reached a high plane, and ranks with the very best. Texas is the biggest State and demands a journal that will harmonize in ability with the State in size. They now have it, and the Order should give the Mercury a vigorous and healthy support.

HERE is a proposition whereby the government can save \$40,000,000, and make \$40,000,000 more. The present financial bill under discussion proposes to issue \$200,000,000 in 2 per cent bonds due in ten years. Now if the government will furnish \$200,000,000 in legal tender paper money instead of these bonds, THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST will agree to furnish at once the names of good, honest farmers, who will furnish ample security and take the entire amount and pay the government 2 per cent interest for its use. Such an arrangement would bring to the United States Treasury during the ten years \$40,000,000 instead of taking from it that amount. Why not try the experiment?

THE watchword should be: For the future, avoid bondage by refusing to sanction issues of bonds.

BUSINESS AGENTS.
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August Post, Moulton, Iowa.

Co-operation.

BY GEORGE A. GOWAN.

In accordance with my promise in my first article setting forth the subjects to be treated from time to time, I herewith give a few ideas on co-operation as I think could be beneficially applied between the various State agents, and in order to have all understand what we mean by co-operation between the State agents I will quote some of the leading features of the declaration of purposes, as will be found in the preamble of the constitution and by-laws of the various State exchanges. They read as follows:

We propose to conduct a general mercantile business, to act as transferring agents for the distribution of all kinds of farm and orchard products, to buy and sell all kinds of farming implements, and, in short, to act as general forwarding agents for all kinds of commodities that is raised or used by the farmer at the least possible expense attached; for the purpose of relieving the oppressed condition of the laboring classes.

These are some of the leading thoughts connected with our idea of co-operation, and before entering into details upon the subject we wish to say that we are aware of the fact that our ideas of doing business do not meet with the approval of the merchants and druggists of the United States, for our ways of doing business are foreign to theirs, and is directly opposed to their expensive ideas. Therefore, I wish to say that, so far as they are concerned, they have a perfect right to represent and perpetuate their ideas, and we only ask the same privilege. We will first introduce the subject of live stock as now handled between the States. When a farmer in South Carolina wants a mule, the following is the usual channel the mule goes through before the farmer gets him: The local buyer will ride around over the country where mules are raised, and buy up a lot and sell them to some mule dealer located at some city in his State. That dealer will in turn sell them to a dealer in Atlanta, and that dealer sells to a dealer in South Carolina, and he to the farmer. Now, this is no exaggerated case; for, in fact, instead of passing through only four hands between the raiser and consumer in many cases there are five and six dealers intervening. Any one with reason can readily see the many unnecessary expenses and several profits to the different dealers connected with the above method. I would respectfully solicit the opinions and improvements of any one upon the ideas above suggested, for by so doing we will thoroughly analyze the subject.

Arkansas Alliance Economist (Texarkana,) says:

The members of the Alliance should study well the code of principles as laid down by the National body, and thoroughly understand them. It is very important that they be well versed in what they are trying to accomplish.

horses are to be bought by the farmers in the South, they go from the raiser to the local buyer, from local dealer to a larger buyer; from him to another dealer in Memphis, Little Rock, Austin, Jackson, Montgomery, Jacksonville, Atlanta, or Raleigh, and then the farmer has the privilege of buying his horse or mule.

Why not arrange for several counties in the States who buy their stock to select them a competent dealer and send him to the States where stock is raised, and let him meet the farmers who have stock to sell in the towns on days, previously named, who could pay the producer more for his mule and sell it to the consumer for less than he originally paid, for the profits of several dealers would be knocked out. The several feed and livery bills would be no more, and you would ship your stock through and thus dispense with local fights. Some one may meet the above plan with the suggestion that the intervening dealers have to furnish the money to buy the stock and then sell to the southern farmer on credit. This is not necessarily so. The farmer certainly pays very dear for his credit, and is expected to pay for his mule in a few months following, and therefore gives an iron-clad note as a guarantee. All credit is based upon the hypothesis that such collateral is given as will guarantee payment in future, and in obtaining credit we pay in all cases a very dear percentage for it. Let us think of the above, and profit by enlarging upon the subject.

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NATIONAL FARMERS ALLIANCE AND
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Advertisements inserted only by special contract. Our rates are thirty cents per page line. Discounts for time and space furnished on application, stating character of advertisement required.

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 a 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 of the course it has pursued and recommend it to every member and subscriber and subscribe and read the papers as one of the best means of education in the way of industrial freedom.

Address all remittances or communications to

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ENTERED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT WASHINGTON,
D. C., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

N. R. P. A.

Notice.

To all newspapers and all secretaries acting as agents for THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST:

The great expense attending the publication of THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST makes it necessary that the clubbing rate be advanced. The past rate has been maintained at a uniform loss to the publishers. Therefore, on and after January 1, 1891, a club rate of ninety cents on yearly subscriptions will obtain with all papers, and under no circumstances will less than ninety cents be accepted from any newspaper or any agent for a year's subscription.

THE sub-treasury plan and the proposed system of loaning money direct to the people on real estate security are different and distinct propositions, for different objects; they do not conflict and cannot be consolidated. One is intended to increase the volume of money in circulation, and the other is intended to prevent any sized volume of money from violent contractions, which depress prices, rob the producer and sometimes produce panics. The sub-treasury bill as now before Congress was adopted at Ocala, and the policy of the land-loan system was, after a full discussion, adopted with the distinct understanding that the quantity of land and the amount of money should be so limited that the measure would be of no use to any but debt-ridden poor. All this has been fully published throughout the land, and there is no excuse for the Voice, of New York, adopting the very absurd position it does in the following clipping for the purpose of making war on the Alliance platform:

The sub-treasury scheme advanced by the Farmers' Alliance has been freely criticised, but we have not seen any effort to show its effect upon the men who now hold great fortunes. It is probably the last thing designed by

the originators of that scheme to make the rich richer and the poor poorer; but unless we are greatly mistaken it would be the most effective plan ever proposed for doing that very thing. The scheme proposes that the federal government shall loan money at 2 per cent interest on the non-perishable farm products and real estate. Let us see how this would work with William Astor, of this city, whose fortune is estimated at \$200,000,000, and who is the largest holder of real estate in the country. Assuming that he holds real estate to the value of \$100,000,000 and can borrow 50 per cent of the value at 2 per cent from the government, there is nothing to hinder his borrowing at once \$50,000,000. This he can invest in additional real estate, and then, on this new purchase, borrow \$25,000,000 more. This he can invest again, and again borrow, and keep on investing and borrowing till he grows weary. We will assume that the real estate purchases will rent for a sufficient sum to pay him 6 per cent net on his investment. The result will be as follows:

YEARLY INCOME AT SIX PER CENT.	
\$100,000,000 at 6 per cent.....	\$6,000,000
50,000,000 at 6 per cent.....	3,000,000
25,000,000 at 6 per cent.....	1,500,000
12,500,000 at 6 per cent.....	750,000
6,250,000 at 6 per cent.....	375,000
3,125,000 at 6 per cent.....	187,500
1,562,500 at 6 per cent.....	93,750
781,250 at 6 per cent.....	46,875
390,625 at 6 per cent.....	23,437
195,312 at 6 per cent.....	11,718
97,656 at 6 per cent.....	5,859
48,828 at 6 per cent.....	2,929
24,414 at 6 per cent.....	1,464
12,207 at 6 per cent.....	732
	519,886,722
	\$11,999,263

INTEREST ACCOUNT.	
\$50,000,000 at 2 per cent.....	\$1,000,000
25,000,000 at 2 per cent.....	500,000
12,500,000 at 2 per cent.....	250,000
6,250,000 at 2 per cent.....	125,000
3,125,000 at 2 per cent.....	62,500
1,562,500 at 2 per cent.....	31,250
781,250 at 2 per cent.....	15,625
390,625 at 2 per cent.....	7,812
195,312 at 2 per cent.....	3,906
97,656 at 2 per cent.....	1,953
48,828 at 2 per cent.....	976
24,414 at 2 per cent.....	488
12,207 at 2 per cent.....	244
	599,587,792 at 2 per cent.....
	\$1,999,755

Deducting the total interest paid out each year for the loans made from the total income at 6 per cent, Mr. Astor would be left with an income of nearly \$10,000,000 instead of \$6,000,000 as now. That is to say, the sub-treasury scheme would put in his pocket a sum of \$4,000,000 a year! But this is not all. Suppose these loans ran for a period of ten years. It is moderate to assume that the property in that length of time would increase in value 33 1/3 per cent. When the loans expired Mr. Astor could sell out all the property except that which he had at the start, pay all the loans and have a clear surplus of over \$33,000,000. This in addition to the increase of \$4,000,000 in his yearly income! If the scheme should be changed so that loans could be issued on farms only Mr. Astor would, instead of buying city property, simply invest in country property, and become owner within a year or two of about all the State! Really we doubt the expediency of such a bill. But it is in the platform adopted at the Ocala convention, and, according to the Kansas Farmer, the convention resolved that any member of the Alliance who refuses to accept that platform and everything in it, is subject to immediate suspension, and that the Alliance will refuse to support any political candidate who will not endorse the platform in full.

If the Voice, as national prohibition organ, is really in earnest in the cause of prohibition, it could not do better than contend for the Farmers' Alliance platform. Nothing but stupidity or cupidity can prompt its course when it works to succeed by fighting the Alliance. All this will not stop Alliance members from advocating prohibition

when they are so disposed, but it may deter some good farmers, who do not care much about it, from ever taking an interest in the cause of prohibition.

ONE of the silliest booms for Cleveland for re-nomination in 1892 is that attempted by a paper in Massachusetts, called The Farm and Home. It claims to have received a large number of responses from farmers in all the States as to who should be the next President, and publishes a table showing the result, for the evident purpose of claiming great unanimity among Democrats for Cleveland. This is all bosh, and shows either great ignorance or an utter disregard of the true sentiment entertained by the farmers of this country. The responses evidently came from Cleveland partisans, and not from farmers. If the last election proved anything, it proved that the tariff as an issue in politics is doomed, and that it must give way until a satisfactory solution of the financial question can be had. Democratic farmers know that the Cleveland financial policy was at variance with the sentiment of the party and strictly in the interest of Wall street, and that the party bosses, like a set of cowards, swallowed their principles and stuck to Cleveland; but the people won't do it. Cleveland's financial policy was the worst blow the Democratic party ever had. It came into power after a long term out, with an evident intention of inaugurating measures in favor of the masses, and its head, after his election and before his inauguration, wrote his celebrated silver letter, taking the opposite side of the money question from Congressmen who had fought the party into power by their position on that question. Had the Democratic leaders then possessed the nerve to repudiate him, they could have saved the party from the defeat it has since sustained. Should Wall street, by bribery or corruption, succeed in foisting Cleveland on the Democratic party in 1892, the party will not represent the will of a majority of the intelligent, conservative Democratic farmers of the land.

Now is the time to subscribe for THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST Hand Book, price 15 cents.

THE partisan press is just now in high glee over the fact that the Minnesota Alliance, at its recent State meeting, failed to indorse the sub-treasury plan, and in consequence a split in the Alliance would be likely to occur, and as a result both the old parties would be saved from destruction. Like all other reports concerning difficulties

in the Alliance, this has no foundation. The State Alliance of Minnesota belongs to the Northwestern open Alliance, and not to the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union. The thirty-one States and Territories belonging to this last-named grand body are a unit upon the Ocala demands, and will march right to the tune of this grand reform, and all those who interfere are quite liable to make a mistake.

SHOULD the Alliance movement get strong enough to really frighten the political bosses in 1892, there will be but two parties in the field, one the Alliance and the other the Demorepublican.

WHEN the silver lobby succeed in bringing about another compromise the country will have free coinage of silver and their occupation will be gone. Indications point now to a free coinage bill.

WHAT the next move will be by the eastern monopolists to stir up sectional strife, now that the force bill seems to be dead, is hard to imagine, but that some measure will be brought up no one need have any doubt. Just as long as the exploiters can keep the North, South and West fighting each other, just so long will they continue to levy tribute.

SENATOR HISCOCK said in a recent speech that one-half of the people were opposed to the free coinage of silver. This must be a mistake. THE ECONOMIST is in receipt of hundreds of letters weekly from all parts of the country, and from their tone it is safe to conclude that not a single State in the Union would vote against a measure granting free coinage. The people want free coinage, whether their representatives want it or not.

EXAMINE THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST'S premium list.

IT is quite evident from the tone of the subsidized press that a campaign of slander, misrepresentation, and falsehood will be commenced against the Alliance as soon as the present session of Congress has adjourned. An attempt will be made to array one section of the Alliance against the other in order that both may be destroyed. This method will be pursued because of the weakness of some of the brethren to give credence to what may be said by the enemy concerning the acts of those placed in the front of battle. If the men chosen to protect and care for the welfare of the Alliance can be kept defending or explaining their conduct to suspicious or half-hearted brethren, their usefulness and ag-

gressiveness will be destroyed and the objects of the enemy attained. Let the brethren be warned in time against all such attempts and meet them as Alliance men should, knowing their object, with scorn and contempt. The time has come for Alliance men to stand by each other, and in the event of differences let them be settled among the brethren, as they should be. Loyalty to each other and loyalty to the principles of the Alliance, will bring about in the near future the complete triumph of the grandest cause before the world to-day.

Again, any man not in harmony with the principles and purposes, platform, and plans of both the State and national, is not eligible. The time has come not only in Georgia, but everywhere, where discipline must be enforced. No organization can long exist without discipline. Our only danger now is from within. Designing men on the outside are compelled to use inside men to accomplish their purposes. They are very busy just now from one end of this land to the other. Keep a watchful eye, and see that they do not by proxy enter the Order, and thereby be enabled to serve themselves. If you will read the proceedings of the Supreme Council at Ocala you will see the absolute necessity of enforcing our laws, both as to membership and the conduct of members. I wish to suggest to you that the outside world has no right to interfere with the management of our business or to inject their advice or counsel into our deliberation so long as we do not interfere with their civil or political rights. While we conduct ourselves in such a manner as not to hinder or damage the calling of others we should not be antagonized or interfered with, and the time has come when we must have the courage to say to those that seem determined to attend to our business and run our Order, Gentlemen, hands off Assistance or sympathy from all on the outside, on our plans and in conformity to our rules, will not only be thankfully received but earnestly desired. This help must come as we indicate, or such help and sympathy will prove a curse instead of a blessing. Begin at your next meeting and purge your roll of every member not eligible by simply striking from the roll and giving notice of the same. I ask the secretary of each sub-Alliance endorsed by the president to send me a statement of the fact when and wherever an Alliance refuses to comply, I bring your attention specially to the recent law touching newspaper men. The word country before mechanic, replaced by the Supreme Council, was not to be retroactive; those now in the Order are not to be interfered with. The success of the Order in 1890 in the United States was far beyond the hopes of the most sanguine. This was accomplished by education—not agitation, as some suppose. By personal and combined effort and sacrifice much more can and will be gained in 1891; but the same means are necessary to the end to be reached. Let us be careful, diligent, intelligent and persistent in all that will build up and steer clear of all that will hinder or distract.

THE State Union of Louisiana has been a long time getting an official organ, but at last it has one of which every member in that State and the Order throughout the United States may well feel proud, the Vidette, published at Alexandria, La., Brothers Tets and Lafarge as editors. Every week it makes its welcome appearance, bright, clean, new and neat, with its columns well filled with first-class, well-digested editorial matter that must in time make itself felt as an educational force in the State of Louisiana. It is one more illustration of the fact that the papers devoted to this movement

are about to revolutionize journal-

this. The brotherhood generally express a sentiment that they would rather fight two enemies from without than one from within, and nothing could hinder the success of the order more than keeping those within the ranks who are not in sympathy with the efforts the order is seeking to achieve. Brother Livingston closes his able letter with the following:

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ism in this country. They are teaching the old-fashioned country newspaper man that he has survived the necessity for his existence. If he intends to toast it to monopoly in three or four columns of the weekly paper and fill up the balance of it with advertising and cheap cuts, the people are thinking and they demand brain food, and never in the history of the country have there been so many Abe Lincoln doctrine weeklies in existence at one time. The brotherhood should remember that such great big newsy papers with such small space devoted to advertising and so much expense put upon editorial work cannot long be maintained unless the subscription lists are large, and every Alliance man should work for the papers that devote their space to the interest of the Order.

BROTHER WILSON CORY, of Indiana, has just written THE ECONOMIST that the State executive committee of the Farmers Alliance of Indiana met the State executive committee from the Alliances of the States of Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois, Tennessee, in Louisville, Ky., on the 7th inst., to further advance the same interest of those States. This is an important meeting and one from which some results may be expected to follow.

BRO. T. S. ADAMS, President of Louisiana State Union, issues to his members in that State a circular letter, extended to them a New Year's greeting and urging them to sustain their institutions, to build up a lecture bureau, and to support their State official organ. In doing so he uses the following forcible and apt language:

At the beginning of a New Year I greet you tidings of great joy. Your Order was never more prosperous than at the close of the past year. Again buckle resolution around your hearts and with renewed energy, go forth to do battle for God and humanity! Yours is no common cause. Your light, no flashing, fading luminary—no corruption across the black brow of night, and "is not!" From its irradiating discus you sends its steady rays from the blue dome of Heaven, to enlighten and beautify the darkest corners of earth. Would you be free! Then must you first deserve freedom. Prove your devotion to a cause that would lift you above a menial; a pauper; a slave! For your families and your firesides you dig and delve. You endure the winter's cold, the summer's heat; "the oppressor's wrong, the proud man's contumely." This is the law of your heritage! What sacrifice are you making to mitigate your condition? Shall the great arms of your grand brotherhood fall palsied and paralyzed by your apathy! Shall the glorious sun go down in night upon a nation of slaves! Look into the pleading face of your children and answer. Brothers! You must help the cause, that would help you. You must make a small pecuniary sacrifice to enjoy the boon of your birth-right.

BROTHER W. S. MORGAN, Secretary of the National Reform Press Association, is making the National Reformer a strictly first-class paper. Under the head of "A Deathly Woven Spider's Web,"

he takes up the situation occupied by the two old parties in relation to the platform of the Farmers Alliance, and touches some tender points calculated to make the ultra-partisan as well as the rule or ruined section of both parties see that it will be no child's play for them to deal with men so well posted as the farmers of this country, who read papers of this character, are bound to be. The following extract is clipped from that article. In this connection the attention of the reader is called to an article in another column in which the reason

whereas the Alliance at Ocala opposed the "Lodge Bill" is shown to be that the farmers themselves proposed to guarantee a free ballot in a fair count. On this count alone can the action of the Ocala convention be justified, but since they did take this action it shows that the strictures of the National Reformer as below quoted are, to say the least, unnecessary:

In view of the fact that prominent leaders of the Democratic party have arrayed themselves against two of the prominent demands of the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, viz.: the ownership of the means of transportation and communication and the sub-treasury plan, it was expected that a strong effort would be made to induce the Alliance to take a backward step on these issues at the Ocala convention. Our predictions in this line have been verified. For months a fierce warfare has been waged upon the "our treasury" plan and it has been a prominent feature of the recent campaign in many States, both North and South. The friends of Louisiana State Union, issues to his members in that State a circular letter, extended to them a New Year's greeting and urging them to sustain their institutions, to build up a lecture bureau, and to support their State official organ. In doing so he uses the following forcible and apt language:

At the beginning of a New Year I greet you tidings of great joy. Your Order was never more prosperous than at the close of the past year. Again buckle resolution around your hearts and with renewed energy, go forth to do battle for God and humanity! Yours is no common cause. Your light, no flashing, fading luminary—no corruption across the black brow of night, and "is not!" From its irradiating discus you sends its steady rays from the blue dome of Heaven, to enlighten and beautify the darkest corners of earth. Would you be free! Then must you first deserve freedom. Prove your devotion to a cause that would lift you above a menial; a pauper; a slave! For your families and your firesides you dig and delve. You endure the winter's cold, the summer's heat; "the oppressor's wrong, the proud man's contumely." This is the law of your heritage! What sacrifice are you making to mitigate your condition? Shall the great arms of your grand brotherhood fall palsied and paralyzed by your apathy! Shall the glorious sun go down in night upon a nation of slaves! Look into the pleading face of your children and answer. Brothers! You must help the cause, that would help you. You must make a small pecuniary sacrifice to enjoy the boon of your birth-right.

APPLIED SCIENCE

In Agricultural and Rural Economy.

EDITED BY DR. M. G. ELZEEY,
WOODSTOCK, MD.

INDIVIDUAL DISTINCTIONS.

It is an admitted truth that there are not two living creatures upon the earth precisely similar in all possible respects. Few, however, realize the extent of individual variability in the species usually regarded as most fixed and stable in character. This fact may be observed, not only among animals but among plants as well. The different individuals of wild species both of animals and plants seem much more nearly alike than is the case with domesticated kinds. Yet even among forest trees we are able to discover in certain individuals of a species marked peculiarities. Of this fact there are several remarkable instances, visible from the window near the writer's desk. There are two common red maples growing at the roots about two feet apart. The stems so incline towards each other as to meet and cross about seven feet above the ground. At the point of intersection they have become naturally inarched and wedged together, forming one trunk for about eighteen inches, and then separate; but the two trees form one symmetrical top. The line joining the axes of the two trees is a northeast and southwest line, so that they stand equally exposed to the cold blasts out of the north and west, and likewise to the light and warmth from east and south. Of these trees one always puts out its leaves in spring ten days to two weeks in advance of the other, and also retains its greenness from ten days to two weeks later in autumn. This fact evidently implies that this tree has naturally more hardihood and vigor than its Siamese twin. It enjoys nearly a full month longer in each year of active vegetation; and as a result is gradually overtaking its sister in growth. There are several hundred red oak trees in sight, and of these one very large and splendid specimen is invariably first out in spring and last of all to lose its foliage in autumn. The same difference is observable in two sassafras trees standing in the same line fence thirty or forty feet apart. The early and late growing tree is a splendid specimen, the other is merely commonplace. There is an alder-leaved ash, of which there are many growing here, which stands in a very favorable location both as to soil and exposure, but this tree is almost three weeks later in coming into leaf than any other tree, and every spring it looks like a dead tree when all around it are green. Struck by these cases standing so continually before him, the writer has been led to make rather extended observations upon the various kinds of forest trees, and finds it is easy to select early and late trees of any and every sort. This has led to another observation, which is this: That in looking over a landscape when any tree is seen putting out leaves in advance of the others of its kind; that same tree will invariably be found green in autumn long after others of the

species have "fallen into the sere and yellow leaf." And moreover, such a tree is invariably endowed with all evidences of superior vigor in all its physiological forces. The life of one man as compared with that of a tree is too short to determine the fact; but there is little doubt that such individual trees are longer lived than others of their kind, as they are almost invariably handsomer in shape and more splendid in foliage and bloom than the common herd. These are natural born forest monarchs, like Saul among the Philistines towering grandly above their fellows. How, then, do we say that men are born free and equal? Free born all men may be, or of a right ought to be; equal they are not born, no two of them. This is the truth, viz.: "All men are by nature equally free and independent, and when they enter into a state of society are possessed of certain natural rights which are inalienable, indisputable, indefeasible, and of which they cannot by any means divest either themselves or their posterity." From this excursion among men let us go back to the trees. If any person desires to remove from the forest trees to beautify, shade, protect, and adorn the grounds of the homestead, select one of these choice, early and late-growing specimens. It is a better plan to go to the forest for such trees than to the hot-house or the nursery. They are more splendid, more attractive, more enduring than the exotics.

THE RADICATION OF PLANTS.

By radication we mean the natural distribution of the feeding of the roots of plants. It is known, for example, that some plants have what is called a tap root, others have not. Some plants have a creeping root, which extends near the surface of the soil in a direction parallel with the surface, with joints at short intervals, from each of which is developed a new plant capable of independent existence; some plants do not have such a root. Again some plants have only a very short, stout crown from which fibrous roots radiate in all directions; others send down a sort of tap root which begins to divide and ramify into groups of fibrous feeding roots at a greater or less depth.

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Some crops feed near the surface, others mainly in the subsoil. Anything like accurate or extensive knowledge of this subject is lacking. Still less is known of how far natural habits of plants may be modified or controlled by culture. This is true of perishable sorts of plants, viz., that they possess the power to develop large masses of feeding roots in contact with a mass of manure placed within reach of the plant whatever may be the position of the manure with regard to the plant, whether immediately beneath, or surrounding the plant on all sides, or concentrated at any spot within reach of the longest root.

FARM-YARD MANURE.

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Some numbers back it was stated in this place that Sir John Bennet Dawes, of Rothamstead, England, thought fourteen tons per acre of his farm-yard manure a full manuring for an acre of his land, which as an annual application he had found to fully maintain its fertility while yielding an annual crop. It was further stated, and that statement is within bound, that the Rothamstead manure was fully three times as valuable as the manure of an average American farm yard; and hence the conclusion that 42 tons per acre of our sort of manure must be applied annually to each acre yielding a crop; that it would require accordingly 1,600 tons of such manure to keep up a 40-acre field, or 16,000 tons to keep up a 400-acre farm. For this our brother of the Southern Planter calls us to account, and says that he "protests against this belittling of farm-yard manure." The Planter "fights as one who beats the air." The object of this writer was to show that no farmer can make farm-yard manure enough to fully maintain the fertility of a farm drastically cropped. The only "belittling" of farm-yard manure we are chargeable with is showing

when we say that such a crop is a gross feeder? It may be suspected that there is a principle here of much consequence, both to the theory and practice of scientific agriculture. Is this a part of the explanation of the fact that a clover fallow is such a grand preparation for wheat? Clover is a gross feeder and a great digester of plant food; wheat, a shy and delicate feeder, given to indigestion and dyspeptic disorders. If we remember that plant food in its course state is strongly absorbed by soils, separated from solution and fixed in position as a component part of the soil, whence it can not be absorbed by any root not placed in actual contact with it, we shall understand that if we place a concentrated manure, say dried blood, in little masses as in drills, a much greater absorbing root surface can be got in contact with it than if sown broadcast and diluted by admixture with a much greater quantity of soil. The practical fact is that almost any good guano or fertilizer will produce from two to four times as much increase of crop if drilled in with the seed, instead of being broadcast upon the land.

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This will explain the fact that some very extraordinary yields of what have been produced by drilling in half the seed and half the fertilizer one way and the other half of both at right angles to the first. This method distributes the plants more equally to the soil, and the fertilizer is rendered more accessible by the roots from being concentrated in the drills.

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If this writer intended to compete for a prize crop of wheat, that method of seeding and applying the fertilizer would be adopted as, in his judgment, more in accord with the known scientific facts in the case than any other practice. Here is a wide and promising field for scientific investigation, and one to which has been strangely passed over and neglected by students of scientific agriculture.

Now, something has got to be done besides preaching the romances of a roseate, or, so to speak, "iridescent" optimism. A hungry man has no respect for preaching. What shall be done? All of us prefer something better than the sub-treasury plan to the sub-treasury plan itself, but we want to hear what that something better is, and it may be relied upon that business is what we mean. We are in no temper to put with laughts and mocks; we are in no temper to listen to foolish optimism; we have had quite enough of devious promises, platforms, and platform breakers, of trivial and spurious reforms. Something has got to be done!

MONEY IN APPLIED SCIENCE.

If a scientific system of farming cost more to operate it than the product can be sold for, it is impracticable. Such a system may withstand the most searching criticism from the scientific side when a mere glance at it from the practical side exhibits its impracticability. Much that is now written by theorists is good science, but would be ruinous practice. Ten years ago it might have been practically successful. Ten years hence it may again answer the demands of both science and practice. A scientific system of farming demands that restitution be made to the soil of the elements of fertility sold in the products of the farm. The price which these products fetch must be sufficient to pay for this restitution, to pay the cost of operating the system, to pay taxes, federal, State, county, and township, to pay for repairs and insurance, and over and above these costs and expenses must yield a surplus sufficient to provide for the necessities of the proprietor and his family. At present only under exceptional circumstances can all this be got out of land by scientific culture. The facts of science are illimitable. The limitations of practical skill are dependent upon many conditions beyond human control. It is the pecuniary factor which strictly controls results. Is knowledge power? Not when paralyzed by the power of money to oppress. Twenty-five years ago the per capita supply of money in use by the people of this country was seven times greater than now. Then was our agricultural prosperous; then farming paid, and then was science applied in agriculture, advancing in all directions with great strides. Now the supply of money is contracted to a volume so small that prices are collapsed; whereas, taxes, federal, State, municipal, county, and township, grown to a grievous burden and continually increasing more and more, are crushing the life out of every industry. Debts, notwithstanding the misleading figures of a census notoriously false and erroneous, are grown to a bulk impossible to be paid. Scientific agriculture is a thing lectured about still, but it cannot be practiced under present conditions. It is for lack of money that scientific farming is retrograding. Into this hole, we repeat in order to emphasize the fact, has agriculture been put by the government to recall them to their duties and prohibit their interfering in our State politics. Bribes were freely offered and boasts insultingly indulged in that they "would buy up our d—d Independents like so many hogs!" They simply miscalculated.

FROM CORRESPONDENTS.

J. L. White, Thornton, Texas, reports progress in Limestone county. "Thornton Alliance met on January 3, had a very nice time, and I think that the Alliance cause is on the upward move in this county. They have cotton yards at Mixia-grasshuck, Thornton and Kasee, and report a good business for the season. J. L. Mood is our representative from this county, and F. M. Sellus, Floater for the district, and I think the next legislature will be made up largely of Alliance men, with Wagg governor and the commission we certainly will have railroad regulation. Those who are subscribers to THE ECONOMIST read it with great interest and hand it around to their friends. I hope it will soon have the undivided support of the toiling masses."

J. C. Le Baron, Rancho, Texas, writes an earnest letter from which the following is extracted: "I have read up all the proceedings of the Ocala meeting and am highly pleased with most of the action taken there. I think the action of the Northwestern members with regard to a third little premature, inasmuch as the masses South are not prepared to surrender their fealty to the Democratic party. I have studied the question carefully and have come to the conclusion that so long as the Democrats of the South and the Republicans of the North are making the same demands of their representatives there is no special need of a third party. But here is the danger the parties are jealous of each other and are determined not to work together on anything but the financial question; on that they are a mint. If the Republicans accept, or accede rather, to our demands for reform the leader of the Democratic party will proclaim it as a dodge to secure a continuation in office, and vice versa. For myself, I have no confidence in either of the old parties when it comes to a question of a change in our financial policy on a line that will be a radical benefit to the people, yet the average voter can't see it; hence we must continue to push our demands and let the leaders of parties fight us till it becomes so palpably evident that we can't secure our purposes in the old parties. Then the great conservative element in the body politic will cry out in the agony of their distress for a change."

A correspondent writes from South Dakota: "We drew first blood the 6th by electing speaker after a desperate fight, and the promise of unlimed boodle. I am very proud of our Independents, poor as they all are, many of them having to borrow money to get to the capital, and compelled to wear plain everyday clothes and secure board at private houses or cheap boarding houses loaded with debts, as many of them were without the prospect of liquidating them, yet they stood as one man against the blandishment of wealth and position lavishly offered, and came out of the great trial stronger and purer for the fiery ordeal. South Dakota has a right to be proud of her Independent legislators. The same praise is honestly due the Democrats also who stood faithfully by us in resisting the shock from the common enemy. Great horde of government officials were on hand seeking to influence legislation; two Senators, one Congressman and a score of Federal appointees; judges, clerks, land-officers, marshals, surveyors-general, postmasters, lackeys from Washington who are drawing salaries from the United States for duties they are neglecting traveling here on railroad passes and swarming like flies at the capital to the serious menace of the people's interests. Serious indignation is felt by our people at their unwarranted and offensive interference and a resolution was introduced the 8th in the Senate asking the Federal government to recall them to their duties and prohibit their interfering in our State politics. Bribes were freely offered and boasts insultingly indulged in that they 'would buy up our d—d Independents like so many hogs!' They simply miscalculated."

Do we mean something like this

THE REFORM PRESS.

The Discussion of Current Topics in the Organized States.

The Mississippian (Jackson) reports the death of Brother R. C. Patty:

Although life's sun with him had not yet reached its zenith, and its shadows were still falling to the West, he had been generously crowned with public honors, and had attained a position in popular confidence and esteem, of enviable character, and almost impossible of replacement. Of almost every organization that sought the material advancement of the State, the purification of the public service, the elevation of individual morals, or the judicious distribution of charity, he was a member.

Alma, (Kas.) News says truly:

If the farmers', or Alliance movement as it is commonly called, should die without further growth the good it has already accomplished is well worth all it has cost. This movement was called into being by urgent demands.

It found the national Congress indifferent to the demands of the people and engaged in vain struggle for mere partisan advantage. The result of the recent elections has aroused the members of Congress to a partial realization of their duties as servants of the people and turned the thoughts of all political leaders for a while to questions of practical legislation. This is evidenced by the fact that since the re-assembling of Congress numerous measures looking toward the relief of the financial distress of the country have been introduced—measures that were hardly thought of by the members of that august body during the last session. It has caused the old political leaders to take up and discuss the issues made by the people. In our own State the committee appointed by the last legislature to revise existing laws and recommend needed changes and new laws has met since the election and taken hold and discharged its duties with a zeal that is really surprising. The committee recommends sweeping changes in existing laws, many of which are in line with Alliance demands. The agitation accompanying the Alliance movement has done more to educate the masses, to remove sectional prejudice and superstition, and to lead people to think more on practical politics and questions of national finance than any influence that has acted upon them since the founding of the government. But the good work is only fairly begun. There are grand possibilities for the Alliance movement yet.

The Newspaper (California, Mo.)

This is just right, the State of Missouri has been held back long enough from a discussion of this measure. Let it come up abreast of the other States:

The sub-treasury plan of the Alliance will be discussed in the open union at the court house Friday night.

The desire of the Union is for a free and frank discussion of this most important measure for relief to the farmer. We hope to see a large attendance and a general discussion. George W. Williams, State lecturer, is expected to be present and participate in the discussion. Come everybody.

Alliance Leader (Bolivar, N. Y.) says:

Anything to put off financial legislation seems to have been adopted as the motto of number of Senators, members of both political parties. If they succeed there will be music in the political atmosphere, and it will not please the sensitive ears of certain gentlemen either.

Alliance Dispatch (Windfall, Ind.) says:

The Alliance, at its last national convention passed a resolution opposing the passage of the "Lodge" federal election bill. Why are the farmers opposed to this "force" election bill? Because the object the politicians have in passing the bill is to once more revive the animosities and section prejudices which they so successfully employed for the purpose of blinding the people while they robbed them during the past twenty years, and the Alliance farmers are "on to the scheme." The members of this Congress had better

be making an effort to release the clutch of the mortgage fiend from the throat of the oppressed people instead of fooling its time away discussing force bills, else the rising tide of public indignation may in '92 sweep them from the political field forever.

Industrial Union (Columbus, Ohio) gives good advice:

The importance of Alliance lecturers and speakers, and not less important Alliance literature, cannot be overestimated in this great movement. The sub-Alliance and county recruiters should be men who will post themselves on the economic needs of farmers and the numerous and various kinds of trusts and extortions that exist affecting farmers. The sub-Alliance lecturers must read up and begin to make themselves useful. They are elected by the order to give its members information. Each lecturer should take an Alliance paper so that he may read up on the subjects now before the farmers, and be prepared to speak to them. This will open debate and discussions among the members. It will be of great benefit.

Weekly Arbor State (Beautee, Neb.) says:

Ignorance may be enslaved, but one might as well undertake to bind a whirlwind as to enslave a thinking, reading, intelligent people.

The Liberal Enterprise (Cuthbert, Ga.) just about the size of it:

Grover Cleveland is a monomaniac. He is opposed to the free coinage of silver or any appreciable increase of the currency. Therefore, Grover Cleveland, as a Presidential possibility, may as well be dropped from the list.

Great West (St. Paul, Minn.) puts it square:

Among the tremendous issues yet to be discussed, with power and vehemence is the power of the caucus to control votes. It is not right. It is fraught with injustice and evil, and before the great reform era has settled down to its status the caucus will have lost its power. A caucus may be useful to ascertain what a number of men think on any issue. But it never should be binding on any individual.

Industrial American (Harlan, Iowa) says:

Somewhat or other the over production theory seems to be busted. Wider than ever this season. With a half crop, every jaundiced partisan sheet in the land told us that we would come out on the top wave of prosperity. But money is just as scarce or a little more so than ever. Failure follows failure with startling rapidity. It matters little whether the farmer raises one bushel or ten bushels; there is just so much money in the country, and no more. The man who raises 40 bushels of corn is no better off than he who raises 15. There must be a way out somewhere.

The Industrial Age (St. Paul, Minn.) says:

We have had prosperity under high tariff and under low tariff, but we have never had hard times when money was a want among the people. Of course, money locked up in banks had just as well be out of existence, so far as any benefit to the people is concerned. An abundance of money at the money centers may indicate bankruptcy and ruin among the people. Of course, money locked up in banks had just as well be out of existence, so far as any benefit to the people is concerned.

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The Alliance Tribune (Topeka, Kas.) shows the Alliance is alive yet:

The result of the election held Tuesday in Cloud and Republic counties, for the purpose of the election of a state senator, was a victory for the People's party. Their candidate, Mr. Wheeler, of Cloud county, was elected by over 1,000 majority. J. W. Shafer, the defeated candidate, is very popular throughout the district, but the Alliance men voted solid for their man. This makes at least five anti-Ingalls men in the senate.

Alliance Sentinel (Lansing, Mich.) says:

For the man who honestly investigates public questions on their true merits and in all their bearings relative to the real welfare and prosperity of the country with the view of casting an intelligent ballot, calculated to foster the liberties of the people and a representative form of government, we have the most profound respect, and unbounded admiration, whether he votes as we do or not. But for the representative of that other class of so-called freemen, and supporters of good government, who seems neither to know nor care to know anything of public questions or the primary principles of American freedom, or who possess not the moral courage or integrity to vote their honest sentiments, but are the ready tools of designing politicians and

office seekers, and seem proud to know that they are of sufficient importance to be the object of the attention of his lord and master, we profess an unlimited contempt. The very sight or thought of such a man is repugnant, and revolting to the lover of freedom and the admirer of true American citizenship. Such a man is unworthy the blessings of liberty. He is fit only for a state of slavery. In his composition is only the material of which slaves are made.

Alliance Gazette (Hutchison, Kan.) says:

To relieve the money market, and to relieve the people are two different things. To relieve the money market means to give Wall street more power over the people, while to relieve the people means to give them more power over Wall street. When Windom went down to New York some time ago to relieve the money market, he went in the interest of Wall street. The thought of relieving the people never for once entered his mind. Congress is now turning and twisting in a thousand different shapes, but mind you it is to relieve the money market, and not to benefit the people. The Congressmen about all of them admit that something should be done, and they have an awful time trying to make the people believe that they don't know what to do. The facts in the case are, there is not a member in Congress but who knows full well just what the matter is, and just what the remedy is. They all know just how the people could be relieved, and that will in a few days. Then why don't they do it? Simply because to legislate for the people is to legislate for the middle class. On the one hand are the great masses, the hewers of wood and drawers of water, year by year receiving less and less for their services in proportion to the amount produced by the aid of labor saving machinery, thus curtailing the amount of their purchasing power of this same middle class. On the other hand is the great money loaning class, ever increasing its power by combination and concentration of capital, and every time that this class gives one more turn to the screw one or more of the middle class has got to go to the wall and is driven down one scale lower, only to swell the already overflow of wage workers. The time has come when the business men must make common cause with the wealth producers in forming combinations that will enable them to resist the encroachment of their enemy, the incorporated or special privileged class, otherwise they must disappear, as the lines are drawn to that point where there will be only two classes. It will not do for them to any longer look upon the wealth producer as a victim for them to prey upon. The middle class must no longer look at the matter in the light that they are the natural allies of the incorporated powers of the land, and are especially favored upon those grounds, for under present conditions they are simply a sort of go-between that taken from the toiler the fruits of his toil, and hands it over to others through force of circumstance over which he has no control. The incorporated classes are entrenched behind statute laws. To be plain, they have made the laws and are stealing according to them. This is a trick that neither the middle class nor the man who works for wages had yet learned.

The Industrial Age (St. Paul, Minn.) says:

We have had prosperity under high

tariff and under low tariff, but we have

never had hard times when money was

a want among the people. Of course,

money locked up in banks had just as

well be out of existence, so far as any

benefit to the people is concerned.

There has been conspicuously ob-

served of late the tendency among

farmers of the country, especially in

the west and south, to organize move-

ments and to effect combinations where-

by they may be enabled to exercise

their legitimate influence in the coun-

cils of the nation and of the states; and

this is fully justified by considera-

tions of wise expediency. There is no class

of citizens whose interests are par-

amount to those of the agricultural

class. The industry in which farmers

are engaged is the very basis of civiliz-

ed life, and from it, as from a root, has

sprung the vast aggregation of varied

conditions and activities which con-

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prosperity of this industry the welfare

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nected, and upon that prosperity the

permanent success of all other indus-

tries and business enterprises directly

depends. If the interests of agriculture

languish the interests of no class

of the community can long flourish. The

farmers of the country as a class have

always been distinguished for freedom

of thought and independence of action.

There is the honesty that makes gov-

ernment by the people safe. Among

them are men of ability, experience,

and integrity, well equipped for the

duties of statesmanship. In the past

history of Congress it has been noted

that the greater proportion of stro-

ates who, after being elected, forgot all about reform. These were reformers for the loves and fishes. We have known others who, after being defeated, suddenly saw there was not much in the movement anyway; the members would not "stick," and the whole thing was being manipulated by certain persons for certain purposes, and the sooner the people got out of it the better. There are reformers who hoped to use the movement for personal profit, and failing in that, it had no further charm to them. But the man who, whether elected or defeated, is the same earnest advocate of reform, the same defender of right and justice, the same untiring worker for God and humanity—is this the true reformer?

The National Citizens Alliance, which is the organ of the Order of the same name, has made its appearance, being published in Washington City. It is edited by Ralph Beaumont, national secretary, and is full of vim. It says:

One of the great questions of the hour is, what is to become of the so-called middle class, the business men. On the one hand are the great masses, the hewers of wood and drawers of water, year by year receiving less and less for their services in proportion to the amount produced by the aid of labor saving machinery, thus curtailing the amount of their purchasing power of this same middle class. On the other hand is the great money loaning class, ever increasing its power by combination and concentration of capital, and every time that this class gives one more turn to the screw one or more of the middle class has got to go to the wall and is driven down one scale lower, only to swell the already overflow of wage workers. The time has come when the business men must make common cause with the wealth producers in forming combinations that will enable them to resist the encroachment of their enemy, the incorporated or special privileged class, otherwise they must disappear, as the lines are drawn to that point where there will be only two classes. It will not do for them to any longer look upon the wealth producer as a victim for them to prey upon. The middle class must no longer look at the matter in the light that they are the natural allies of the incorporated powers of the land, and are especially favored upon those grounds, for under present conditions they are simply a sort of go-between that taken from the toiler the fruits of his toil, and hands it over to others through force of circumstance over which he has no control. The incorporated classes are entrenched behind statute laws. To be plain, they have made the laws and are stealing according to them. This is a trick that neither the middle class nor the man who works for wages had yet learned.

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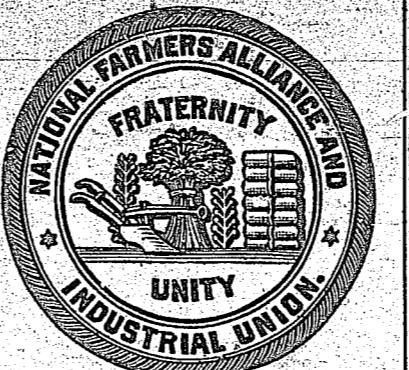
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Powell's Red Bag Fertilizer for Cotton, Corn

The Democratic gain of 95,030 in New York, of 38,519 in Massachusetts, and of 3,815 in Connecticut may be partially explained perhaps by the demand for free raw material in that region, but it seems probable that other and very strong influences were also at work.

The Democrats gain in Tennessee see 20,209, in West Virginia 9,332, and in Virginia 63,237.

The Republicans do not appear to have derived the benefit from the silver bill that was anticipated. There was a Democratic net gain of 4,825 in Colorado, of 5,409 in Montana, and of 783 in Nevada. The effort of the Democrats in Congress to put the Republicans in the light of enemies to free coinage seems to have had some effect.

The returns from most of the States give ground for the assertion by the Republicans that the result was not due to Republicans voting the democratic ticket, but to their staying away from the polls. In New York there were 226,693 fewer Republican votes than in 1888, against 131,663 fewer Democratic. The States in which the Republican vote fell off most were New York, Georgia, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Tennessee and Virginia. Iowa cast a total vote for both parties only 11,224 less than in 1888. The Democrats there seem to have fairly captured about 15,000 Republican votes. The returns would indicate that that State more than any other heretofore Republican shows signs of going with the Democrats.

In this table will be found only the returns from the States that voted in November. Maine voted in September, showing large Republican gains, and Oregon in June. The returns from New Hampshire and North Carolina, not having been received, are left out of the calculations, though they would not have varied the story greatly, participated in the general tendency. Otherwise the table is complete.

This above table gives the official vote of twenty-six States on the Presidential ticket in 1888 and on the Congressional ticket in 1890.

shows that at the former election the Republicans cast 5,140,409 votes. At the Congressional election in November the same party cast 3,946,535 votes, a total loss of 1,193,875 votes. At the Presidential election in 1888 the Democrats cast 5,084,705. The same party cast at the Congressional election in November 4,445, or, a total loss of 639,684 votes. The following table will show the total gains and losses by States, comparing the vote cast by each

party at the Congressional election in November with that cast at the Presidential election in 1888:

	Republican.	Democratic.
States.	Gain.	Loss.
Ala.	19,958	35,170
Ark.	16,103	16,194
Cal.	3,245	1,879
Col.	7,650	2,831
Conn.	11,199	7,384
Del.	4,207	766
Fla.	11,513	10,271
Ga.	23,759	15,371
Ill.	75,099	27,187
Ind.	46,598	18,987
Iowa.	25,991	14,767
Kan.	64,028	75,794
Ky.	78,387	65,116
La.	23,408	25,284
Md.	22,149	6,320
Mass.	53,745	15,226
Mich.	59,364	26,820
Minn.	44,176	2,864
Miss.	16,212	37,261
Mo.	54,518	7,715
Mont.	7,358	1,949
Neb.	35,546	9,281
Nev.	966	183
N. J.	29,536	23,076
N. Y.	220,093	131,663
N. D.	3,955	1,029
Ohio.	52,442	43,945
Penn.	25,243	9,568
R. I.	5,028	1,193
S. C.	3,538	7,142
Tenn.	63,988	43,779
Vt.	9,964	777
Va.	88,860	25,723
Wash.	2,862	3,911
W. Va.	9,130	200
Wis.	48,374	6,689

If these tables disclose anything, it is an almost universal disregard for party success among the people of the different States. It shows that the people are tired of partisan rule and had rather remain away from the polls than vote for its perpetuation. It is on such figures as the above that those who are urging a third party base their hopes of success. Not being content with voting their own party ticket, or willing to cast their lot with the opposite party, 1,824,559 American voters absented themselves from the polls at the last election. Was it a lack of interest in the welfare of the nation, or a desire to shirk the responsibility which waits upon citizenship, that prompted such seeming neglect of duty? Is not the true incentive for such action found in the rapidly-increasing belief that the powers of legislation have been prostituted, and that the United States Congress is simply an agent by which the fruits of the labor of the many are transferred to the pockets of the few? These figures prove conclusively that both the old parties are suffering from the same cause, and unless heroic remedies are at once applied will sooner or later be destroyed.

In a recent issue of the *Toiler*, published in Nashville, Tenn., the official organ of the State Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union of Tennessee, the associate editor of that paper retires from the staff for the reason that the profits of the paper are not sufficient to support him unless he had other resources on which to depend. This must be truly an astounding piece of intelligence to the order both in Tennessee and at large, because

the *Toiler* is one of the best papers in the United States. Its circulation is not confined to the State of Tennessee, but it is a welcome visitor throughout the entire Union. Its columns are usually replete with the very latest news, and its editorials show judgment and discrimination that reflect credit upon the editorial management and the order. It is, in point of make up and editorial ability, far above any where else, and some conceited enemy of the order who has by hook or crook crept into its ranks insinuates that your State and national organs are making money for those who are running them, and that therefore you should subscribe and encourage that money making method by such an opposition does. This is the question that every Alliance man in this broad land should bring home to his own conscience, and in the consideration of it he should remember that it has been the policy of Alliance publications to endeavor to get up better papers than have ever been before published for less money. No weekly paper run alone as such on the \$1 subscription, giving the volume of reading matter that is now customary—that is a six-column eight-page paper—can possibly be self-sustaining on less than 50,000 subscribers, except as it depends largely upon its advertising patronage. The business efforts of the Alliance are so modern, and are so manifestly in the interest of the people and not in the interest of the merchandising class, that a very large per cent of manufacturers and dealers absolutely refuse patronage to Alliance papers. Therefore, even if they were as much disposed to accept advertisements at low rates as others are, they could not get them. This, however, does not grieve them much, for they do not want it. Their effort is to supply the readers with a large amount of educational matter, the very largest that can possibly be done for the money they receive from the subscribers. The fact above recited in regard to the *Toiler* shows that the editorial management has been putting all the money they could possibly get from the people into the paper, improving its tone and character, and giving the readers valuable reading matter. The *Toiler* is not an exception in this particular. It is believed that every one of the State organs, as well as the national, is in very much the same condition. There is no possible way of estimating the great good done the order by these State organs and the national organ. Every issue, every column and every line is devoted to the good of the order and to an effort to disseminate true educational doctrine that will tend to elevate and benefit the individual member-

ship of the order. If, then, they can be efficient as they have with the patronage they have already received, what a power they can be made in the land if the patronage should be doubled. Brethren, in view of all this, next time when in a crowd of associates you are sitting on the counter in a country store, or on a stump by the roadside at a road working, or any where else, and some conceited enemy of the order who has by hook or crook crept into its ranks insinuates that your State and national organs are making money for those who are running them, and that therefore you should subscribe and encourage that money making method by such an

individual member can embark in it to see that every member of the sub-Alliance to which he belongs has subscribed for and paid his subscription to the State organ and the national organ. Every member should have both, and they will more than repay him for the outlay before the year is half gone.

THE FREE COINAGE BILL.

The full text of the free coinage bill introduced by Mr. Vest and adopted by the Senate is as follows:

A bill to provide for a unit of value and for the coinage of gold and silver and for other purposes.

That from and after the date of the passage of this act the unit of value in the United States shall be the dollar, and the same may be coined of 412½ grains of standard silver, or of twenty-five and eight-tenths grains of standard gold, and the said coin shall be legal tender for all debts, public and private. That hereafter any owner of silver or gold bullion may deposit the same at any mint of the United States to be formed into standard dollars or bars for his benefit and without charge; but it shall be lawful to refuse any deposit of less value than \$100, or any bullion so base as to be unsuitable for the operations of the mint.

Section 2. That the provisions of section 3 of "an act to authorize the coinage of the standard silver dollar and to restore its legal tender character," which became a law February 28, 1879, is hereby made applicable to the coinage in this act provided for.

Section 3. That the certificates provided for in the second section of this act shall be of denominations of not less than \$1 nor more than \$100, and such certificates shall be redeemed in coinage of standard value. A sufficient sum to carry out the provisions of this act is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated. So much of the act of July 14, 1890, entitled an act directing the purchase of silver bullion, and the issue of treasury notes thereon and for other purposes as requires the purchase of 4,500,000 ounces of silver bullion per month, be and the same is hereby repealed.

Section 4. That the certificates provided for in this act, and all silver and gold certificates already issued, shall be receivable for all taxes and dues to the United States of every description, and shall be a legal tender for the payment of all debts, public and private.

Section 5. The owners of bullion deposited for coinage shall have the option to receive coin or its equivalent in the certificates provided for in this act, and such bullion shall be subsequently coined.

This bill not only gives the people free coinage of silver, but again places the unit of money where Hamilton placed it, with the silver dollar. The coinage act of 1873 changed this unit from silver to gold for the purpose of making the burden of debt more oppressive. By this act the wrong is righted and the greed of the despiser checked.

A HUNDRED-YEAR LOAN.

There has been a great deal said and written about the authority of the government to lend money. A certain class of politicians have held to be a monopoly. It is intended to introduce practical co-operation between the State organs, to the end that each may help all and that each may be assisted by all. There is a work for every single member of the Farmers Alliance to do, and one of the first and most effective enterprises that each in

sition and to the centennial exposition, and many of them favored the endorsement by the United States government of the Union Pacific railroad funds. United States treasury notes are obligations of the United States government to pay, and lending them to individuals must be on a par with lending of United States credit in any other shape to individuals and corporations; hence the endorsement of the Pacific railroad funds by the United States government was equivalent to lending that amount of money or treasury notes. The bonds could not have been floated at near so much without the government endorsement, which made them valuable at once.

The farmers of this country advance the proposition that the government shall issue Treasury notes against the most potential form of all value, that which is demanded by the people of this government to construct and complete the canal company is authorized to issue bonds in denominations of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000 to an amount not exceeding \$100,000,000, to be dated January 1, 1891, and to be payable January 1, 1891, with interest at the rate of 3 per cent, payable quarterly. The bonds are to be secured by a first mortgage on the property and rights of property of the canal company, including all concessions and franchises, and the mortgage is to be so framed as to be a first lien under the laws of Nicaragua and Costa Rica. The bonds are to be printed and deposited in the United States Treasury, and are to be issued by the Secretary of the Treasury to the company only as the work on the canal progresses. The bonds are to bear the guarantee of the United States for principal and interest as it accrues, and the company is to issue no other bonds. The Secretary is authorized to pay the interest on the bonds as it becomes due if not paid by the company, and an indefinite appropriation for the purpose is embodied in the bill. If the company fails to pay the interest as it falls due, and upon the payment thereof by the United States, the company is required to pay to the United States the amounts paid by the United States on the guarantee, with interest annually at 4 per cent until paid. For sums paid by the United States under the guarantee the United States is to be subrogated to the rights under the mortgage which the bondholders would have had if the same had remained unpaid by the company and had not been paid by the United States.

poration on the canal has advanced with great rapidity; that the total cost of the project will be but one-third more than the Welland canal, and that it will be completed within six years. The full cost of the work is set down at \$100,000,000. The committee feels that to secure this amount of money the company will be obliged to sell bonds at a large discount. Consequently it will be necessary to impose heavy tolls on shipping, and as the canal would really constitute a part of the coast line of the United States, this burden would be largely borne by the American people. Therefore the committee believes that it would be the part of economy, aside from the considerations of national policy, for the United States to guarantee the bonds of the company to the amount of \$100,000,000, so that they may be sold at par, with the result of reducing first, the actual expenditures of the company, and second, the tolls, which would otherwise amount \$12,500,000 annually. In its present form the bill meets the objections raised by President Cleveland to the treaty negotiated in 1884, as it does not commit the United States to the defense of the territorial integrity of the Central American States. The capital stock of the company is to be limited to \$100,000,000. The existing stock and contracts of the company are to be made to conform to the requirements of the bill. To secure the means to construct and complete the canal company is authorized to issue bonds in denominations of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000 to an amount not exceeding \$100,000,000, to be dated January 1, 1891, and to be payable January 1, 1891, with interest at the rate of 3 per cent, payable quarterly. The bonds are to be secured by a first mortgage on the property and rights of property of the canal company, including all concessions and franchises, and the mortgage is to be so framed as to be a first lien under the laws of Nicaragua and Costa Rica. The bonds are to be printed and deposited in the United States Treasury, and are to be issued by the Secretary of the Treasury to the company only as the work on the canal progresses. The bonds are to bear the guarantee of the United States for principal and interest as it accrues, and the company is to issue no other bonds. The Secretary is authorized to pay the interest on the bonds as it becomes due if not paid by the company, and an indefinite appropriation for the purpose is embodied in the bill. If the company fails to pay the interest as it falls due, and upon the payment thereof by the United States, the company is required to pay to the United States the amounts paid by the United States on the guarantee, with interest annually at 4 per cent until paid. For sums paid by the United States under the guarantee the United States is to be subrogated to the rights under the mortgage which the bondholders would have had if the same had remained unpaid by the company and had not been paid by the United States.

FROM THE FAR NORTHWEST.

CANFIELD, WASH., Jan. 5, 1891.

The Washington State Alliance now has 7 county organizations, over 150 locals, and about 4,000 members. Our delegate to the National Alliance to convene at Omaha, Neb., was instructed to use his influence to effect a consolidation of our National Alliance with your National Alliance and Industrial Union. If there is no prospect of this in the near future, we anticipate an effort will be made to unite our State with the National Alliance and Industrial Union, and desire to know what steps to take in the matter.

Under pressure of a gigantic monopoly on farm products by getting up a gigantic corner on them. Producers that will store up their products in these government warehouses, and receive on them treasury notes that shall circulate as lawful money, being relieved of any immediate necessity for selling them, can hold their products until the price is high enough to suit them, or by combining they can at any time produce a scarcity in the market by withholding them from sale, and thus force up prices just as high as consumers will stand.

No corner has ever been successful in this country that depended on holding farm products, and none ever will be while pres-

year than for the crop of 1889, notwithstanding the fact stated in the President's message of the "improved condition of agriculture," showing that wheat was 22 cents higher in Chicago in October, 1890, than in October, 1889. Did he know this? And did he recommend that Congress pass stringent laws to prohibit grain gamblers from robbing the producers of the country, or was he in ignorance of the situation?

I for one helped him to his exalted position, and knowing the country's needs are neglected, and having no hope from the "old parties," I did recently offer a resolution in two county Alliances that carried almost unanimously, approving the Cincinnati council of February 23, 1891, and desiring an independent president ticket for 1892. During my work in Washington and Idaho as lecturer and organizer since last June, I have urged upon the farmers the necessity of taking THE ECONOMIST, and all those taking it in Latah and Nez Perce county are due to my efforts. In my jurisdiction Republican members of the Alliance have frequently complained to me that THE ECONOMIST was biased in favor of the Democratic party. We are desirous it should stand firm as Gibraltar's rock on its own platform of principles, and never lean one particle in favor of either the old parties.

J. M. SMITH.

Brethren must remember that in these times of extreme partisan agitation men are too apt to conclude that they who are not for us are against us. This it is that leads many good partisan Republicans and Democrats to believe THE ECONOMIST leans toward the opposite party. Brother Smith is right; THE ECONOMIST stands as firm as a rock for the principles of the Farmers Alliance, and all who yet love their party better than these principles think they see opposition to their party in the stand thus taken by THE ECONOMIST. And they are correct whenever the party differs from Alliance doctrines, because, be such party Republican, Democratic, Prohibition, Union Labor, or anything else, THE ECONOMIST will fight it when it fights or opposes Alliance principles. "If that be treason, make the most of it." The sentiment expressed by Brother Smith in favor of the consolidation of the National Alliances is now becoming universal, and it is hoped that it will be provided for at the coming session of the National Alliance at Omaha.

FARM AND FIRESIDE, of Philadelphia, Pa., entirely misconceives the purposes and scope of the sub-treasury plan, and in its issue of January 1 says:

The true inwardness of the sub-treasury scheme is to force up prices on farm products by getting up a gigantic corner on them. Producers that will store up their products in these government warehouses, and receive on them treasury notes that shall circulate as lawful money, being relieved of any immediate necessity for selling them, can hold their products until the price is high enough to suit them, or by combining they can at any time produce a scarcity in the market by withholding them from sale, and thus force up prices just as high as consumers will stand.

ent conditions prevail; that is to say, while the price of the American product is fixed by the price of the amount exported. Combinations only force prices up or down in this country by means of manipulations of the market, selling short and gambling in futures. The regular prices of the products apart from such influences depend on foreign quotations, which are regulated by the price of that part of the crop that is exported. That being the case, farmers would not put grain or cotton in warehouses on a quotation price based on the export market when the home market was forced up above that, because it would pay them better to sell. Consequently prices never could be raised even a fraction on the consumer, but the middle man would be everlasting squeezed out and the farmer get near to the benefit of the consumer's prices. In fact he would get the consumer's prices less the actual necessary expenses of handling, storing, keeping, insuring, and so on, and there would be none left for the gambler. This is what the Alliance contends for, and what no doubt Farm and Fireside would heartily endorse if convinced of the fact.

BREADSTUFFS EXPORTED.

Advance sheets of the report of S. G. Brock, chief of the Bureau of Statistics of the Treasury Department, furnish data for the subjoined table, which is full of suggestions to those inclined to make deductions therefrom. As relates to the McKinley tariff and the Windom silver purchase laws, it is specially commended:

	1889.	1890.
Barley, bushels....	861,953	275,919
Corn, bushels....	33,566,501	18,195,187
Corn Meal, bbls....	191,034	181,772
Oats, bushels....	2,180,709	762,743
Oatmeal, pounds....	10,701,296	5,791,701
Rye, bushels....	861,767	322,912
Wheat, bushels....	28,365,393	22,975,195
Flour, barrels....	5,927,137	5,012,299
<i>Value.</i>		
Barley.....	\$485,312	\$190,769
Corn.....	14,512,793	9,332,545
Corn Meal.....	479,266	497,936
Oats.....	653,330	298,520
Oatmeal.....	367,776	161,889
Rye.....	458,091	203,411
Wheat.....	23,607,882	20,385,914
Wheat Flour.....	28,084,906	23,735,232

Total 6 months, \$68,649,350 \$54,806,212
Total 12 months ending Dec. 31, 125,879,050 136,845,899

The total exports of the above articles for December, 1890, aggregated \$10,126,739 in value, of which \$3,349,754 went from four Pacific ports.

The Farmers Alliance and Prohibition.
By REV. H. G. COWAN, ALLENWOOD, N.J.

Brother W. H. Henry, Maysville, Tenn., in attempting to review my article on the above topic fails to grasp the situation, and asks a question or two, for which I request a little space to answer and explain. Brother Henry says: "Neither does any sane man" (believe that all blessings flow

from prohibition). Then a good many Prohibitionists must be insane, for I have frequently heard them say that prohibition would be a certain cure for all existing social, industrial, and financial disorders; that the nine hundred million dollars annually wasted in the liquor traffic would give everybody a sufficiency of food and clothing; would raise the price of all farm products, and would start anew suspended industries. The condition of the mortgage-ridden farmers of Kansas, who are compelled to sell their corn at fourteen cents a bushel and their beef of cattle at one and a half cents a pound, in a State where prohibition is an assured success, is a sufficient answer to this.

"Why does not Brother Cowan use the three columns of THE ECONOMIST in an endeavor to bring Alliance brethren up to the progressive standard of reform in regard to prohibition?" etc. Because

I did not know that it was necessary; was not aware that Alliance brethren were not up to that standard. The Progressive Farmer, Raleigh, N. C., reports that five hundred brethren spent a week or more in Florida, and during all that time not one of them was seen under the influence of intoxicating liquors—they must have a pretty high standard; "and so make it possible for all the reform elements of the country to unite in common cause against monopolies and corruption;" that is a contract rather too large for me to undertake. I

never expect to see all reform elements united in common cause, any more than I expect to see all the sects of Christendom united in one organization. "Instead of endeavoring to excite the jealousy of Alliance reformers against prohibition reformers by arraying before them the fact there are engaged in the prohibition movement lawyers, merchants, bankers, etc." Nothing was further from my mind than attempting to excite jealousy against any class, and 'twas not simply that the classes named are in the Prohibition party that I would discourage affiliation with it, but because those classes, with the stock and produce gamblers, are the chief breeders and promoters of monopolistic oppression and corruption,

and that they are evidently using their influence to shape the policy of the Prohibition party against the reforms demanded by the Farmers Alliance. The key of my article was overlooked by Brother Henry, and may be found in the sentence, "That the Prohibition party is a better friend to farmers and laborers than the Democratic or Republican parties," admits of considerable doubt. With the principle of prohibition I have no quarrel. Against the rank and file of the Prohibition party, who are industrious citizens of high character, and who are honest in their convictions, I haven't a word to say; but when I read in the Prohibition organs nothing but ridicule and condemnation of the Alliance reform measures, and denunciation of Alliance men as "demagogues," who dare speak contrary to the bests of party leaders, and, moreover, defense and commendation of the existing and financial condi-

tions under which "the power of money to oppress" is making the poor poorer, and the rich richer," I am forced to believe that the so-called new moral factor in American politics, the much-vaunted Prohibition party, is, like the two old parties, a machine party, a class party, under the domination of men who are bitterly opposed to the interests of the industrial forces of our country, and therefore is no more worthy of the support of Alliance men than the old parties. One word, and I am done. Brother Henry wants the prohibition question "agitated" in our Order. No, my brother, "education" is the word, and when an Alliance man's education is finished he is very apt to support all moral issues, and also to act independently of all machine-bossed and monopoly-favored parties.

Land Tenure in the United States.

BY MERLINDA SISSINS.

Finance, land, and transportation are the three great questions now being urged by the Knights of Labor and Farmers Alliance. Under the above heading we will consider from whom our lands were obtained, and into whose hands they have gone and are going. Of the 3,307,304 square miles or 2,308,866,560 acres comprising our total acreage bought of France in 1803, what is known as the "Louisiana purchase," lying west of the Mississippi River, including Texas and a part of New Mexico, extending to the Rocky Mountains and north to the British possessions.

Over 60,000,000 acres have gone into the hands of foreigners. They also have over \$30,000,000 invested in our breweries, many millions in other industries and over \$1,000,000,000 in our railroads. They own the "Hornby Peak," the mines in Dakota, the cotton thread mills of New Jersey and Rhode Island. They own, also, iron mines from Alabama to Wisconsin. What they failed to do with the sword in 1776 the are doing now with money. Our children are laid under tribute to English aristocracy. The echo from the dim future come—what of the masses?

The above are among the methods by which our fair domain, procured at so much cost, and dedicated by God to the whole human family, (Gen. I, 26), is passing into the hands of a landed aristocracy of Americans and foreigners, while the cry goes up from the impoverished—"Home for the homeless," These, with the finance, transportation and trust monopolies, are filling our prisons, our insane asylums and poor houses with the discouraged and dejected producers of America. Freemen arise! As an old woman, passing the boundary line of activity, tremble for the future, unless every producer's ballot is united in self-defense. May God arouse the people.

Address to All Reform Lodges.
BY T. S. PRYMIRE,
President Co. Assembly F. M. B. A.,
Kentucky.

Brethren: While I appear in this or any other public address, I am profoundly impressed with the great responsibility that should ever attach to the position of a representative chosen by the people. And I shall briefly notice some facts and conflicting teach-

ings that must be corrected by the Alliance officials. President Polk, in his able and patriotic address to the National Assembly at Ocala, Fla., says: "The order is political, but not partisan." All should concede this as true. And all differing, only makes confusion, greatly to be regretted. Ben Terrell, late National Alliance lecturer, before the State Assembly at Springfield, Ill., November last, said: "The Order is political, but not partisan. If any nomination is made, it must be made outside of the Order, not in it." He does not say how or by whom any shall be made, leaving us to infer that we must go to Greenland to do so.

President Erwin, of the Kentucky State Alliance, says: "The order is neither political nor partisan, and must not make nominations and work inside of the old party lines." At the same he counseled the election of a partisan Democrat nominee in the second district for Congress, and rode around with him in a two-horse carriage to help carry out that idea. This was the do-nothing doctrine of the old leaders of the Grange, who robbed the toiling masses of more than a million and a half of money, and accomplished nothing. But thanks to better teaching, the Grange is fast waking up to political action with great promise for the future. The Georgia legislators, in their very thin white-wash address to the people, say:

In Kentucky we have elected three Congressmen, who before election, publicly and unreservedly approved the seven demands adopted by the Alliance at St. Louis, December, 1889, viz: Stone, Montgomery and Goodnight, and it now is very probable that the organizations here will nominate a suitable candidate for governor, and lieutenant-governor, for we have the finest material in the State to pick from. And we are going to live up to our teaching and sink sectionalism and partisanship out of sight, and select a brother

constitute the above mentioned conference. As members of the legislature we are Democrats, nominated, elected, and working as such. Brethren, we are at once Democratic members of the general assembly and Alliance men. In this view of the case we have a difficult mission to perform; we are to preserve inviolate our allegiance to the great Democratic party, and at the same time push forward the work of reform in legislation as outlined and demanded by our Order. With all this we press upon your attention this fact: The Alliance is not a political organiza-

tion that the legislators has placed themselves in a very ridiculous and untenable position. They say that they are both Democrats and Alliance men, and that their obligation to the great Democratic party must be preserved inviolate.

The Farmers Mutual Benefit Association organization don't propose to turn back and unite with the old fighting partisan Demo-

cratic leaders of Georgia, or any-

where else.

to vote contrary to his honest con-

ventions.

Brethren, be devoted to your order and lodges, in them lies the secret of success. Press forward in the good work, extend the hand of brotherly love to all. Kindly re-member and aid the poor, and those in distress, for this is one of grand objects of our organization, to first help those that all may be able to help one another. By so doing we command the respect of all and honor and strengthen our great order, which is designed to simplify the working of our government, and preserve our liberties as handed down by our fore-fathers, and increase our general prosperity as a people.

Truth is Peace.

BY J. M. SNYDER.

Nothing else is, ever was, or ever can be. God is truth—in Him alone is truth. War is a necessity, and forever must be where error intrudes. Then the work of the Alliance can only give us peace to the extent that it builds on the rock of truth. As a general statement all readers of THE ECONOMIST will agree to this. In specific application there will be a difference—perhaps an extensive difference. But all the same the position is invulnerable. Further on we must and will accept it. More suffering, more lost money and home comfort, more bloodshed, possibly, may intervene before we accept it in its fullness, but God help us, I could weep at the thought. I presume Brother Whitehead was a "Johnny Reb," and wore the gray. I was a "black Abolitionist," a "black Republican," and wore the blue and fought like a hero. Now we are brothers. I reach my right hand clear from Nebraska to Alabama to grasp his and call him brother. Why the change? We are free, you see. Both of us free. Neither of us bow to Haman or to Baal. That's what make us brothers. He is a man and brother, so am I. He is an American first, last all the time; so are we. He lives where cotton is king and tobacco is big brother. I live where corn is king and wheat, oats, flax, wool, beef and pork belong to the royal family. His interest comes out of the soil; so does mine. He lives where plutocracy grinds the life out of men; so do I. We mutually see our enemy from the same standpoint. Our interest is one. He fought for home, I may suppose, from '61 to '65; I fought from '62 to '65 and thought most sincerely I was fighting for home. We were both honest, patriotic and brave. Twenty-five years have carried us both into changed conditions. Another fight for our homes. We see alike now. We shall fight together now, though we are old, broken and gray with age, and we shall fight well, too.

Demand of Minnesota State Alliance.

1. We demand that the "war tariff," which has too long survived the object of its creation, shall be radically revised, giving very material reductions in the necessities of life and placing new material on the free list, to the end that we may compete with the world for a market, and that such luxuries as whisky and tobacco shall in no manner be relieved from internal taxation till the high protective tariff has been wholly divested of its extortions, and we especially denounce the McKinley bill as the crowning infamy of protection.

2. We demand governmental control of railways, both by state and nation, to the end that all discriminations shall cease, that reasonable rates shall be established, that watered stock shall not receive the reward of honest capital; that the pooling of rates is such an element

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

of monopoly as should be absolutely prohibited; that our legislature shall enact a freight rate law which shall fix rates no higher than those in force in Iowa, and the reduction of railroad passenger rates to 2 cents per mile. We anticipate the ultimate ownership of railroads by the government as the solution of this question.

3. As producers we demand free and open markets for our grain, and that the railways shall receive and ship grain as they receive and ship other commodities for the owner, to its destination. That the grading of wheat at country stations be abolished, that the right to establish side tracks to grain warehouses and the equal use of cars shall in no manner be abridged.

4. We demand the maintenance of the present freedom of traffic law, the present grain laws and the law for the distribution of cars, and the erection by the state of public warehouses where the producer shall store his grain unmixed in special bins at actual cost, at Duluth and the agricultural fair grounds, and we demand that the legislature shall thoroughly investigate the method of handling, inspecting and weighing grain under existing rules.

5. Our public lands shall be reserved in small quantities without cost to actual settlers only, and we favor laws for the protection of our forests. Alien ownership of land should be prohibited, and we demand the forfeiture and restoration to the public domain of all unearned land grants.

6. The present high rate of interest is unjust; it should be reduced to 7 per cent per annum, with stringent penalties to prevent money loaners from exacting a higher rate.

7. We favor an increase in the volume of money equal to the requirements of increasing trade and business. We demand the free coinage of silver, and condemn the silver bill as a fraud upon the people.

8. All public offices which affect the interests of the people should be made electoral; therefore, we hold that the United States senators and railway commissioners should be elected by popular vote, and also superintendent of public instruction.

9. We demand that a law forbidding any railroad corporation from issuing any mortgage, bond or stock until the itemized account of cash, labor or property duly sworn to has been presented to some officer of the state for examination; and if found to be a true account of the money, labor or property received, to register and certify to the same as issued in pursuance of law and as constituting a part of the capital stock of such corporation. We ask that the next legislature establish the Australian system of voting for the whole state, and that election day be made a legal holiday.

10. We demand the prohibition of the employment of children under fifteen years in the mills, shops, factories and workshops of the country, and we also favor the adoption of the mine inspection law and the employers' liability act, and we favor the publication of free text books.

11. We favor the settlement of all strikes by arbitration, and equal pay for equal work, irrespective of sex, also for shorter hours in factories, stores and public works, and we also favor a lien law that will give labor a first lien on its products.

12. We are opposed to the giving away of valuable franchises by the state and municipalities.

13. That we hold that mortgage indebtedness should be deducted from the tax on realty whether such mortgage is held at home or abroad, and we ask such laws as will make the hidden property pay equal taxes with the visible property.

14. We believe in a graded income tax for corporations and individuals to the end that wealth shall be compelled to contribute its share to the various burdens of taxation.

15. That the salaries of all our public officers, state and county, should be reduced to correspond with the reduced income of the producers and working people.

16. That in obedience to a reasonable demand we request the coming legislature to submit the question of constitutional prohibition to a vote of the people.

17. That we renew to the soldiers whose valor saved the nation the ex-

pression of our profoundest gratitude, and we declare that it is the sense of the American people that the men who fought for the Union shall receive liberal pensions, and that the same generous spirit should be extended to the widows and orphans of the heroes of the war.

18. That while we still believe that the convict labor of the state could, if honestly directed, furnish cheap binding twine to the farmers of Minnesota, yet, as it appears that it is the manifest purpose of the present management to thwart that just desire, we demand of the present legislature a thorough investigation of that institution and of the recent purchase of a system of twine machinery, and, if necessary for its radical reformation the removal of the penitentiary from its present location.

21. We denounce the force bill now pending in Congress as a dangerous and revolutionary measure, devised for partisan purposes. It will open the wounds of the war and retard the happy day of regeneration and peace, and we hold that one of the grandest aims of the Alliance is the restoration of fraternal feeling and true concord to the people of the republic.

22. That the governmental methods of dealing with the Indians is illogical, imbecile and expensive. The entire management in all its details should be promptly transferred to the war department, and our bold pioneers saved from perpetual menace of life and property to which American citizens should be no longer exposed.

23. That we demand that the government foreclose its lien on the Union Pacific railroad and take possession and operate the same in the interest of the people of the United States, and we do not approve of the report of Senator Davis, of this state, on that question.

24. That the Alliance deems it unwise and injudicious to establish an organ, but regards with favor and will encourage with its support all papers which will expound its cause and defend its principles.

25. That we invite all industrial organizations of kindred principles with our own to federate with the Farmers Alliance, each retaining its separate and distinct identity, with a view to confederating them into one grand union.

The Sub-treasury Scheme.

Mississippi Clodhopper, Kosciusko, Miss.

Many commentaries have been made upon the sub-treasury scheme, and many an idea has been given off-handed driving at its vitality and arraigning its certificate, and A takes the certificate and sends the money to C, pays him off and holds this cotton, and makes C pay this forfeit back to A and B, when he gets the bale out of the sub-treasury, only C's forfeit is from five to ten dollars on the bale, or the one or two cents rise on the cotton to get it out of the treasury. But C pays the forfeit and takes it out, as he is compelled to have it, and like a mill race the water is gradually let on.

But some object because it will lock up the grain. Yes, it will lock it up in Kansas, where it is from 13 to 14 cents per bushel, and not in Chicago where it is 40 to 45. No, it is never locked where we have a demand, for supply and demand will control. Farmers are not bulls and bears, but all bulls, and no two pulling the same way, consequently some will put in while others will take out. Wall street will sell its bears to the cross-roads pedestrian for his dime museum, and its celebrated bulls will be converted into noble and true-pulling work oxen, rendering to the world their earnings of honest tollings. Some say we will have too much money in the market. It is only issued for the moving of the crop, and when C gets it the money is sent back to the treasury and torn up. The object

of the bills is to have a more flexible money that we can get when we need it, and not more money. Now as to the expense of building; look at the gain from \$5 to \$10 on the bale in price, and the income of the storage and charges that in two years would build a palace in our little city.

The Postal Telegraph.

Pacific Rural, San Francisco, Cal.

Telegraph service—what is it? It is a quick transmission of the mails—a sort of rapid delivery—bearing the same relation to the mail service as the multiplication table does to that of addition.

Both accomplish the same results only in a different manner and speed. Time, in many cases, is money, and the saving of time between the two services, postal and telegraphic, means the saving of many thousands of dollars to the people. The Constitution of the United States says that Congress shall have the power to establish a postal service, mail routes and the rates of postage. This has been done since the foundation of our government, and there can be no question that Congress has the same right to extend the present postal service until it embraces all the known methods of transmitting news, etc. There can be no more just right for the telegraph to be controlled by private corporations than that the government should turn over the present limited mail service to a private monopoly. Limited, for the reason that the people, who, under our system of government, are the government, are entitled to every advantage that the laws—among which are the patent laws—make possible. We would be surprised if a railway should refuse to employ inventions that would cheapen the cost of carrying passengers or freight either by shortening of the time taken to transmit such freight or passengers, or by acquiring new appliances that would render the cost of service less. Why, then, should we hesitate to do the same thing for ourselves in the carrying of our mail system? There are few, when confronted with the question, but who will acknowledge that the telegraph should be as much a government charge as the railway mail service. Indeed, it would be a very few who would not agree that it is not only right but proper for the government to utilize the steam horse instead of the slow coach. Why? Because it lessens the time. Why, then, shall we not go farther and take the next step, and utilize that grand force of nature, electricity, as used in the transmission of messages? As Chas. Sumner, ex-representative in Congress from this State, said in a speech before a committee of that body:

1. I lay it down as a proposition that I want to have duly considered by this committee and the country: That the Constitution of the United States, as interpreted by a century of unchanged legislation, does imperatively require that the Congress of the United States shall establish a postal system.

2. I lay it down as a fundamental proposition that a postal telegraph is a part of the postal system of the government, the postal system of the United States having been established for the purpose of transmitting intelligence between the inhabitants of the land."

The next question that would

naturally strike the reader's mind is, will it pay? This is a question that always bobs up at every proposition which is brought forward and is both right and proper, as the great mass of the people have no more money than they know what to do with. The cost of the great Western Union Company is said to be \$125,000,000, that of the Postal Telegraph and Cable Company \$50,000,000—making a total of \$175,000,000. Now is that the true cost? It is held by a number of prominent electricians that both systems could be duplicated for \$38,850,000. The average message now costs 32.5 cents, allowing the companies to pay a dividend on a stock of nearly \$200,000,000 of about 12 per cent per annum, on a plant that can be duplicated for one-fifth of that amount. Allowing that the other expenses would be equal to what they are at present, to make the same dividend on the actual cost of the plants, the cost of messages would be reduced from 32.5 cents to 8.5 cents. Does any one doubt that at that reduction the wires would be idle, or that the business would be enormously increased, giving more profit and allowing more people to reap the benefit of the improved service? In addition to this, a greater benefit would be given to the people in the nature of impartial press reports. As it is well known, the great mass of the people depend on the daily press for their news, and how much better for them would it be to receive their news from the servants of the people than through the tools of a gigantic monopoly. Would not it be more reliable, more trustworthy? As far back as 1846 Postmaster-General Johnson, in his report to the President (Polk), said:

It becomes a question of great importance how far the government will allow individuals to divide with it the business of transmitting intelligence—an important duty confided to it by the Constitution. In the hands of individuals or associations the telegraph may become the most potent instrument the world ever knew to effect sudden and large speculations [what a mantle of prophecy was on the old Postmaster-General], to rot the many of their advantages and concentrate them on the few. If permitted by the government to be thus held, the public can have no security that it will not be wielded for their injury rather than their benefit. * * * The use of an instrument so powerful for good or evil cannot with safety to the people be left in the hands of private individuals.

Would not we object most seriously if the government should try to turn over the mail service to the Wells-Fargo Express Company? Yet why should it be any more absurd than to allow private corporations to handle exclusively that branch of the postal system, the telegraph?

The Campaign of Education.

Lecture delivered by Captain John T. Howe, at a meeting of Verdigris Alliance, No. 873, January 6, 1891]

The political campaign of 1890 will go down into history as the campaign of education, and the victory it won as the greatest ever gained by a people independent of leadership. Eliminate from the campaign that part inspired by the Farmers Alliance and nothing remains as emanating from either of the old parties except tariff reform. It would be passing strange indeed, could a tariff reform club

labor and toil for liberty is to be concentrated in the solution of some particular party doctrine or creed.

Not a Third Party.
Free Lance, Springfield, Ill.

There is a general impression that the Alliance is a third party, and that its members renounce their political allegiance upon entering it. While this feeling may be justified by the facts in certain cases, it is not now a party, nor does it seem that it ever will be profitable for it to adopt party organization. It is not now a lack of party, but a neglect of duty by our legislatures that has stimulated our growth. While we have been feeding the world, other forms of industry have been perfecting an organization which give them an undue advantage, partly by what was done, partly by what was left undone in their interest. They have simply taken advantage of a law of human nature in providing that they should get the lion's share. If the farmers expect to change these unequal conditions let him remember that "God helps him who helps himself." But to receive help it is not necessary that he join a third party. There seems very little doubt that other forms of business have flourished and been well cared for without the direct intervention of a party organized solely in their interest.

The railroads, banks, manufacturers and other representatives of the moneyed power have not found this necessary. They made themselves necessary to the parties already existing. Strong as it is, the Grand Army of the Republic would be comparatively powerless as a distinct party. To be successful a party must have a larger membership, or receive more votes than any of its opponents. To do this it must take a position and make a declaration of principles upon questions which do not properly come within the province of the Farmers Alliance. It is not certain that it could get more votes than any other organization, but it is very certain that no party can be successful without the help of the farmers' ballots. There is nothing so alarming to our politicians as the loss of an election, and no candidate need expect support unless he accedes to our reasonable demands. There is nothing it needs so much as votes and it is safe to say that the party which does not recognize our principles will not be in a position to do us any harm. The justice of our demands and substantial unity of action will make the Order far more powerful than it can be if it becomes a party.

THE report of the Secretary of the Treasury upon the export of cotton for the month of December 1890, shows an increase in the amount exported during the four months ending December 31, over the amount exported during the same time 1889, of 27,775 bales. This does not prove that the crop is larger, because the season is only one-third past and this difference may be more than balanced by better methods of handling and transporting, which facilitate getting the crop to market. The largest receipts of cotton are usually in December and January.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

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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 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 the national body, that we heartily approve of the course it has pursued and that every member of the order should subscribe and read the paper as one of the best means of education in the way of individual freedom.

Address all remittances or communications to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ENTERED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT WASHINGTON,
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N. R. P. A.

Notice.

Do you understand the sub-treasury plan? If not, send at once to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and purchase some of the sub-treasury pamphlets, which are now offered at the reduced price of 5 cents each, or ten for 25 cents. Do you believe in the sub-treasury plan? If you do, send to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and buy 25, or 50, or 100 copies of the sub-treasury pamphlets and distribute them where they will do missionary work. Sent in lots of 100, postage paid, for \$1.00. This extremely low offer is made to close out the large lot now on hand, which had better be in the field doing missionary work than laying on the shelves. Get in your orders early and help the cause by helping to spread the light.

Notice.

To all newspapers and all secretaries acting as agents for THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST:

The great expense attending the publication of THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST makes it necessary that the clubbing rate be advanced. The past rate has been maintained at a uniform loss to the publishers. Therefore, on and after January 1, 1891, a club rate of ninety cents on yearly subscriptions will obtain with all papers, and under no circumstances will less than ninety cents be accepted from any newspaper or any agent for a year's subscription.

THE question is constantly being presented as to how much fealty each individual member of the Alliance owes to declarations of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union at Ocala and St. Louis. There is no question but that delegates to both the Ocala and the St. Louis meetings, who were present and participated in the discussion and the voted upon the measures, owe allegiance fully and completely to the decision arrived at, but in order to fix this doctrine as one of the fundamental principles of the Alliance, and to make it certain that every such

delegate did owe such allegiance, the following resolution was adopted by the Supreme Council at Ocala:

Resolved, that we discuss freely, fully, honestly, and thoroughly all measures and resolutions presented for consideration, and that where the action of the majority has been had that we delegates pledge our united support to them, believing when this body has spoken it is our duty to stand as a unit as to the outside world.

The adoption of this resolution forever settles it as to fealty on the part of those who participate in the meeting of the Supreme Council. As to the question of fealty to these demands by the individual membership much might be said, but since these delegates to the Supreme Council were representatives elected by State Alliances, which in turn were representative bodies composed of delegates elected by the counties, and they in turn were representative bodies composed of delegates elected by the subs who composed the individual membership of the Order; now, therefore, every single member of State, county and sub-Alliances must of necessity be bound by such action unless they repudiate it. It is one of the oldest and best established principles of law that the principal is always bound by the act of his agent, when the act of the agent has been made known to him and he has not repudiated it. Silence is a full and complete ratification of the act of the authorized agent under all circumstances. This, it must be admitted, fixes the question as to fealty throughout the entire Order, and pledges it firmly and irrevocably to the St. Louis and Ocala demands, except in such cases as it may have repudiated such action. Brethren should remember this when they hear an indiscreet brother attacking the platform of the Order and ridiculing it, and talking in the opposition. They should hold him personally responsible, bringing him before the proper authority and trying him in regular form. The question may be asked, how can the Ocala platform be repudiated? The answer is, the State Alliances can repudiate it if they choose, and so can sub-Alliances, and so can County Alliances. True an individual cannot take any personal action in repudiation, but if he is not in accord with same and ready to endorse it, he should withdraw from the Order, and join the ranks of those with whom he belongs.

THE report of the Secretary of the Treasury shows that there is a marked increase in the export of cattle and of beef products, which include canned and fresh beef, salted, pickled and cured beef and tallow. Value of cattle exported in six months ending December

31, 1890, \$16,483,638, and for same period in 1889 it was \$14,730,559. Export of canned beef for two months ending December 31, 1890, was \$2,322,787, and for same period in 1889, \$1,446,496; fresh beef same two months in 1890, was \$2,510,738, and in 1889 \$1,849,119. The export of hogs for the six months ending December 31, 1890, was \$199,248, and same period in 1889 was \$274,541, which shows a decided decrease. Hog products also show a decrease except lard, which shows an increase, and hams are about the same in both years. The total of beef and hog products for the two months ending December 31, 1890, shows a small increase over the same period in 1889. Butter and cheese for the eight months ending December 31, 1890, show a marked decrease from same period in 1889. Butter in 1890 was \$2,778,704, and in 1889 it was \$2,952,676. Cheese in 1889 was \$7,419,604, and in 1890 it was \$6,858,642. The total of beef, hog and dairy products for the twelve months ending December 31 was in 1889, \$117,122,323 and in 1890, \$131,374,466, showing an increase of \$14,252,143.

Now is the time to subscribe for THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST Hand-Book; price 15 cents.

NOTHING can be more absurd than for the Voice, which professes to be a national champion of prohibition, to take sides with the plutocrats and ring-rule politicians against the people, which it does by its unwarranted spite upon Alliance principles. Nothing has done more to hinder the true cause of prohibition or the growth of temperance sentiment in this country than the corruption money used in politics, and the Voice by its foolish and exaggerated attacks upon Alliance principles, lays itself open to the suspicion of simply being engaged in the fight upon the liquor traffic for the purpose of putting a spur into the plutocrats to assist it in achieving selfish ends. This is a terrible charge, but it is a legitimate result of the war the Voice is making upon the Alliance.

A STEP in the right direction was taken by the Vincent brothers at Ocala when they secured the endorsement of the Supreme Council of their Economic Quarterly as a basis for a circulating library in the Alliances. THE ECONOMIST has long been working to the same end, and last year's experience in the sale of the National Economist Almanac convinced the publishers that there was a great demand among the people for high class literature published in cheap editions, and to supply this THE

ECONOMIST decided last fall to make the Alliance Hand-Book for 1891 the first of a series of monthly publications. It will be followed in February by a compilation of Harry Hinton's writings, and in March by some other attractive book. Each book will contain over a hundred pages and will sell for 15 cents, or two for twenty-five cents; or, a year's subscription will comprise twelve volumes for one dollar and fifty cents. Brother Vincent's quarterly helps out this plan very materially, and the quarterly, together with THE ECONOMIST Monthly, will give each subscriber sixteen volumes a year, and in five years present a library of eighty volumes. This will be a power for good that can not be overestimated.

A READER sends us a clipping from a Kansas paper, of an article signed "W. R. Benton, Blaine, Kan." in which the sub-treasury plan is criticised in an absurd manner. THE ECONOMIST can not afford to take up its space nor impose upon its readers, who are all very well posted in regard to the sub-treasury plan, by answering criticism that may be offered no matter how little intelligence the one criticising may display; but that in question not only displays a lamentable lack of intelligence, but a complete absence of sincerity which makes it utterly unworthy of the attention asked for it. The writer never touches on one of the principles involved in the bill, but goes into an endless quibbling, as is so often done by those who oppose the measure and are afraid of the principles. The principles have been so fully discussed in the columns of THE ECONOMIST, and so often presented in the plainest possible language, that it would be a repetition that could not well be justified to go into this detail business. Mr. Benton's letter does not contain merit enough to entitle it to a detailed answer in the smallest country weekly.

THE Baltimore Sun calls the attention of THE ECONOMIST to an error in the issue of January 10, which attributed language there quoted and commented on to the Sun. It was the New York Sun that did make the attack upon the Alliance in the language THE ECONOMIST quoted, and not the Baltimore Sun. To the credit of the latter paper, be it said, that while evidently identified with the opposition to the financial demands of the Alliance, it has not indulged in discreditable attacks upon either the order or its representative members.

As to the New York luminary, its reputation for editorial vagaries would have been sufficient reason for attaching little consequence to whatever it might say. This explanation is made as due the Sun, and it is sincerely hoped it is satisfactory.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

THE REPUBLICS OF THE WORLD.

A Brief Account of the Conditions Under Which They Exist.

ARGENTINA—III.

The statistics of the year 1888 show the greatest commerce of the republic up to that time, the total exports being \$100,111,903, and imports \$127,507,860, omitting a transit trade of several millions and also the movement of bullion and coin. The year 1889 showed a decided reduction, but 1890 has been much the largest year's production in the history of the country. The imports for last year were valued \$175,955,187, and the exports at \$159,627,814. Immigration also kept up, there having been for the twelve months a total of 289,014 persons, of whom 109,243 had their way paid by the Argentine government. Of the exports for 1888 \$44,858,606 was in wool, \$22,392,105 was in hides and skins, \$8,248,614 was in wheat, and \$5,444,464 in corn.

Great Britain stands first as a seller to the republic, with France second, while as a purchaser France is first and Great Britain second.

A notable incident to the financial affairs of the republic is the constant importation of coin and bullion, which persists in finding its way out of the channels of internal trade. In five years ending 1888, this importation, not included in figures above, amounted to \$86,410,879, more than half being in 1888. Of this total \$84,525,775 was gold, carried into the country to engage in speculation, sometimes of the most visionary character. For example, in the several ports of entry warehouses and elevators for handling grain have been constructed on a scale unequalled elsewhere in the world.

One at Buenos Ayres covers thirty acres, and has four lines of railway terminating under its roof, besides several roads for ox-carts. When it was completed a local paper congratulated the people of the city that thereafter the labor of longshoremen would be dispensed with, the machinery emptying the cars and carts into bins or into vessels, and discharging vessels into warehouses or cars, that the workingmen might be employed in the "agricultural camps" in the production of those things which enter into trade and make the city rich. Yet when the American consul described this great storehouse, May, 1890, it was empty, save that in one or two bins a small quantity of Russian wheat was stored. This elevator cost about \$5,000,000, and is but an example of the wasteful manner in which money borrowed in London

was expended. One of the finest buildings in the world is the Bolsa, or Merchants' Exchange, also of Buenos Ayres, which covers an area of over two acres, and is fitted up in extravagant style. Indeed, the cities of the republic have been built up and have absorbed the inflow of capital, while the term "camps" very properly defines the greater portion of the homes of those who engage in agricultural production, the sole means of support of the people. From the squares and blocks of splendidly-planned and constructed buildings of the towns to the great ranges of rolling prairies with scarce any population at all, presents a contrast fully explaining the failure of the republic to make good its financial obligations. Speculators have discounted the prospective growth of the country, and the government has been so weak or dishonest as to lend its credit and indorsement to nearly all their wild schemes.

Argentina is without good harbors, and the rivers of the interior are of little use for navigation, though happily since the introduction of railways such interior means of transit have lost much of their importance. Among the many subsidies given by the government have been some in favor of almost every kind of mineral research, but as yet without material success. It is almost inconceivable that so great a territory should exist without large deposits of iron, though there have been no staying development of industries dependent upon its production. As the geologists insist that the plains of the lower part of the republic have emerged in a comparatively recent era, and as they have perhaps never been covered with forest, it is probable that coal does not exist, though large deposits mark the western coast of the continent in the same latitude. As an agricultural country, however, nature seems to have left no facility unprovided, and there is no reason the submission to the conditions imposed by the government in the interest of foreign speculators. With immense areas capable of production in perfection of the cereals, the grasses, the temperate and tropical fruits, and with a climate of a variety suited to all the demands of social and industrial development, it is difficult to exaggerate the career of which Argentina is capable. That part of Europe west of the Rhine and the Rhone scarce exceeds in population the vast citizenship of which the republic is capable. Its area is considerably more than five times that of the great German Empire.

That a free people, imbibing now an ambition for civil liberty, and enjoying a system of education fitted to instill the higher ambitions of freemen, should be without ability to finally adjust their

financial and social affairs so as to secure justice to themselves seems impossible. The lessons of history will not be without effect.

FROM CORRESPONDENTS.

At a regular meeting of the Farmers Alliance of Bell county, Texas, held January 6, 1891, the following was unanimously adopted: Whereas, the managers of the Union Pacific railroad have repeatedly violated the acts of 1873 and 1878, and are now conspiring with other railroads to form a railroad trust, in violation of the statute against trusts, in violation of the charter of the Union Pacific railroad, and to defeat the provisions of the Interstate Commerce act; therefore, be it Resolved, That the Attorney-General of the United States be requested to declare the charter of the Union Pacific void, and to proceed to foreclose the lien of the United States against the road, and to enforce against its officers the prescribed penalties of the violated acts of 1873 and 1878.

J. E. B. Stewart, Weatherford, Tex., wants THE ECONOMIST to answer the questions below. They are fitly subject to inquiry, as they open up the question as to the material upon which the money function shall be stamped.

It may be said that there is no more reason to confine the money media to gold and silver than to declare that real estate transfers or wills shall be engrossed upon parchment. However, it has been the practice of nations to bear the expense of coinage, as an inducement to miners and owners of bullion to permit its addition to the current volume of money. That such individuals are benefited is an incident of coinage, and is of small moment when the benefit to society arising from a fair supply of money is considered. It is part of the superstition of the ages, that Providence intended the two metals for money, and when men become so far reformed as to discard that belief they may see the absurdity of demanding that a coin shall be valuable to the extent of its face, in addition to its power to pay debt. It may be truly charged, indeed, that whatever labor is expended in the mining of gold and silver is a waste, taxed upon the people as a consideration for the use of the metals as coin. Mr. Stewart asks:

1. Should we not have unlimited coinage of silver for the government and not free coinage?

2. If we had free coinage would it not benefit the owners of bullion, rather than the masses of the people?

3. Do not such men as ex-Senator Tabor and others who own immense quantities of silver bullion become the beneficiaries of free coinage rather than the masses of the people?

Jan. 10, Cowan Farmers and Laborers Union, No. 33, of Kentucky, sends resolution requesting the editor to report the votes of all members upon the legislation in which the Alliance and laborers generally have an interest. This request is made because some members are pledged to support the Alliance demands, and the brethren of Cowan Union want to know whether said members keep faith. Such votes are not often brought up in Congress, but when they shall be THE ECONOMIST promises to make them public. The whole tendency of congressional action now seems to be to avoid making records, and it is not in the power of friends of reform legislation to have them acted on.

E. B. Williams, Vice-President of the Washington State Alliance, writes that he favors a third-party ticket in 1892. He reasons: "Have either of the old parties, as parties, indorsed any of the great principles set forth by the Alliance? On the other hand, have they not treated the sub-treasury plan, one of our most important demands, with scorn? Do they not show their contempt for every reform we propose? They make platforms, and when the election is over they legislate for the classes as against the masses. I would put in men from our own ranks; till then we can secure no relief from the evils of bad legislation. We must have a new party, fresh from the people, and bravely proclaiming our principles carrying them into effect." Such inquiries now come from all parts of the country, and mean something.

THE N^A APPLIED SCIENCE

In Agricultural and Rural Economy.
EDITED BY DR. M. G. ELZEE.
WOODSTOCK, MD.

CLOVER AND PLASTER.

The season is now at hand when farmers must consider their plans for the year. Having in view the fundamental principle of so cultivating their land as to get from it operating expenses and a surplus sufficient for living expenses without diminishing its fertility, resources must be carefully studied for making restitution of the elements of fertility which will be lost to the farm by the year's sales of produce and of animals. No sort of manure is cheaper and more efficient than a clover fallow to make restitution of organic matter and combined nitrogen. Clover seed for an acre will not cost more than 75 cents. A good dressing of plaster will not cost more than 30 cents and will largely increase the growth of clover. The clover and plaster for an acre, including the labor, will cost very little more than a dollar. The crop of clover itself, whether for pasture or hay, should be worth several dollars per acre for two years, and then it will have produced in combined nitrogen and organic matter as much fertilizing material as will be contained in five dollars' worth of the best ammoniated superphosphate ever put on the market. Wheat sown upon a second year's clover fallow will have the benefit of a manure equal to three hundred pounds per acre of a first-class wheat manure of commerce, besides the valuable physical benefits of the organic matter, and the minerals of the deep soil gathered by the clover and left as it decomposes within reach of the wheat roots. There is no better preparation for a wheat crop than a clover fallow, and on many lands it is itself sufficient to secure a heavy yield. It is not, however, a complete manure. In respect of mineral matter it adds nothing to but rather during the two years reduces the supply already in the soil. Of course the dressing of plaster adds lime and sulphur, two elements of plant food. The clover fallow ought to be regarded as the best possible preparation for the use of commercial fertilizer, but in the fertilizer used in connection with the fallow the costly element of combined nitrogen may be largely or wholly dispensed with. As to phosphates it is a question whether their application to the clover the year before it is to be turned under, or direct application by drilling in with the wheat is the best practice from the scientific and the practical standpoints. This is a greatly important question, yet one which has been scarcely discussed or studied at all. The present season ought not to go by without attention to this subject at the stations.

PNEUMONIA.

Pneumonia or inflammation of the lungs is a disease of the season, and a very formidable one in certain localities. In this place it is desire to suggest the importance of precautions which may

prevent an attack. No topic of science is more easily presented in popular form than preventative medicine. In case of actual sickness nothing is more dangerous than a little knowledge. If you are sick send for the doctor, and do what he tells you, and don't do anything else. If you are not sick, try to keep well by the practice of sensible precautions which may be understood and acted upon by any person of plain, good sense, whether or not they know a letter of the alphabet. There is no question that inflammation of the lungs, like inflammation of any other living tissue, may be produced by a vast variety of causes. And there is much reason to believe that there is a specific lung fever accompanied by inflammation of one or both lungs which is a germ disease, produced by a characteristic germ. But even in such cases everything which reduces the vital energy of the lung tissue lessens its power to withstand the attack of the germ and prevent it from planting a colony in the tissue which will set up the pneumonic fever.

Many persons seem to inherit a delicate organization of the whole respiratory system; they suffer constantly from catarrhal congestion and subacute inflammations; they always have colds or sore throats, and are subject to sore eyes. The cause is the same, viz., a delicate organization of the mucus membrane lining all these organs. This same membrane, which is merely an inside skin, lines also the whole digestive tract. Such persons are subject also more or less than others to diseases of the digestive system, and to skin diseases, as well, for the skin partakes of the same frail organizations. The skin of such persons are fair and transparent looking, and suggest the idea of frailty at a mere glance. These are people very liable to be attacked by inflammation of the lungs, and it is especially necessary that they should avoid all exposures and habits of life that are likely to produce pneumonia in its season, for this is a disease of late autumn, winter and early spring. It is far more common and far more fatal in malarious localities. It has often appeared to the writer that a paroxysm of ague was the direct producing cause of pneumonia immediately following. Keep in mind that everything which lowers the powers of the system tends to produce every sort of germ disease, and to light up all sorts of inflammations. How many a poor alcoholic has ridden half drunk, a few miles against a cold wind and dismounted with pneumonia, to be carried to the grave within three days. Every body knows such cases.

CONCERNING LAMPS.

Everybody has heard the advice given, "Take a drink before you ride in the face of this cold wind." Don't you do it. It is to bare your bosom to the dart of the terrible king. Take a drink after you dismount, and get to a comfortable place; but at your peril not before you mount for such a ride. But take notice of this: it is better not to mount or ride at all, unless there be a very urgent necessity. Locality is a predisposing

cause; for example, in Piedmont Virginia, say about Warrenton, Faquier or Leesburgh, in Loudon, pneumonia is rather a rare disease, and seldom fatal. At Washington it is only necessary to examine the reports of the health office to see that it ranks among the first two or three causes of the highest mortality. It is not necessary that one should be a physician to comprehend that a resident of Washington should take special thought not to be exposed to any exciting cause of the disease. Age, which diminishes the existing powers of the system at every point, is a predisposing cause, and at the other extreme so are infancy and childhood. Let the able bodied bear the brunt of the necessary exposures; shield and defend the aged and the little ones. A plain word to elderly people is not out of place. If you are on the shady side of fifty you are on the down-hill of life. Like Moses, your eye may not be dim nor your natural force abated, but you are not what you were, say from twenty-five to forty, whether you know it or not. If you expose yourself unwisely you are more apt to have pneumonia, and if you have the disease it will go harder with you, and this is true both as to liability and danger in an increased degree as you advance in years. If the weather is stormy and bad stay out of it; if fine and fair wrap up sufficiently for comfortable protection, and take your usual exercise and air; cold, wet feet are very dangerous to old people. Either to walk or ride against cold, damp winds is a thing they must not venture upon, except unavoidably. The poor who are insufficiently fed, and this applies to many who are thought to be well off; they who are scantily clothed and who occupy dwellings the sanitary condition of which is bad, have all their powers of vital resistance lowered and at the same time necessity compels them to undergo exposures and accept risks. They should take especial precaution. Of fashionable semi-nudity, what shall be said? It is not of much use to say anything. The writer is able to point out numerous untimely graves which the occupants thereof may be said to have dug for themselves by this folly, and that in the very bloom of their beauty. He also inquires if it is the same bean known in Japan, and of which the soja sauce is made. On this latter point we are not informed. In central Maryland this plant is evidently out of its latitude. The writer had a small field crop and also a rich garden plot sown about the first week in May. Neither crop matured any seed. No bloom appeared until just before frost, and then only a very few scattered flowers showed themselves. We have no doubt that the soja bean will thrive anywhere south of the Potomac, but not north of that river. Where climate and soil suit it there is no doubt of its value both as a fallow crop and stock food. It evidently does best in light, sandy soils, and probably throughout the coast-wise country from Virginia southward it will prove useful for these purposes, but most likely it is of no value anywhere on stiff piedmont lands, nor anywhere north of Vir-

ginia. Our friend has our thanks for his interesting letter.

CRIMSON OR GERMAN CLOVER.

This clover which the writer sowed last August, some in standing corn and some by itself, has so far stood the winter well and promises a fine growth early in spring. It is two weeks to three weeks earlier in bloom than the common red clover and is very similar to it in nutritive qualities. The use the writer proposes to make of it is to push forward a lot of growing colts, and give them a prompt and vigorous start for the season's growth and development, and then to turn under as fallow in the fall. This plant has been called an annual, but it is rather disposed to the biennial habit, and could doubtless be made a genuine biennial without much trouble. Its only advantage over the common red clover is we think its earliness. Some have recommended sowing this clover with orchard grass. It is a plan which has nothing to recommend it. The clover blooms several weeks earlier than the orchard grass, and if cut in early bloom would not even get the flower stalk of the orchard grass; whereas if allowed to stand until the orchard grass is in early bloom the clover would be worthless. If stock is turned into the field in April the young clover will be eaten down, and when the orchard grass starts it will be smoothed and amount to nothing.

GEORGE WASHINGTON ON ORCHARD GRASS.

The opinions which General Washington left on record upon agricultural subjects show that he was a very close observer of all that tended toward improvements in practical farming. He brought to bear upon such questions that discriminating good sense and sound practical judgment which characterized all that he said or did. Notwithstanding the constant demands upon all his faculties by public affairs, such was his passion for rural life, and such his opinion of the supreme dignity and importance of the great profession of agriculture, that he was undoubtedly one of the best farmers in the country. The following briefly expressed opinion of the orchard grass was left on record by him: "Orchard grass is of all others in my opinion the best mixture with clover; it blooms precisely at the same time, rises quickly again after cutting, stands thick, yields well, and both cattle and horses are fond of it green or in hay." There is as much sound good sense in that brief description, compressed into a single sentence, as in a whole volume of some writers who with small knowledge and no experience have put forth much matter about farming.

Caution.

Progressive Farmer, Raleigh, N.C.

The rapid growth of the Farmers Alliance, and its astonishing success, achieved by its agitation of reform principles, are likely to get an overweening confidence and do the cause great harm. The ways of financing are, many of them, wickedly partial and oppressive. Many features of the men of national revenue are un-

philosophic and hurtful. The state books of the United States are burdened with enactments, which invite and help all sorts of selfish combinations of the few against the many. The people, and especially the farmers, feel most keenly the evil effects of bad administration, as well as those of bad legislation. The people are beginning to understand their enormous power. They have about made up their minds to take matters into their own hands and apply, for their own benefit, the remedies they have been asking from the law makers of the country for years. Indignant under a sense of injustice, and impelled by the mockery of those whom they have heretofore trusted, there is danger that they may commit themselves to schemes of reform that will not stand the test of experience. No thoughtful person needs to be told that a scheme of reform enacted into law, which would break down in practice, would be fatal to the present movement of the farmers and of other working people.

Hasty legislation is always imperfect legislation, and very often it is absolutely bad legislation. If the farmers and other laboring men of this country are to take any large and honorable part in governing themselves in the future, they must make sure of every step forward as that there can be no successful demands made upon them for retrogression. Retreat will be disaster. The cause represented by the reform-demanding farmers and laborers of this country, even the most bountiful crops, and they are not left sufficient to keep up the richness of the soil. We may keep out the pauper products of Europe by a prohibitive tariff, but we invite the paupers themselves here, and the labor market is all the time glutted. The result is the standard of American manhood is being constantly lowered. This is not so much from the evils which are the natural outgrowth of poverty. The home market cry is simply a fraud. When crops are plenty the farmers get next to nothing for their crops, and it is only when they haven't anything to sell that prices are good. Europe fixes the prices of everything we have to sell abroad, and I never heard that the farmer got more in America for his wheat than it was worth in Liverpool. I think the farmers are coming to understand the state of their case pretty well, and to see that if they expect any help it must come from themselves.

George Washington on Orchard Grass.

The proof of the fact that the present conflict of the Alliance is an old one, one that has often been presented for solution before, and one which has ever been the concern of the philanthropists in times gone by, the reader is referred to Proverbs xxiii:7. Read it.

Go Tell the Truth.
Northern Light, Spokane Falls, Wash.

My neighbor across the mountains, the Spokesman of Spokane Falls, has the following to say:

The Farmers Alliance, in its recent national meeting in Florida, made the usual blunder of fanatical movements by adopting a resolution pledging its members not to read newspapers not friendly to the Alliance cause. In thus boycotting 99 per cent of the press of the country the Alliance leaders doubtless believe they have done a smart thing. They have only proclaimed their own bigotry.

Reader, what do you think of it? For the farmers not to read daily newspapers not friendly to their cause is "the usual blunder of fanatical movements" and in the opinion of the person who penned

these lies, "they have only proclaimed their own bigotry." But this is not all. The writer evidently unintentionally confesses that the Alliance leaders are "thus boycotting 99 per cent of the press of the country." What a startling confession! Just think for one moment. Here, in the United States of America, where the people are still singing of it as "the land of the free and the home of the brave," 99 per cent of the press of the country, as confessed by a representative of that press, are unfriendly to cause of the tiller and toiler, the cause of "equal rights to all, special privileges to none." Oh, America! Why shouldst thou continue to deceive thyself in the face of such confessed treason? Why sing "the land of the free and the home of the brave," when thou art no longer such a mockery! Go forth and "Cry aloud! Spare not! Lift up thy voice like a trumpet" and proclaim to the world that the once brightest spot on mother earth has become as dark a spot as tyranny and oppression ever reigned over. Tell them that "the land of the free and the home of the brave" has become the land of industrial slavery and the home of cowardly traitors! Tell them that the stars upon the star spangled banner, once the beautiful emblem of liberty, represent no longer the free and independent States of America, but the number of those who have become millionaires by legalized plunder and robbery! Tell them that the blue which once represented a voluntary union of these free and independent States, now represents an object of common prey for the star millionaires. Tell them that the red bars represent now the spilled blood of a tax mortgage rent poverty stricken people and the white bars all that is left to remind us of the past! Why not tell them all that? Go, then, tell the truth, for the "Truth shall make you free" once more.

As a proof of the fact that the present conflict of the Alliance is an old one, one that has often been presented for solution before, and one which has ever been the concern of the philanthropists in times gone by, the reader is referred to Proverbs xxiii:7. Read it.

TRUTH is Peace, is the title of a short letter in another column, from Brother Snyder, of Nebraska. It strikes the key note of the great farmers' movement as shown by a correspondence of about three hundred letters a day received at this office. The same sentiment comes alike from North, South and West and indicates a great degree of unity of sentiment that is a valuable symptom and should be well considered by those who are trying to make out a prognosis of the political disease; Brother Snyder has the diagnosis and the treatment correct. What is the prognosis?

THE REFORM PRESS.

The Discussion of Current Topics in the Organized States.

The Wall Street Farmer has made its appearance. Vol. I, No. 1, dated New York, January 10, puts in its appearance clean, newsy and neat. The heading is a piece of art, exhibiting a view of Wall street looking toward Trinity Church, the steeple of which can be seen in the center of the end of the street in the distance. In the foreground entering into the middle of Wall street is a huge cornucopia pouring out piles of twenty dollar gold pieces, just beyond which is the old treasury building. To the right of the figure is a farm and manufacturing scene with the factories in the distance. Just beyond is a stream on which is seen a steam-boat, in the foreground the farmer plowing, and at one side a bale of cotton and a pile of fruits. This completes the picture that heads the paper with the name, The Wall Street Farmer. It is intended to represent the business interests of the Alliance. It is issued weekly by the Wall Street Farmer Publishing Company, No. 335 Broadway, N. Y., claims to be the only strictly commercial paper in the country published in the interest of the Farmers Alliance, and represents the National Association of Business Agents. Subscription price \$1 per year. It carries the letters N. R. P. A. at the head of its editorial column, which shows that it belongs to the National Reform Press Association.

Industrial Free Press (Winfield, Kas.) says:

If the Alliance expects to accomplish their mission they must do so outside of all political parties. That is to say, they must make their demands through all parties alike. They must make their purposes known to the world through their order; they must not let their good deeds be carried into any political movement in a manner that will create dissension in the order. They should make their demands as an order, and then give every member the privilege to vote as he thinks best. If he can't see how to vote intelligently after several years of experience and the education he is deriving from the numerous papers published in his behalf, then he will have to suffer the consequences of voting for his own destruction. The Alliance is destined to do a noble work, but the designing members who listen to the forked tongues of men who are enemies to everything that is honorable, are trying to corrupt and disband the organization. These fellows should be given due time to consider their evil ways and then if they can't see what is for their own good, they should be ousted at once, and then friends on the outside will soon be in the dark. Let politics of a partisan nature run the parties, but keep politics—or economic questions—in the organization.

Industrial Educator (Fort Worth, Tex.) says:

Contrast the Alliance principles as we have them from the Ocala conference with the average old party platform. It reminds one of a clear, bright sunrise in contrast with a dark, foggy morning.

The Alliant (Concordia, Kas.) says: What the people want and what they will have, is that the government take charge of our whole financial policy. Have in every state and county a system of fiscal agencies, wherein the people can deposit their surplus money, and from which they can borrow on real estate security or warehouse receipts for non-perishable farm products. That the government issue greenbacks to the amount of \$50 per capita of population, and more if necessary to do the business on a cash basis, these fiscal agencies to pay pensions, or any other government debt.

Dakota Ruralist (Huron, S. D.) says: The independent victory at Pierre was a thorough and complete vindication of the honor and integrity of the members of the Independent party. Every inducement possible has been held out to cause them to break ranks. Old party ties were urged. The claims of long years of friendship, the temptations of place and power, and the influence of the mighty dollar were each

and all urged with all the skill and sophistry that wily politicians could use, and yet in the face of compulsory economy on the part of the legislators, under the stress of crop failures, hard times and mortgage foreclosures, these men asserted their manhood. They stood by their constituents, and standing solid on their platform, they won the assistance of another party and secured, as they were justly entitled to, a victory on their own challenge. Let it no longer be said that there is no honor in politics, or that all men have a price.

O'Neill (Kas.) Sun, says:

A great deal of uneasiness is manifest lest the legislature will do something wrong. This uneasiness is confined principally to bankers, transportation companies and professional politicians. The people who elected a majority of the present legislature have entire confidence in them.

Alliance Advocate (Sulphur Springs, Tex.) says:

More money and less taxes; an economical and honest administration of government, and of course the only way to bring about this result is to keep the same old set in office that have raised our taxes, saddled the national banking system upon the country, stopped the government issue of non-interest bearing treasury notes and burned them up in order that room might be made for interest bearing bonds, demonetized silver (and didn't know it, a pretty set of statesmen) donated a vast amount of the public domain away to railroads without exacting any compensation in return, and in short punched a hole clean through the peoples' pockets and the United States treasury, and placed thereunder the measure of the Shylocks to catch the hard earnings of the masses. Yes, these same fellows must be kept in office, for their long experience in Congress and their familiarity with how these generous (to the capitalist) set of class laws were gotten through, with what chicanery the plans were laid and how successfully they were worked to fool the people, will, of course, enable them to right these wrongs, repeal these laws and enact new ones that will bring relief to the masses much more easily than new members could. Of course the people will listen to all this, but they swallow it?

Alliance Times (Oberlin, Kas.) says:

There is nothing that would please the enemies of the Alliance any better than to see it die out. They are doing all in their power, through the columns of their papers to kill off the order by quoting and misrepresenting the purposes of our order. Don't allow your minds to be led astray in this manner. Our enemies say we are going into politics, which means, "the science of government," which further means, to labor for the education of the agricultural classes to promulgate the science of an economic government, and to do this in a strictly non-partisan manner, which when done will bring about a more perfect union of the laboring classes. This very fact of a "union of forces" is the ghost that haunts the political demagogue in his dreams, or bolts up serenely before the eyes of the Federal office holder. The Alliance has now reached the critical period of its existence. Designing men with powerful influences are seeking to overthrow the order by diverting our attention from the grand objects we have in view. They interview our leaders and then through their papers misrepresent the language of the interview, and even go as far as to quote language that was never uttered. The Associated Press sends out reports that certain of our leaders have written or spoken so and so, when the truth is it is a falsehood of the whole cloth, but gotten up in such a manner that they cannot be handled for the misrepresentation. This has been frequently done, and our people are kept divided in opinion by these devilish artifices of our enemies. We may be ever so strong in members, but unless we are a unit we can never achieve a final success, or withstand the treachery of our foes without, and pretend friends within. Our principles and purposes must be lived up to the letter, or all our labor will be for naught. We cannot be too careful of our actions, or too secret with our motives. We should close our doors firmly against the designing and unworthy. If we find such within our order who

cannot conscientiously live up to the sacred agreement, lose no time in presenting the chance whereby they may be at liberty to return to the bosom of their friends, the sworn enemy of the Alliance.

The Oakesdale (Wash.) Sun is published in the heart of the great Palouse wheat country. A communication in its columns contain some calculations and the writer's deductions:

Tennessee Farmer (Nashville) says: The farmers organizations of the country have brought the politicians to realize the fact that the farmer may and will probably be an important factor in the fortunes of the office-seeking fraternity, and it would be amusing if it were not ridiculous to note with what zeal these aspiring statesmen pat the farmer on the back and declare their overshadowing interest in him and his calling. The purpose and genius of the Farmer's Alliance is all right—if developed in its true spirit it is bound to produce a wonderful revolution. Its existence is a necessity, and the scope of its work is as wide and patriotic as is the farming and commercial world.

Kansas Agitator (Greely, Kas.) says:

The Democratic party, in its leaders, is a co-partner with the Republican party in the criminal financial legislation of this country. Democrats voted with Republicans upon every financial measure, beginning with the exception clause of 1862, and ending with the act extending national bank charters in 1882.

There are twelve links in the chain of a gigantic conspiracy, extending over a period of twenty years, and if the railroad kings are the wonder of the crowned heads of the old world, but the farmers of the west who produce the greatest share of this wealth need not wonder the lion's share of their yearly profits is seized by an invisible hand, and he knows that it has been raked into the money chest of the railroad king. If he would follow the voluminous advice so freely and constantly extended by the writers who furnish the editorials for the great city organs of these railroad and money kings he would work harder and be more saving, and thus reduce his condition still nearer to that of absolute slavery, but he would be regarded by the proud consciousness that he had increased his money value to his master the railroad king. All that is said to the contrary notwithstanding, the farmer knows what he wants when he demands the government ownership or control of railroads and that all public affairs be elected by a direct vote of the people. He believes that by that means alone can he succeed in becoming his own master. The Pilgrim Fathers fled to the new world that they might worship God in spirit and in truth, and not in empty forms alone, and the farmer realizes that his freedom is rapidly assuming the empty form alone.

The Farmers Vidette (Alexandria, La.) says:

It is surprising that so large a number of the newspapers of our country entirely ignore the great civil revolution that is going on. There are millions of the voters of the country who are resolved that there shall be a change in the government policy, and it is the duty of those who are competent to do so, to direct this civil resolution into channels of safety, and that will bring blessings to the land instead of curse. The muttering thunders will not be hushed by ignoring them. The storm has gathered, and it is best to discharge the superabundant electrical fluid through means that will avert the cyclone. Silence will not suffice, sophistry will not turn the course of events. The people are restless and determined.

The Farmers Vidette (Alexandria, La.) says:

Whatever politicians or so-called statesmen may do in regard to the money question, economic thinkers, the ablest men of the time, realize the danger of the present system and are groping for a solution. Of course, most of these are of the aristocratic training and mind, and have their aristocratic prejudices to overcome in granting any relief to the masses. The conflict between justice and prejudice in an intelligent man's mind is very clearly illustrated in the following from the address of Prof. Francis A. Walker, president of the American Economic Association, before that body recently. He is one of the ablest students of statistics and political economy in the United States. If of an irredeemable and fluctuating currency, that alcohol of commerce, it may be truly said, "It biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder, with equal truth it may be added that strangulation and suffocation are words not too strong to express the agony of the industrial body when embraced in the fast tightening folds of a contracting money supply."

Superior (Neb.) Times says: The splendid organization of the independent majority in the legislature has completely nonplussed the crowd of politicians who gathered in Lin-

leaders of the Farmers' Alliance in order to destroy the leaders, having learned that they dare no longer openly oppose the principles, rank and file of the organization, because if they did so they found it would lead to a further discussion of great economic questions which in turn would evolve intelligence among the masses, and this would be destructive to plutocratic power. Therefore they were forced to attack the leaders in a surreptitious manner. This they did vigorously as was seen at Ocala, and they attacked those, that they most dreaded. The membership who have carefully watched the trend of affairs know these are facts, and it would be well for all to remember that if we succeed we must keep a close watch on all in and out of the Alliance, and be ready at all times to meet the sly work of our enemies intelligently, and with cold truth-backed by loyalty to our leaders, upset the new schemes of our enemies. They will work unceasingly against our ablest leaders whose integrity and loyalty are impregnable, and all may rest assured that those of our leaders who are most persecuted by our enemies are the ones who are hurting them the most, and at the same time surely leading our great organization on to victory.

BY-LAWS.

SECTION 1. When any person shall make application for membership in this Association such person will be required to furnish a complete file of the paper he represents for the eight weeks immediately preceding the time of making such application, and enclose the membership fee of two dollars. The Secretary shall examine the papers sent, and if in his judgment the policy of the paper is in line with the purposes of this Association, he may issue a certificate of membership. If the application is not accepted, the money shall be returned to the applicant.

SEC. 2. If any application shall be rejected by the Secretary, an appeal may be taken to the Executive Board.

SEC. 3. A membership card shall be provided for each member, and the same shall expire on June 30th and December 31st of each year, and the Secretary shall issue to each member a new membership card on January 1st and July 1st of each year, unless the member shall have been expelled by the Association, suspended by the Executive Board or in arrears in payment of dues.

SEC. 4. The dues of each member of this Association shall be twenty-five cents semi-annually, payable on or before June 1st and December 1st of each year.

SEC. 5. The Secretary-Treasurer shall give to the Executive Board a good and sufficient bond for double the amount likely to come into his hands.

SEC. 6. At all meetings of this Association, each paper represented shall only be entitled to one vote.

SEC. 7. The semi-annual dues for each member shall begin on December 1st and June 1st, next after becoming a member of the Association.

OFFICERS FOR 1891.

President—C. W. Macune, National Economist, Washington, D. C.

Vice-President—John P. Stelle, Progressive Farmer, Mt. Vernon, Ill.

Secretary-Treasurer—W. S. Morgan, National Reformer, St. Louis, Mo.

Executive Board—C. Vincent, Chairman, Economic Quarterly, Winfield, Kans.; Ralph Beaumont, National Citizens Alliance, Washington, D. C.; W. R. Lamb, The Independent, Bowie, Tex.

Address applications for membership to W. S. Morgan, 116-118 Chestnut Street, St. Louis, Mo.

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J. H. McDowell, The Toller, Nashville, Tenn.

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ARTICLE V.

SECTION 1. The officers of this Association shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer and an Executive Board consisting of three members. They shall be elected annually, and hold their offices until their successors are elected and qualified.

SECTION 2. The manner of holding elections for officers, when more than one person is placed in nomination, shall

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WASHINGTON, D. C., JANUARY 31, 1891.

No. 20.

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akes in regard to the political situation. The Order could never participate in any partisan political effort, and in the South it was opposed to giving its sanction to any independent or third party move on the part of the members, while in the West and Northwest the delegates claim that the Order will retrograde if such sanction is not given. In this emergency, he thought he had a compromise to offer that would meet the case exactly, and that was for this body to hereby say that it 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. If the people by delegates coming direct from them agree that a third party move is necessary, it need not be feared. That the next session of this Supreme Council elect delegates from this Order to represent it in said national conference of productive organizations for political purposes.

briefly stated, is: Neither the officers of the order nor the delegates to the Supreme Council at Ocala were willing to attempt to define the ultimate position of the membership, nor were they willing to choose delegates to a convention "the purpose of doing so, but in order to settle the business they referred it back to the people by placing a conference meeting over a year away, in order to give ample time for the demands of all organizations producers to be presented and considered by each, so that the delegates to the next Supreme Council will come with a full knowledge of the sentiment in his State, and with full power to represent it in the selection of delegates to the next conference. It will take all the time to get a full and fair ex-

rebuked. The demands of all organizations of producers willing to co-operate in this great cause will be published in THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and all other reform papers at once. They should be read and discussed in the subordinate or primary organizations, and when delegates are elected to county, district, state and national meetings, they should be fully apprised of the wishes of their constituents. Each order may be compelled to make some concessions for the sake of harmony, and delegates should know just how far they are entitled to curtail the demands for that purpose.

Perhaps one of the most important and hardest questions to settle will be how to enforce the demands after they may have been agreed upon. Some may favor the plan mentioned above, of offering both parties a chance; others may be too magnanimous to ask brethren to overcome their repugnance to a party they have fought all their lives and join its ranks. For example, brethren in the South when they have whipped the democratic party into line and forced it to swallow the Alliance platform can very consistently remain in its ranks, and vote the ticket, but they could not urge life-long republicans to hoist its banners, and if they did the chances are that it would only awaken resentment. Or suppose the Alliance in the North should whip the republican party into line and the republican alliance members urge the Alliance to all declare for the republican party. Such a condition as either of these propositions would subject alliance fealty to a test which many believe to be unnecessary and unsafe, and believing so will contend for independent action. Delegates should be prepared from the people to meet this question without flinching or evasion.

'They must meet all the principles involved in the demand, and then the policy of presenting each must also be sustained. They must meet the principles involved in a new party movement, and must also defend the policy of their section. Some will say that is folly to attempt to enforce the demands

THE NEW PARTY.
This is the all-important subject of discussion from one end of the country to the other. The letters and communications received at our office show that three times as many people are writing and thinking on this subject than any other at this time. It is like an epidemic which suddenly spreads over the whole country. There is no telling whence it came, how long it will prevail, or how disastrous the result may be. Under such circumstances it is extremely important that a great order like Farmers' Alliance should have a plain and well understood policy on the subject, otherwise difference of opinion gradually becoming fixed sentiment under the influence of discussion, would tend to promote division and discord within the ranks. If there is no fixed and well-pledged policy officially interpreted there will be many local versions of the policy interpreted by the parades of personal interest and at confusion must of necessity follow.

The general federation to be referred is composed of chairman; L. H. Rogers, H. L. Talbert. This called together and met in Washington the 22d inst.ings of the me

he cautioned the Order as to the responsibility resting upon this y at this time as to what action it

the condition of the business,

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

by a third party move, because a majority of the country would have to be converted to the party before its mandates could be enforced, while, under present circumstances, with only two parties and they of equal strength, that a majority of one party, or a fraction over one-fourth of the entire vote, could be made to carry out the demands. They forget that by the same process of reasoning there would be three parties equally divided, and that therefore it would only require a fraction over one-sixth the entire vote to enforce the demands. The fact is that both processes of reasoning are false, and no demand should be contended for that would not benefit the whole people.

The platform adopted by the joint committee of confederation simplifies the process of presenting the demands to the people; this platform is agreed to by the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, the Knights of Labor, the National Citizens Alliance, and the Colored National Farmers Alliance and Co-operative Union, and will be the basis on which all organizations will co-operate in the movement. In conclusion, this action can not be construed as "having gone into politics or as having refused to go into politics." It is simply biding the verdict of the people.

There are some tracks in this road that it might be well for the politician to study closely. It is cool, calm, conservative, and dignified; there is nothing "hurrah" about it. There is no threat, and still there is effective preparation for the enforcement of the demands. Can any observer of the signs of the times doubt that should the politician examine the trail in February, 1892, he will find the tracks all pointing the same way?

THE idea seems to be gaining strength that the free coinage bill will not become a law this session. The pressure from the east against its passage has assumed such magnitude that fears are entertained of the result. One hundred and thirty millions of profits yet to be realized on the bonded indebtedness of the nation is a difficult matter to legislate against.

At a conference yesterday of London bankers and others interested in the silver question the opinion was unanimously expressed that the free coinage measure now before the United States Congress should be passed. It was thought, however, that such coinage should be restricted to the product of native mines.

The above is going the rounds of press, and will be used against the passage of the free coinage bill on the grounds that what England wants we do not. With English bankers resolving in favor of free coinage and American bankers against it, the people will soon discover the uncertainty of both.

CONSOLIDATION.

The Plan to Combine all Labor in Production.

Proceedings of the Meeting Called by Authority of the Grand Council at the Ocala Session.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

Jan. 22, 1891.

In pursuance of a basis for a confederation between the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, National Alliance, Knights of Labor and the Farmers Mutual Association, agreed upon at Ocala, and approved by the Supreme Council of the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, and the Colored National Farmers Alliance and an executive committee from the Farmers Mutual Benefit Association and the Knights of Labor, constituting also an executive board to represent each individual organization above specified of five members each, a call was made for each executive board to meet in Washington city on the 22d day of January, 1891. The following representatives assembled in the parlor of the Kenmore Hotel: L. F. Livingston, of Georgia, and Ben Terrell, of Texas, for the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union; T. V. Powderly, John W. Hayes and A. W. Wright for the Knights of Labor; R. M. Humphrey, of Texas, and J. J. Rogers, of North Carolina, for the Colored National Farmers Alliance; Ralph Beaumont and L. P. Wild, of Washington, D. C., for the Citizens Alliance. A temporary organization was had by electing Ben Terrell chairman and L. P. Gant, of Georgia, secretary. Messrs. H. C. Brown, of Georgia, C. W. Macune, of Washington; L. P. Gant, Hons. T. E. Winn and R. M. Everett, of Georgia, were admitted the privilege of the floor.

On motion a confederation was agreed upon to be known as "The Confederation of Industrial Organizations," upon the basis agreed upon at Ocala, to wit:

1. Each organization shall be represented by a committee of five.

2. Each committee of five shall have the number of votes corresponding with the membership in its organization.

3. The policy and measures of the confederation shall be based upon the St. Louis and Ocala platform.

4. Each shall stand pledged to assist when possible in all local efforts to better the condition of our people.

5. National delegates or correspondents shall never be denied the one by the other so long as the confederation exists.

6. The joint committee on confederation shall have the power

by a majority vote to admit other organizations with similar objects upon application.

7. When plans are agreed upon by the joint committee on confederation for mutual co-operation, such organization shall be bound to support such plans fully and cheerfully.

8. Expenses accruing on account of the joint committee shall be defrayed by the respective organizations represented.

9. The joint committee on confederation shall have power to adopt such by-laws for the government of the same as they shall deem best.

A committee to propose business and demands for the confederation was appointed, consisting of L. F. Livingston, of Georgia, A. W. Wright, of Pennsylvania, R. M. Humphrey, of Texas, and L. P. Wild, of the District of Columbia.

On motion the convention adjourned to meet at 10 a. m. to-morrow.

January 23, 1891.

Convention called to order, Ben Terrell in the chair, and R. F. Rogers appointed to act as secretary. The committee on order of business, through the chairman, L. F. Livingston, reported a series of demands for adoption, which were as follows:

1. We demand the abolition of national banks as banks of issue, and as a substitute for national bank notes we demand that legal tender treasury notes be issued in sufficient volume to transact the business of the country without damage or special advantage to any class or calling, such notes to be legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private, and such notes when demanded by the people shall be loaned to them at not more than 2 per cent per annum upon non-perishable products as indicated in the sub-treasury plan, and also upon real estate with proper limitation upon the quantity of land and amount of money.

2. We demand a free and unlimited coinage of silver.

3. We demand the passage of laws prohibiting alien ownership of land and that Congress take prompt action to devise some plan to obtain all lands now owned by aliens and foreign syndicates, and that all lands held by railroads and other corporations in excess of such as is actually used and needed by them be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

4. Believing in the doctrine of equal rights to all and special privilege to none, we demand that taxation—national, State, or municipal—shall not be used to build up one interest or class at the expense of another.

5. We demand that all revenues—national, State or county—shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government, economically and honestly administered.

6. We demand a just and equitable system of graduated tax on incomes.

7. We demand the most rigid honesty and just State and national 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 and transportation.

8. We demand that the Congress of the United States submit an amendment to the constitution providing for the election of United States Senators by the direct vote of the people of each State; also the President and Vice President by a popular vote.

9. Resolved, that this confederation of

industrial organizations demand that in each State a system shall be provided and faithfully executed that will insure an honest and accurate registration of all voters, a free, fair, secret and official ballot, and an honest public count; and we demand that each State legislature shall make it a felony for any improper interference with the exercise of the registration, ballot, or count.

An election was held for permanent officers with the following result:

Ben Terrell, President, and J. W. Hayes, Secretary and Treasurer.

The demands as reported were unanimously adopted.

Col. L. L. Polk, of North Carolina, appeared upon the floor and was accorded the privileges of the same. A committee on by-laws was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Terrell, Wright, and Rogers, to report at to-morrow's session.

On motion the president was authorized to receive applications from other industrial organizations and submit the same to the members of the organization and proclaim the result.

Convention adjourned until 10 a. m. to-morrow.

January 24, 1891.

Convention called to order by the chairman, Ben Terrell. An election of an executive board was ordered, to consist of the president of this confederation and the chairman of the executive board of each organization composing this confederation, with the following result. Ben Terrell, C. W. Macune, T. V. Powderly, R. M. Humphrey, and Ralph Beaumont.

On motion, this executive board shall have plenary powers when the confederation is not in session, and to report their acts and doings to the annual session of the confederation; with power also to appoint such committeemen and helps in each State as they may deem best to promote the upbuilding of the confederation. Adopted.

A resolution was adopted requiring the president to invite delegates from every industrial organization in the country to meet with this body at the next regular meeting in 1892.

R. M. Humphrey was elected vice-president.

The committee on by-laws made their report, which was adopted.

February 22, 1892, was fixed as the time for the next meeting, and the place left to the executive board, to be published six months previous to the annual meeting.

On motion, the officers of this confederation were requested to do all in their power to disseminate the demands of this confederation looking to the education of the masses to the necessity of enforcing the same. Adopted.

The convention then adjourned to January 22, 1892.

Resolved, that this confederation of

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

VOTE CATCHERS.

A correspondent in Arkansas asks THE ECONOMIST to publish the silver plank of the Democratic platform. The last such positive declaration by the party was in 1880, and it doubtless helped to elect Cleveland, whose backbone was stronger than the party, and who brushed it aside and adopted the policy of the preceding administrations. The declaration is as follows:

Home rule; honest money, consisting of gold and silver, and paper convertible into coin; the strict maintenance of the public faith, State and national; and a tariff for revenue only; the subordination of the military to the civil power; and a general and thorough reform of the civil service.

The same correspondent asks for the land plank (for actual settlers only) in the Republican platform. That was a declaration several times repeated while the party was in power, and could have enacted it. It occurred in the platform in 1876, in the following form:

We reaffirm our opposition to further grants of the public lands to corporations and monopolies, and demand that the national domain be devoted to free homes for the people.

These declarations read nicely, and were evidently intended to catch votes. And they caught votes.

HOW THE MONEY GOES.

The amount of money expended by the government in the erection of public buildings and improvement of rivers and harbors has become a fixed political feature in the present political system. These appropriations are used as bribes by members of Congress to insure a re-election or continuance in political power. It is the imperative duty of every member of House or Senate to ask for public buildings throughout his district whenever a semblance of an excuse can be formulated. Then follows the usual swapping and dickering by which one member agrees to give his support to an appropriation provided the same is reciprocated.

A resolution was adopted requiring the president to invite delegates from every industrial organization in the country to meet with this body at the next regular meeting in 1892.

The appropriation for 1891 was \$22,397,616, for 1890 about \$28,000,000, together with the Galveston harbor making about \$34,000,000. Taken altogether the enormous sum of \$238,000,000 has been appropriated for this line of expenditures. This, added to the amount expended for public buildings reaches fully \$418,000,000.

These appropriations are made from year to year under the "general welfare" clause of the constitution. The right of Congress to make such appropriations has been but feebly contested, and at the present time is generally conceded. The demand by the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union for government aid in constructing warehouses would come under the same clause, with fully

as little claim of being class legis-

tated for the departments in Washington. The appropriation for 1886 was \$5,218,000; 1887, \$4,649,000; 1888, \$5,785,044; 1889, \$9,305,000; 1890, \$4,304,000. There is always more or less money appropriated in the deficiency bills to finish the buildings already begun to swell the amount into vast proportions. In fact it is a matter of absolute impossibility to definitely determine the amount expended in public buildings. Repairs, changes and additions are constantly being made which tend to increase the regular appropriations to a large extent. The total amount up to date would be about \$130,000,000 in round numbers.

Home rule; honest money, consisting of gold and silver, and paper convertible into coin; the strict maintenance of the public faith, State and national; and a tariff for revenue only; the subordination of the military to the civil power; and a general and thorough reform of the civil service.

The amount appropriated for river and harbor improvements is shown in the following statement by states:

States.

Total Amount.

New York.....

\$18,898,736.28

Michigan.....

12,502,877.25

Wisconsin.....

6,413,541.74

Texas.....

5,690,700.00

Ohio.....

4,581,147.29

Massachusetts.....

4,378,749.08

Illinois.....

4,040,205.00

Delaware.....

3,958,164.69

North Carolina.....

3,824,308.92

California.....

3,515,750.00

Maryland.....

3,096,092.50

Virginia.....

3,033,950.00

West Virginia.....

2,666,675.00

Georgia.....

2,624,205.41

South Carolina.....

2,473,500.00

Connecticut.....

2,437,176.83

Maine.....

2,200,134.48

Alabama.....

2,140,001.32

Florida.....

1,921,850.92

District of Columbia.....

1,866,500.00

Pennsylvania.....

1,828,792.23

Iowa.....

1,770,000.00

Kentucky.....

1,768,036.00

Rhode Island.....

1,351,950.00

Indiana.....

1,109,953.92

Minnesota.....

851,250.00

Arkansas.....

835,400.00

Mississippi.....

719,525.00

V

sign a modified bill, though he would not sign one for absolute free coinage. Those who earnestly oppose free coinage have no desire to make it easier for the President to sign a free coinage bill, even to save the President from an embarrassment.

So far as the President is concerned this is simple bosh. If the President considers himself better able to judge of the people's wants than their representatives in Congress, let him back his opinion with a veto. This would be the manly course and the only one in keeping with the high office which he holds. It is not so much the feelings of the President, as a desire to incorporate into the bill some amendments that will render its provisions nugatory, that brings out such comments as the above. Let the President veto the bill if he so elects, but let there be no equivocation about the matter.

At a meeting recently held in Boston for the purpose of remonstrating against free coinage Mr. Atkinson, the great "bean-soup" statistician of New England, said:

The rights of the people of this commonwealth are imperiled. We have been called here to maintain them. A small faction of Senators from remote States have combined, as representatives of silver-mines rather than of the people, to force into circulation a dollar made of silver which will not meet the test of fire. It may be worth even a hundred cents at one time, and yet no one can tell what it will be worth the next week. Such a dollar is not fit to be the standard or unit of value of a great commercial nation. Let us call upon the executive and the legislature of the State to see to it that an act is passed to this end—that all contracts entered into after the passage of this act in which dollars are named in promise, the courts shall construe that the dollar meant and promised is the best dollar that can be made—the dollar of gold. We will allow no man within the limits of our commonwealth to be forced to take bad money who ought to have the best money that can be made. In this course we shall be justified by the law, by the action of California in another emergency, and by the record of our great commonwealth, which throughout all time has maintained its promise according to intent and meaning, whatever the law of legal tender may have been. We shall be justified again by the act of our great country—the first among nations—that having issued under the stress of war its own note for the purpose of collecting a forced loan, has paid, or now stands ready to pay, the debt in the best dollar that can be coined—the dollar made of gold, or its equivalent.

Here is a true statement of the position of New England as regards currency reform, and is a correct interpretation of the ideas that have controlled financial legislation for the past thirty years. No doubt a law could be passed in Massachusetts to put anything in the bond, but thanks to the progress of civilization and the energy of the people there are other localities where buttons, thread, and other Yankee notions can be purchased. The animus of this statement lies in the belief that New England carries the purse and the balance of the nation must come to its terms whenever a loan is wanted. To rid the nation of just

such conditions is the first object of the Alliance; that this object will be attained let no one doubt. New England's domination both in politics and finance will soon be a thing of the past.

The question of the constitutional right of owners of silver bullion to have the same coined at a United States mint has been taken before the courts. Yesterday afternoon application was made by G. G. Merrick, G. F. Batchelder, H. B. Morse and Robert J. Cole, man for a writ of mandamus on Wm. Windom, Secretary of the Treasury, commanding him to grant their application for the coining of silver bullion. They state that they are residents of Denver and are the owners of silver bullion, and on January 3, they tendered an ingot or bar to the superintendent of the United States mint at Philadelphia for coining, but their request was denied. January 5 they applied to E. O. Leech, director of the mint, for the necessary order, which was also refused, and on January 10 they laid the whole subject before the Secretary, and on the 12th he also refused their request. They claim that by this action they are deprived of their lawful and constitutional right to have the bullion coined and therefore apply for the writ. Judge certified the case the General Term, to be heard in the first instance. The object of this proceeding is to procure an interpretation by the court of the acts for establishing the mint and the coining of money.

If a fair hearing could be had it would soon be disclosed that silver was never demonetized by law, or the coining of the standard silver dollar dropped from the list. It would doubtless be proven to the satisfaction of the court that the laws on the statute books as they now exist are put there by fraud and collusion. The case will be followed with much interest.

The War for Plunder.
By HARRY HINTON.

The battle has commenced. The war is on. The forces are being marshaled. 'Tis a war for plunder. 'Tis the people on one side and the plunderers on the other. Make no mistake. In the camp of the enemy the plunderers are known; in our own camp they are hard to tell. Down South the democracy wants to hug the Alliance. Come into my arms sweet darling of my youth, and I will do thee good. So say the democracy down South. The people in their accustomed simplicity put faith in these open professions. They hug. They embrace. The people are deceived. The plunderers gain the day. A new lease of power is granted the plutocracy. It is happy. It is content. They have hugged the people. They are paralyzed. They have kissed the people and their breath is the poison of the upas tree. How is this? Shall the people attempt to captain and command the two armies of plunderers at once? With a unity of action in conceivably grand and sublime they can do it. But where is the unity of action? Right along this line are the big guns of the enemy. First deceive and then plunder. First divide and then conquer. This is the tactics of the foe. We have weaklings in the camp. We have cowards in the line. Some who love the fleshpots of party more than the people. Some who worship the images of the plunderers set up. Shall the people attempt

to captain and command both armies of plunderers at once? This would be done by unity; but where is your unity? Where are your captains? Where are your generals? One or the other army would be perfectly willing to swallow the peoples' army would you place them in command. This is the point. This is the ground of opposition. Place the old army studs in command and the contest ceases at once. They'll direct the people to their own destruction. The wicked will continue to rob.

The people down South sought to captain one army of plunderers. The old party studs fought like blazes. The question with them was, shall we deliver up our prestige and leadership to this new-fangled set? Shall we bow the knee to the will of the people and become their servants forever? With one united voice they cried: no never, save by force—force of the voting power. They fought like blazes. They commenced the war early in the campaign and they continued it late. Not one point they yielded save from dire necessity. Not being able to name their men they assisted in naming the weakest brothers. Brothers whom they thought would most willingly serve their ambition. They sometimes captured the fort by entreaty for its defense. Their ways are dark and intricate. 'Tis a war for plunder. For the plundering of the people through the aid of law. You've robbed us of our substance. But the people are coming to claim their own. Will you yield to a just settlement of this question, or will you continue to deceive and to resist? If you do, the die is cast. We, the people, with long suffering will exercise patience. Drive them not to the extremity of forming a party of their own. Speak the cheering word and do the needful thing before the Rubicon be crossed. Before the people form a party—the masses against the classes—industries against speculation, the people against plutocracy. Don't you see the clouds arising? Don't you hear the distant thunder? Break up your ranks, yield to justice, save American freedom and American glory, or continue in your government of deception and plunder and have your names forever blasted.

The people are up. Those who have deceived can deceive no longer. They come before the generals of these two armies and say here are our behests. You are our servants. Do these things and all will be well. We have fought for America. We have paid our money to build up America. And we don't mean to be hewers of wood and drawers of water; so help us God.

The effort to command both armies of plunderers is futile and vain. The old war horses will not be done. They will fight to the last ditch. The people may throw their weight first to one army and then to the other. They may change from one to the other and make the most of the bargain in their power. Thousands of the old champions are for sale. They will sell out at home. They will sell again at Washington. Plutocracy owns the parties. Plutocracy will pay them them well. Deception

is government. The people are gar. They are common. They are insignificant. Government is deceive and use them for our advantage. This is right. This is legitimate. Shall we let this common herd rule this country and the blooming wreath of authority and prestige from the brow society? God forbid. No, we will see them when they do it. Shall we spend millions of dollars to instruct them by the press and by our orators and they turn and pull us down. No, we've thousands of ready writers who will place them in confusion and their keen weapons will be turned on each other. No, we've thousands of shrewd politicians who'll collect them into contending factions. We have the brain. We have the money. We have the captains. And the people are ours and they must be ruled for their own good. Government is force. Reform unless it commences in society is an iridescent dream. The people must be ruled by shams. It has always been so and must always be so. We know what is best for them. They are ignorant. They have always been quiet and confiding.

Listen, gentlemen, while I tell you a tale. We, the people of the government are writing to demand the inheritance of our fathers—the power behind the throne. You, the plutocracy, have two armies of plunderers in the field. You've robbed us of our inheritance. You've robbed us of our substance. But the people are coming to claim their own. Will you yield to a just settlement of this question, or will you continue to deceive and to resist? If you do, the die is cast. We, the people, with long suffering will exercise patience. Drive them not to the extremity of forming a party of their own. Speak the cheering word and do the needful thing before the Rubicon be crossed. Before the people form a party—the masses against the classes—industries against speculation, the people against plutocracy. Don't you see the clouds arising? Don't you hear the distant thunder? Break up your ranks, yield to justice, save American freedom and American glory, or continue in your government of deception and plunder and have your names forever blasted.

Overhauling a Congressman.
Agriculturist and Manufacturer, Sheffield, Ala.

In another portion of this paper appears a letter from Hon. W. C. Oates, in reply to an editorial in the Agriculturist, which he quotes in his letter. This letter shows that he is "not well informed" upon the high interest the farmers pay on what little money they are able to borrow. There are but few farmers who obtain money at legal interest. There is no doubt that he can find in Alabama ten farmers

paying 10 per cent interest where he will find eight paying 8 per cent, and often 12 per cent. The law prohibiting loaning above 8 per cent has little restraint upon the money lender. We can produce hundreds of certificates from farmers substantiating our position, who are paying greatly above legal interest. Mr. Oates is certainly "not well informed" if he thinks the farmers average 7 per cent profit on their investments. The statistics establish the fact that the dividend on farm products

ay and a small force coming to aid of either can win the victory. This is evidently true. Are your forces so well drilled, general, that you can fight this day to day and wheel the van and the other one tomorrow? If you wheel the van and make your charge. The victory is ours. Are our forces true and tried and cannot be enticed over to the enemy's camp? If so, I have nothing more to say. Here, another word. When you gain the victory will you continue the old captains in service, or reorganize the army? Just say you will keep the old captains at command and they will lay down their arms and surrender without a fight. What have you gained? Simply, general, your forces have gone over and joined the enemy when they assume command. This leaves you fruitless and alone. But you can draw your forces away for another conflict. This indeed would require unity and discipline.

Well, well. Such another conflict the world has never seen. Many millions of freemen all armed with the ballot battling for freedom. No swords nor cannon here to make the heart's blood pour nor the welkin ring. Mind, spirit, soul. The angels may well look down on the conflict. For such, we opine, was the contest when Satan and all his hosts made war in heaven, and the hosts of the Eternal shot them down burning and blistering with anguish to the lowest hell. Mind, spirit, soul, redeemed. All that America calls great, all that freedom prizes the most, all that Christianity cherishes best is involved in the contest. So according to your explanation, the government does not even receive one per cent from the National Banks, but the government reserves one cent on each dollar to cover expenses of printing their bills of issue and makes them a present of \$99 on every \$100. The iniquity of the system gets worse the more we investigate it. Your explanation, Mr. Oates, makes the law and its unfairness against the farmers, mechanics, machinists, manufacturers and merchants so disgusting, that it stinketh in the eyes of honesty, the more it is investigated. Now, we can understand why the bankers have become so immensely wealthy. The government has taken the people's constitutional property and given it to about 3000 bankers. These favored few have changed the wealth of the nation from the farmers' pocket to the bankers' vaults. Thirty years ago the 30,000,000 people were all in fair financial circumstances, but now, the farmers are debt ridden, while the privileged national bankers live in luxury, and dress in "purple and linen."

According to your explanation, the government does not loan a dollar to the national banks, but donates to them about \$250,000,000 on which they speculate and shave the common people. The people pay those bankers annually about \$25,000,000 interest on that gift from the government. The national bankers have had the use of this \$250,000,000 free from interest and taxation for twenty-three years, which would make their dividends for that period about \$575,000,000. As "money makes the mare go," we suppose this is the reason why the Secretary of the Treasury must run up from Washington to New York, to consult the money

changers before he attempts to make the "money go" or do anything to relieve the financial distress of the people. We suppose that from the same cause Congress refuses to give the people unlimited coinage of silver, and will not issue treasury notes and pay off the national debt. The sovereigns of this country are beginning to think that the money-changers have enjoyed their untaxed privileges and donated circulation long enough, and hence the farmers and land owners have commenced asking for loans from the government at 2 per cent. Mr. Oates, don't you think they are about right? Don't you know that the lands of the people are the basis of everything? Don't you know that the lands are more stable than national bonds? Now, let Congress pass an act issuing \$250,000,000 legal tender notes to be loaned to the people, taking mortgages on farms as it now takes the banker's bonds. If we were in Congress we would vote for such a measure; will you do so Mr. Oates?

The farmers are willing that the government shall deduct one per cent for "printing and engraving" and then pay an additional one per cent for recording their mortgages. This would enable every farmer to get out of debt and every man in the nation would be free and happy. The Grangers, Alliancemen, Farmer's Mutual Benefit Association, and other farmer organizations, as well as the Knights of Labor, are beginning to believe that the laws of Congress have been made in the interest of capitalists, and that capitalists control Congress more than the sovereign people; therefore, they are united in the determination that the Alliance men of each State shall array themselves in hostility against the dominant political party of their State. Now we write solely from an Alliance standpoint, not in the interests of either Republican or Democratic party. The bed rock principle of the Alliance is to protect the masses from the unjust legislation of the classes. If the Republican leaders and members of the Republican party, who are not eligible to membership in the Alliance in any given State, are favorable to many of the principal reforms for which the Alliance is contending, would it be politic to break up the Republican party in that State? We think not. It would be better to retain them as allies than as enemies. Now, here in Virginia the majority of the Democratic party are farmers and laborers; thousands of these are enrolled in the Farmers Alliance, under the expressed assurance that we aim at no third party supremacy—honest men and true always ready to hold fidelity to country paramount to party feeling. Many thousands of Virginia Democrats and Republicans, non-eligible to membership in our Order, are working actively to build up our membership and aid us in securing the legislation so necessary for the prosperity of our country.

The article of Brother James Cockrell, of Illinois, in last issue of NATIONAL ECONOMIST contains insinuations against the "Alliance men in the south" that we cannot allow to go upon the record unchallenged. He expresses amusement and disgust to see Alliance men in the south striving to bring the Alliance into the fold of the

old time-worn, battle-scared, wooden-legged and moss-covered Democratic party. Now if this charge hath foundation in fact, it should not be a subject of indignation and scorn. If the charge be true, then these "Alliance men in the south" are guilty of treachery, duplicity and deceit, and have repudiated the obligations assumed on joining the Alliance. What are our political obligations as Alliance men? To strive for the betterment of the farmer and laborer, the victims of legalized robbery by educating our people as to their grievances and their remedy, and to leave the individual free to cast his ballot according to the dictates of his own judgment. As we understand it, the mission of the Alliance was the purification of the great parties, not their extermination. Our aim is not to "knock the old Republican party into a cocked hat," or to demolish "the old tool of King Shylock," as Brother Cockrell terms the Democratic party, but for the Democratic and Republican Alliance men to strive to eradicate the pernicious practices by substituting salutary ones in and by methods approved by their own judgments. If the Alliance men of Illinois believe that their ends can be compassed by "knocking the Republican party into a cocked hat," they have a perfect right so to do. Presumably they do it because they believe it to their highest interest to do so. They do it from this motive and not because obligated to do so by any Alliance compact. This act on the part of the Republican Alliance men of Illinois furnishes no just ground of demands that the Alliance men of each State shall array themselves in hostility against the dominant political party of their State. Now we write solely from an Alliance standpoint, not in the interests of either Republican or Democratic party. The bed rock principle of the Alliance is to protect the masses from the unjust legislation of the classes. If the Republican leaders and members of the Republican party, who are not eligible to membership in the Alliance in any given State, are favorable to many of the principal reforms for which the Alliance is contending, would it be politic to break up the Republican party in that State? We think not. It would be better to retain them as allies than as enemies. Now, here in Virginia the majority of the Democratic party are farmers and laborers; thousands of these are enrolled in the Farmers Alliance, under the expressed assurance that we aim at no third party supremacy—honest men and true always ready to hold fidelity to country paramount to party feeling. Many thousands of Virginia Democrats and Republicans, non-eligible to membership in our Order, are working actively to build up our membership and aid us in securing the legislation so necessary for the prosperity of our country.

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for principle and have no offices or emoluments to attract adventurers, we shall retain our purity and unceasingly attract the admiration and support of the best elements of both parties; but if we set up as a third party, with prospect of offices and patronage, we shall soon be fence-grown with corruption; we shall soon drift into the very methods we organized to correct. No, let us work within the old parties, as we organized to do. We have already accomplished political wonders, but do not let us become intoxicated with success, and aim at supreme control as a third party. Not yet; not yet if ever. Both parties respect and fear us. Let us hold our present impregnable position. Let the Alliance men of each State coalesce with either party, or put up a candidate of their own as seemeth best to themselves, for all offices to which they elect, without question, from Alliance men of other States; each State knows its needs and conditions best. The Alliance Republicans of South Carolina have no right to charge the Alliance of Illinois with bad faith for "knocking the Republican party into a cocked hat," nor have the Alliance men of Illinois the right to charge the Alliance of Georgia and North Carolina with bad faith for electing Jordan and Vance. Both did what seemed best to them for the Alliance, under all existing environments. The Alliance of the south will stand to its Alliance obligations, but it is not nominated in the bond that we shall war against either or both the great political parties in gross, but merely against what is wrong in each.

ALL plans for increasing the volume of money on a per capita basis or of distributing it equally among the people are faulty because neither population nor territory are a proper gauge as to the use for money. Demand for money to facilitate the exchange of the products of labor is the only true guide as to volume, and this should be given full and free play to have that effect. Increased demand should be attended with increased volume. An increased population does not necessarily produce an increased demand. A change in the methods and usages may, and in an agricultural country a change in demand always accompanies the crop planting and the crop-marketing season.

The miserable old ghost of sectional hate has been introduced into the Senatorial contest in Kansas. Senator Ingalls' friends are attempting to once more revive that spirit in order to secure votes from the Alliance. The plea of southern domination in the Alliance is raised for that purpose.

Southern domination, indeed, when Kansas has two of the most important national offices, the vice-president and national lecturer. Such disturbing elements are not having the effect now that they have had in the past.

Unite on Essentials.
BY CLARK ORVIS, ANCORA, N. J.

I am apprehensive that the tariff question will indefinitely delay the emancipation of the producing classes. It is the weak plank in the Alliance platform, and is sure to divide the industrial forces unless the danger is soon seen and that plank is either removed or amended. The demand "that national legislation shall be so framed in the future as not to build up one industry at the expense of another" is all right. But to "demand a removal of the existing tariff tax from the necessities of life that the poor must have," is essentially free trade. It is the poor that produce all they consume. To remove the tax would bring the poor producers of our country into direct competition with those of other countries who are still poorer, and who are forced to produce what both the poor and the rich must have, at one half the wages that our poor now earn.

This policy, persistently carried out, would reduce our poor and all our producers to the general level of the rest of the producing world. This, whether true or false, is what a majority of our poor producers and consumers believe, and they cannot be made to believe that the attainment of all the other good things the Alliance demands would compensate for this loss.

Cheap products mean cheap labor, and this is not what we want. The cheapening of products by making the products with less labor ought to benefit all. But the cheapening of products by competition with foreign labor only helps those who get their incomes from the use of capital. The consequences of cheapening products by foreign competition would be ten-fold more disastrous to the debtor class (who are also mostly producers), than to those who are only laborers and artisans; for under our present condition of immense debt burdens—twenty billions—the general depreciation of prices, by free competition with all the world of enslaved producers, would be the sure ruin of nearly all the debtor class, and immensely swell the ranks and the burdens and misery of the laborers and paupers. It would also greatly add to the burden of our national and public debts. The debts, both public and private, would nominally remain the same, but the labor required to pay them would be increased in proportion to the decrease in the price of products that both the poor and the rich must have. This burden nearly all falls on the poor producer, for it is the producer that finally pays nearly all public and private debts, interest charges and taxes.

No tariff can save us from near impending ruin. If our past and present money, land and transportation policy is continued, Free trade would only precipitate the final crash.

The Alliance principle is "unity in things essential." This is evidently indispensable. The Alliance has not yet taken the ground that free trade is essential, and it has made no approach to it except in the Ocala platform, and it is not yet too late to unite in what is

essential to emancipate labor from the tyranny of capital, and establish our nation on the foundation of justice and liberty. This is what our fathers made a grand and noble effort to accomplish. With their example, the inheritance they have left us, and the added experience of a century, it is our privilege and duty to finish the work they commenced.

Nothing but the tariff seriously divides or weakens the industrial political forces of our country. If we could agree to leave the tariff alone till we are emancipated from land, money and transportation monopoly, success in the next general election is morally certain

The Money Question.

BY J. M. RICKETY.

Money is a prime factor in civilization, and yet it is a power for good or evil, dependent on the wisdom of legislation for its creation and legitimate use. Like the elements of natural life, so is money essential to the health of the body politic and the freedom and welfare of the citizen.

The true function of money is as a measure of value fixed by law to facilitate commercial transactions on a money basis of a certain unit of value. The volume of currency circulation should be ample to conduct the ordinary business on a pay system, and that the public may enjoy the full benefit of a monetary condition, its uses should be kept free from taxation and be restricted from the perversion of its use for the purposes of usury. Interest on money resolves community into opposite interests, a small class who monopolize the money and its uses, and the masses who are compelled to have it to transact their commercial business, and are thus made to pay the tribute of the products of their labor to the usurers.

The true function of money is as a measure of value fixed by law to facilitate commercial transactions on a money basis of a certain unit of value.

The money power yields nothing and grasps for everything, as is manifested by its emissaries who are in control of the national administration. Not satisfied with bonding the government, it arrogantly assumes to dictate the volume and kind of currency to suit its purposes whereby it can hold the people in financial bondage also. The money class in this country of late years are becoming native foreigners, having no sympathies in common with the people. Fortunately our form of government affords the people with a majority of honest and intelligent yeomanry a peaceful remedy for all grievances, with the use of the ballot box instead of the cartidge box. There is no disguising the fact that we are in the midst of a financial revolution in this country. It is numbers on one side and combined capital on the other. The stake on both sides involves questions the most momentous, affecting not only American civilization, but the nationalities of all Europe.

When King Philip of Macedon had subdued all the Grecian republics to his standard, Athens alone, with her Demosthenes, was invincible until he sent a camel loaded with gold through her gates to corrupt her orators. The power of money has heretofore proved more than a match against military force. It remains to be seen what the Alliance of intelligent members are able to accomplish in the movement that is being organized. Having established a monetary system consistent with our advanced civilization; all other financial reforms in the interest of producers are sure to follow in the train. In the language of one of old, "To your tents, O Israel!"

pernicious and oppressive system of credit.

A usurious money system all history admonishes us is the worst evil that can befall a free government. The governments of ancient historical renown, the Grecian States with their once matchless cities of architectural beauty—their people the model oracles of the world in the arts and sciences, in poetry and eloquence and the science of government, and the ancient republic of the great Roman Empire, once the proud mistress of the civilized world, all these were the victims of the rapacious usurers. Is it any wonder that the New as well as the Old Testament scriptures anathematize usurers? Baron Rothschild, by the accumulation of usury, holds in his hand the financial destiny of the British Empire and dictates legislation to subserve his interest.

The three thousand five hundred national banks combined with the five hundred millionaires controlling more than half the wealth of this country, acquired by usury and more questionable means, is a menace to liberty and the administration of the government in the interest of the people.

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There are already three parties in the field; two of them are old, experienced and understand fully all the tricks of politics, and while the third is comparatively young, it can bring into the campaign more experience and money than we could possibly bring, and however slim the prospects of the Prohibition party may be they are probably better than a fourth party would have. The Prohibition party has right on its side, which is better than an army with banners. See what Brother Henry says in THE ECONOMIST of January 3.

Our Statesmen.
BY GEO. W. GALLOWAY, TAMBERLIN, ARK.

There are many men in the Democratic party who claim that their party is the people's party, and would relieve the people if given a chance, and argue that the Alliance is unnecessary and only tends to weaken the people's party in their efforts to bring about the needed financial relief; that the Democratic party has always been in favor of all the good measures, and they claim that all the Alliance demands are good except perhaps the sub-treasury bill; but that the Democrats have been hindered by the Republicans having a majority in Congress, and thereby tying the hands of the party that desires to act and write for the prize will please correspond with the undersigned at Decatur, Burt county, Nebraska. The writer has a scheme to banish poverty and the fear of poverty, which is original with him; and has fifty dollars' worth of belief that it is the best that can be devised. If anybody else has a plan of reformation, and has fifty dollars worth of confidence in it, he is the man I am looking for.

The writer claims that he can formulate a feasible plan which the government may inaugurate at once; and secure to every family on this continent a good comfort-

with his views, and do not think that "the Alliance is distinctly political," and most certainly not partisan. When we joined the Alliance we were promised that the obligation, which we were about to take, would not interfere with our political or religious views. That promise ought to be kept in good faith. We have been taught by our organs and our lecturers that the Alliance was non-partisan. Our tenth declaration says: "We labor for the educating of our class in the science of economic government in a strictly non-partisan spirit."

Now, some of our leaders propose to face about, break promises solemnly made, abrogate former rules and regulations and make and Alliance party. Would it, not only as a matter of justice but as one of policy, be best to consult the sub-Alliances before any such radical changes are made? Should a large majority of the sub-Alliances ask for an Alliance party, there will be one, and it will have some chances of success, but until they do this, success is impossible and we had better let things remain as they are.

We can not get all we want at once. Rome was not built in a day. But by supporting that party that is nearest in accord with our views, and insisting that some at least of the measures we want shall be adopted by the party we support, we will come nearer getting what we want than by forming a new party and having that party defeated as it most assuredly would be. Those who are anxious for an Alliance party and are so sanguine of success should remember that, we must have the necessary experience; we are not sufficiently drilled and have neither the money nor political machinery necessary to success.

There are already three parties in the field; two of them are old, experienced and understand fully all the tricks of politics, and while the third is comparatively young, it can bring into the campaign more experience and money than we could possibly bring, and however slim the prospects of the Prohibition party may be they are probably better than a fourth party would have. The Prohibition party has right on its side, which is better than an army with banners. See what Brother Henry says in THE ECONOMIST of January 3.

P. S.—(Private.) To the money sharks: When you send down your squadron, arm them with the usual weapons. Gold is as good as the bank notes.

Want Something Substantial.
BY JOSH.

Who are they and where will we find them? Surely not among the old political leaders at Washington; not among our United States Senators, not in the present Congress, for it seems their minds have become so contracted and their visions so narrowed by the almighty dollar, that they see in only one direction. Not one of our honored Senators has shown himself capable of a comprehensive view of the causes of the depressed condition of our country's finances; not one has suggested a possible remedy therefor. Surely their minds are subject to the powers above all other things to relieve that be. Now a word to those gentlemen: Honored sirs, you would do well to step out and take a breathing spell. Get yourselves

out to some farmhouse and away from the contamination of Wall street and have sent you a few of the rural and labor journals and read them; then talk a little with the old farmer, and if your mental tissues are not too hardened, you will soon learn that there is a great popular move on foot by a set of men who were once your blind followers, but who now see (and feel) the situation, and understand the causes, and know how to remedy them, and thanks to a free ballot, kind sirs, you will in a few years see the remedy in operation. But who will be the statesmen?

Let me tell you. They will be the people. The people are learning to steer the old ship, and don't you forget it. The people know who pays the interest on the collateral bonds deposited by the bank to procure bank notes, and they know pretty well the ending of the usual transaction wherein money is borrowed from those banks. And they understand pretty well what it means to pay \$18 for a \$10 American made plow that the infant might be protected, and they know pretty well what it means to pay \$10 for a \$5 blanket, that our sheep may roam over a thousand hills, and it is from these very people that statesmen will invade the halls of Congress and the presidential chair unless there is a lively awakening of dormant faculties of which you have not shown yourselves possessed. Those statesmen, gentlemen, will be capable of interpreting the general welfare clause of the Constitution. They will know that legislation that enriches the few by making paupers of the many is not for the general welfare. They will be honest men; let me repeat, honest men. Now, my dear lords, knowing that for the further success of your well-laid schemes to rob and grow rich it will be necessary to make hors du combat all such rebellious subjects, I give my place of abode, which is in Bolivar county, State of Mississippi. Inquire for the man that made 12 bales of cotton and came out in debt. That's me.

Gentlemen: I have a proposition to make, and it is this: In the hope of calling out the best talent and the most advanced thought on a subject of the greatest importance to all mankind, I propose to be one of ten, or any number greater than ten, each of whom shall give fifty dollars to create a sum of money to be given to the author of the best essay, in answer to the following question:

"What can the government do to promote the greatest good of the greatest number of people without injustice to any?"

The award to be made by a committee of three "able men, who fear God, love truth and hate covetousness." The essay not to exceed in length Paul's letter to the Hebrews. Those who wish to enter the list and write for the prize will please correspond with the undersigned at Decatur, Burt county, Nebraska. The writer has a scheme to banish poverty and the fear of poverty, which is original with him; and has fifty dollars' worth of belief that it is the best that can be devised. If anybody else has a plan of reformation, and has fifty dollars worth of confidence in it, he is the man I am looking for.

The writer claims that he can formulate a feasible plan which the government may inaugurate at once; and secure to every family on this continent a good comfort-

able home by paying one per cent per annum on its cost—while the same scheme will give constant employment to all desiring it—put billions of money into circulation, develop the resources of the country, and add many billions to our country's taxable property; and at the same time be a constant source of revenue to the government. And to accomplish all this, no man shall be taxed nor asked to contribute one cent; neither shall any of his possessions be confiscated.

FROM CORRESPONDENTS.

S. S. White, Holtville, Elmore county, Ala., writes: I subscribed for your paper about the first of September, which subscription expired December 1, 1890, and you still send the paper. You have gained my confidence, and I expect to keep your paper in my house as long as it is published. I never read a better paper in my life, and you are right at Washington city where all the rascality of the government is done. I hope that you will keep up with the fellows and watch them and let the farmers know what they are doing. If it was not for you and your paper there is no telling what kind of a government we would have. I take the Alliance Herald, published at Montgomery, and try to keep up with the way politics goes on in my own State. She is behind all other States in regard to politics. The people are too afraid of being called radicals. I am watching and waiting for 1892, hoping to see a change. I will assure you that if my vote could revolutionize the government, that it would be done. Do not take me to be a radical, for I never voted that ticket in my life, but tell me what I will do. I will vote any way to get out of the condition we are in. They can call it democratic, radical, independent, or just what they please, but when the times comes I'll be there, not that I expect to be so much benefited myself, but I will as long as I live; from this time on try to fight for the rising generation, and for generations to come.

Proceedings of the Hinds county (Miss.) Alliance at its January meeting are of more than passing interest. Arrangements were made for an Alliance column in the Raymond Gazette, and Hon. N. M. Hollingsworth selected as editor. The following resolutions were adopted, and a copy ordered sent to Congressman Hooker:

Whereas the mightiest intellectual and political revolution that ever agitated a free people is now in progress in these United States, and whereas most politicians and political newspapers seem to be doing all in their power (as usual) to blind the people to the true condition of the country and the proper remedies to be applied to cure existing evils, by educating them in the wrong direction and by treating with indifference, contempt and ridicule all measures of relief emanating from the organized working people, making public every argument they can find in opposition to Alliance measures, and studiously suppressing every argument in their favor; and whereas THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, the tried and true organ of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, has done and is doing more to educate the masses of the people in those things which so nearly concern the temporal salvation than all the colleges, political newspapers and politicians combined; therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Hinds County Farmers Alliance, That it is the deliberate sense of this body that each true Alliance man owes it to himself, and his family and his country to subscribe for, read and to study the National Alliance organ, one number of which will teach him more about the true nature of our government, the real condition of our country, the cause of it, and the true remedy—than a whole volume of an ordinary political paper. Resolved, That earnestly and respectfully request Colonel Hooker to use his influence to have the sub-treasury bill reported to Congress to be thoroughly discussed, so that it (or something better, which is all the Alliance asks for,) may be enacted into law, and thus bring speedy relief to the country.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
NATIONAL FARMERS ALLIANCE AND
INDUSTRIAL UNION.
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Advertisements inserted only by special arrangement. Our rates are thirty cents per page line. Discounts for time and space furnished on application, stating character of advertisement required.

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

Whereas THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST has boldly adopted official national organ, has nobly and fearlessly advocated our cause and defended our principles; therefore we, the National body, That we heartily approve 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.

Address all remittances or communications to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ENTERED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT WASHINGTON,
D. C., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

N. R. P. A.

Notice.

Do you understand the sub-treasury plan? If not, send at once to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and purchase some of the sub-treasury pamphlets, which are now offered at the reduced price of 5 cents each, or ten for 25 cents. Do you believe in the sub-treasury plan? If you do, send to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and buy 25, or 50, or 100 copies of the sub-treasury pamphlets and distribute them where they will do missionary work. Sent in lots of 100, post paid, for \$1.00. This extremely low offer is made to close out the large lot now on hand, which had better be in the field doing missionary work than laying on the shelves. Get in your orders early and help the cause by helping to spread the light.

Notice.

To all newspapers and all secretaries acting as agents for THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST:

The great expense attending the publication of THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST makes it necessary that the clubbing rate be advanced. The past rate has been maintained at a uniform loss to the publishers. Therefore, on and after January 1, 1891, a club rate of ninety cents on yearly subscriptions will obtain with all papers, and under no circumstances will less than ninety cents be accepted from any newspaper or agency for a year's subscription.

SEVERAL letters have come in closed to THE ECONOMIST showing that a swindler has by some means become possessed of the secret work of the Order, and is getting money under false pretenses from the Alliances. One letter is from Kilgore, Kentucky, and another from Gallipolis, Ohio. The same person evidently is meant in both, though giving different names. He told a pitiful story of having been robbed while returning home on the cars, and wanted money to go home. He is described as being old, of dark complexion, whiskers, poorly dressed,

with a lump on his jaw, and also a scar. His teeth being out he talked indistinctly. He claimed in both instances to live in Livingston county, Ky., but is unknown there, and there is no Alliance of the number he gave. He will doubtless reappear, and should be guarded against. If arrested, communicate to Secretary Jno. Lynch, Kilgore, Kentucky, or A. C. Safford, Gallipolis, Ohio.

Now is the time to subscribe for THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST Handbook, price 15 cents.

THE Alliance is growing rapidly on the Pacific coast. That whole section seems to be ready for the movement, and is taking hold of it with earnestness and vigor. If the present rate is continued, California will be the banner Alliance State in the near future. The press of that section seem to catch the idea, and the Alliance finds friends wherever it goes.

A PETITION has been received, signed by a large number of brethren in Louisiana, requesting THE ECONOMIST to look up the matter of forfeiture of land grants to the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Pacific railroad. It seems that a large number of the brethren in that State hold receipts for entries upon the land as government land after the State had declared the grant railroad property. THE ECONOMIST is instigating a search into the merits of the case, and in due time will publish the result.

THE finance committee by its report on the Nicaraguan canal project have given their assent to the doctrine that the government can loan money to private corporations. This committee asks the people to guarantee the bonds, principal and interests of a private corporation to the extent of \$100,000,000 at 3 per cent for 100 years. The only security pledged for this loan is the survey of a canal through a foreign country, backed by a concession from an unstable Central American government. The report states that this company is unable to sell its bonds among the moneyed investors of the world, and because of this asks Congress to come to their relief. The venture is so risky, the proposition so absurd, and the whole thing so completely wanting in business judgment and practical possibilities, that men of brains and experience refuse to have anything to do with it, and the usual job is being worked on the people by Congress. It would be interesting to know where the stock is, who owns it, and how many offices there are connected with it. A \$100,000,000 appropriation, especially of the character of this one, is not a matter of postal-card

correspondence. When a proposition like the sub-treasury, which asks the government to loan their own people money to be used at home, offering the best security known to business methods, is made, these same Senators hold up their hands in horror and say it is without precedent and will disturb values. But the people are being educated meanwhile, and education will bring results.

THE Mobile (Ala.) Register prints the following article, which the Alabama Breeze copies without comment:

The Farmers' Alliance convention, held at Ocala, demanded among other things "that the government shall establish sub-treasuries or depositories in the several States which shall loan money direct to the people at a low rate of interest, not to exceed 2 percent per annum on non-perishable farm products and also upon real estate, with proper limitations upon the quality of land and amount of money." Of course the constitution does not contain any grant of power to Congress to lay duties or collect taxes from one set of men for the purpose of lending it to another set, and it is hardly probable that any people in the world would compel its solvent citizens to lend their money to insolvent citizens. The farmers, if they wish to borrow money, should do as all other people are compelled to do. They should go into the market and borrow it at the market price and give proper security.

Here is another warning to those who undertake to condemn the sub-treasury plan without having examined its provisions. The above is an example of either ignorance or mendacity. Charity would place the difficulty with the former. If a study or even a casual reading of the bill had been given, the error of supposing that the money secured by this method was first covered into the treasury through taxation would have been avoided. Sections 3 and 4 of the bill expressly provide as follows:

Sec. 3. That the Secretary of the Treasury shall cause to be prepared treasury notes in such amounts as may be required for the purpose of the above section, and in such form and denominations as he may prescribe, provided that no note shall be of a denomination of less than \$1, or more than \$1,000.

Sec. 4. That the treasury notes issued under this act shall be receivable for customs, and shall be a full legal tender for all debts, both public and private, and such notes when held by any national banking association shall be counted as part of its lawful reserve.

SECRETARY BEAUMONT says that he has sent charters of the National Citizens Alliance into thirteen States, and new territory opens up every day.

MICHIGAN is increasing membership in the Alliance at a splendid rate, and will probably soon lead the northwest.

MARYLAND is progressing, and interest is manifested in every part of the State. Cecil county will soon add a county organization.

GENERAL Superintendent Humphrey states that the Colored Alliance is growing in membership throughout the entire jurisdiction, and that the Order endorses all the demands, putting particular stress on the sub-treasury plan.

During the debate on free coinage in the Senate January 7th, Mr. Sherman made the following statement:

The general stock coined or issued by the United States is \$2,126,268,159, which, divided by 62,000,000 population gives the per capita of \$34 and plus. The amount of coin in circulation, deducting that in the treasury, is \$1,528,935,943, which, divided by 62,000,000 population—it was overestimated before—would amount to \$24.70 per capita. These are the last figures of the Treasury Department.

No one knew the absolute untruthfulness of this assertion better than Senator Sherman. In the amount coined and issued are included the gold and silver certificates, and also the gold and silver on which they are issued. At that time there were outstanding \$175,072,069 in gold certificates, \$310,553,024 in silver certificates, \$6,590,000 in currency certificates and \$19,258,800 in legal tender under the new silver law, making a total of \$511,473,893 that was counted twice in this aggregate. Again he places the amount of coin in circulation at \$1,528,935,943. This is another mistake. The Treasurer of the United States in his last report, page 15, gives the total amount of gold as estimated in circulation at \$505,460,742, and silver \$414,141,553, or a total of \$919,602,295. The question is, who is right, Senator Sherman or Treasurer Huston? All kinds of statements are being made to mislead the people in their efforts to get at the true condition of affairs. What the public want and are determined to have, are the bottom facts concerning the financial condition. It is somewhat difficult to obtain such information when a United States Senator and the United States treasurer are over \$500,000,000 apart in their statements.

SECRETARY BEAUMONT says that he has sent charters of the National Citizens Alliance into thirteen States, and new territory opens up every day.

MICHIGAN is increasing membership in the Alliance at a splendid rate, and will probably soon lead the northwest.

MARYLAND is progressing, and interest is manifested in every part of the State. Cecil county will soon add a county organization.

THE REPUBLICS OF THE WORLD.

A Brief Account of the Conditions Under which They Exist.

PARAGUAY.

The republic of Paraguay lies almost midway between the two great oceans, one-third of its territory being north of the tropic of Capricorn. Its eastern boundary is the river Parana, its western, the rivers Pilcomayo and Paraguay, which last passes through the heart of the country above its junction with the Pilcomayo. The neighboring countries long refused to concede boundaries, depending upon their supposed greater strength to finally absorb the territory, a feat of apparently easy accomplishment if they could have agreed among themselves upon what part each should take. In 1878 this dispute had been allayed until Paraguay was freed from these demands, save from Argentina, and President Hayes was called upon to arbitrate the matter. As a result of his offices all that part of the republic west of the Paraguay river, one-third of the whole, was given to the republic, and as a testimonial of gratitude its principal town, Villa Occidental, was rechristened Villa Hayes in honor of the sometime President of the United States.

November 25, 1870, a new constitution was proclaimed, by which legislative authority is vested in a congress of two houses, and the executive power in a president. Both Senators and Representatives are elected directly by the people, the former by constituencies of 12,000 inhabitants and the latter by constituencies of 6,000. Members of both bodies receive annually \$1,000 each. The executive function is exercised through five ministers, each of a department, as follows: Of interior, of finance, of worship and justice, of war, and of foreign affairs. Local government is provided through twenty-three counties, which have justices and municipal councils.

The republic of Paraguay covers an area estimated at 91,980 square miles, about equal to the States of Louisiana and Mississippi combined. Statistics of all kinds are unreliable, and the best estimates of population only guesses. It is said that the government enumerates in 1857 showed a population of 1,337,439 souls. In 1873, when peace had been established over two years, what is regarded as an exaggerated estimate placed the population at 21,079, of whom 28,746 were men, 106,254 women over 15 years old, and 86,079 children. Comment is unnecessary, further than to call down condemnation upon the ambition of the dictator Lopez. A census in March, 1887, gave the population at 329,654, of whom 155,425 were males and 170,229 females. There are besides 130,000 Indians, more than half being in uncivilized tribes. The number of foreign residents is smaller than in other

Southern republics, the census enumerating less than 10,000, more than half being Argentines. Immigration has fairly set in, though many who set out from Europe for Paraguay change their intention and settle nearer the coast in Uruguay and Buenos Ayres. In 1888 the government appropriated \$200,000 to encourage immigration. The income of the government is derived from customs, from various taxes and from sales and leases of lands, being officially stated in 1888 at a total of \$3,551,445. The expenditures that year were only \$2,791,558.

In 1872, when the complications growing out of the invasion of the country were settled, Paraguay assumed the cost of the disastrous war, which fixed an enormous debt upon her people. This summed up \$200,000,000 to Brazil, \$35,000,000 to Argentina, and \$1,000,000 to Uruguay, a burden of \$680 per capita. This obligation was discounted to the great money syndicate in London by the creditor nations, and is yet unpaid, having been consolidated after the manner most popular with the world's creditors in 1885. In 1887 these bonds were quoted in London at 34 per cent, and in 1889 as high as 41 per cent. In the consolidation it was scaled down, and now amounts to less than \$20,000,000, the republic having sold franchises, lands and privileges to extinguish part of it. Other debts are small.

The Roman Catholic Church is established by law, but toleration of all forms is exercised. Education is compulsory at the expense of the State, a regulation but indifferent executed, as the school attendance is small, fully one-fourth of the adults being illiterate.

The defense is provided for with a standing army of 625 men of all arms, and a national guard which includes all males of suitable age. Having no coast, the navy consists of three small steamers on the rivers.

The commerce is limited to about \$3,500,000 exports and \$3,000,000 imports. Except the limited trade across the boundaries of the republic, the foreign commerce is through the cities of Montevideo and Buenos Ayres. There is a railway 92 miles long from the capital, Asuncion, a city of about 30,000 inhabitants, to Villa Rica, a city of about 15,000, with a telegraph line along the right of way. There is a postal system between important towns.

The financial system is imperfect, though quite a number of banks have been established. One devised in 1887 is intended to aid agriculture, but it has not yet

added to the financial resources of

the country. The national bank had a note circulation in May, 1889, of \$949,915, which is the paper money issued in the republic. The silver dollar is the unit of account.

The lands of Paraguay are held in large bodies, and speculators have discounted a considerable increase in population by manipulating it. As in Argentina and Uruguay, the only hope of the permanent prosperity of the people depends upon a changed land system and an increase of population. The country is adapted to the agriculture of tropical and sub-tropical climates, and would under happier conditions support an immense population. The three great rivers which bound and traverse its territory offer easy ingress and transportation. The roads in the interior are inferior, often mere bridle paths, and the people little disposed to traffic. As a range for cattle the country is excellent, and in the cultivation of yerba (the native tea plant), tobacco, rice and fruits, a future seems assured. Cotton also grows, the plant living through several years, but it is idle to talk of it as a remunerative crop in any climate where it is not an annual.

Of the people of Paraguay, it may be noted that they are a nation of mixed breeds, the blood of the Guarani tribes of civilized Indians predominating. They are gentle-mannered, and of lively disposition, but the war of 1865-'70 proved that they are courageous and determined soldiers. In some respects morals are lax, but the people are generally honest in their efforts to comply with contracts, carrying out some very hard bargains as a nation of debtors.

THE election of Hon. W. A. Peffer as Senator from Kansas was a signal victory for Alliance unity. Seventeen good names were put before the Alliance caucus, and after each ballot the name receiving least votes was dropped. This plan finally brought a majority of the body to Judge Peffer, and made him the nominee. Next day the legislative ballot showed that every Alliance man stuck to his colors. The new Senator received 96 votes in the House, to 23 for Ingalls and 5 for Blair. In the Senate Ingalls received 35, Peffer 2, and 3 scattered. This decided majority on joint ballot proves that the Alliance can poll its full vote for principle in Kansas. Judge Peffer is nearly 60 years old, an accomplished journalist and a radical reasoner and writer upon economic questions. He will make his mark in his new sphere of action.

A NOTE from Brother Isom P. Langley states that his address is changed, and that in future all communications should be sent to him at Poplar Bluff, Ark.

APPLIED SCIENCE
In Agricultural and Rural Economy.
EDITED BY DR. M. G. ELZEY.
WOOSTER, OHIO.

DECLINE OF AMERICAN RURAL LIFE

It is most unfortunate that no confidence can be placed in the accuracy of any part of the work of the census. In the mere matter of the enumeration of the people discrepancies between different counts and recounts by different agencies are sufficient to show that the estimates of population are but mere approximations. There appear to be multitudes of homeless people in this country who drift from place to place, and a large part of whom must escape enumeration under any system which can be adopted. It seems that there is a regular ebb and flow of population into and out of the cities all over the country. It is probable that the people who have domicile, but no permanent residence in New York, who are there in winter and away some where in summer, who are liable to be enumerated there at one season and to escape at another season, number nearly a quarter of a million. Almost an equal proportion of the people of Washington or of New Orleans will be found there at one season and at a different season dispersed to the uttermost parts of the earth. There are at all times an immense number of American families temporarily residing abroad and traveling everywhere under Heaven. These are hundreds of thousands of tramps scattered abroad over all the States, who can by no means be accurately numbered. The great mass of colored population are assuming nomadic habits to such an extent that the difficulties of accurate enumeration of them are very great. There are many other obstacles to accuracy covering the whole work. But after every allowance is made, even taking into account partisan bias, negligence, incompetency, and deliberate falsification of facts and figures by persons connected with the work, the fact seems to be placed beyond doubt that there is an actual decline in the number of bona-fide country people. Another fact about which there seems to be no reasonable doubt is the great falling off in the rate of increase of the colored population; that they are leaving the country and crowding into the towns even to a greater extent than the whites are true, and that there, their mortality is fearfully increased is a fact of which there can be no denial; a mortality which in the case of their young children is absolutely frightful. It is in this way that agricultural labor is becoming, with the lapse of each successive year, scarcer and at the same time more and more inefficient, and plainly correspondingly more expensive. That we have here uncovered one of the causes of the difficulty of stemming the tide of agricultural depression in the acute form in which it now overshadows and darkens the whole land is by no means doubtful. One of the causes which leads to the dissatisfaction and unreliability of agricultural labor is the difficulty of making prompt and liberal payments out

of the meagre and infrequent returns from the sales of produce. There is no labor which will be profitable unless promptly and liberally paid. We have endeavored to point out on several former occasions that this labor, whether white or colored, is invariably worsened and not bettered by throwing itself into the cities. Of the colored people this is true even to a much greater extent than of the white, because in agricultural labor they encounter no race prejudice; white men at the south, at least, nowhere object to working in a crop with the negro or the mulatto; but in every town, great or small, everywhere, north or south, race prejudice freezes the man of color out of all competition except for drudgery work of the lowest grades; non-remunerative and full of hardship and exposure; even as a renter or owner of land, nowhere at the south does a colored man encounter any hindrance from race prejudice. Nor for the matter of that as a tradesman, artisan or mechanic in the rural districts. In the towns it is otherwise; yet there is for these people, as apparently for American whites, a fascination about towns and cities which draws them irresistibly to their own hurt, often to their own destruction. It is a sad, a fatal mistake. In what is here written there is no trace of any prejudice, social or political, race, or any other sort. The superior fecundity of the colored races has never been a bugbear which could frighten this writer with nightmares of an Anglo-Saxon community submited by an Afro-American element. Neither has he at any time practiced or countenanced the deprivation or the abridgement of the rights of these people in the smallest particular. He has felt that they were an element of strength and not weakness in the industrial reconstruction of the new south, and so declared emphatically in an address before the Farmers National Congress at Rochester as long ago as 1870, before the beginning of the industrial reconstruction of the new south which he predicted as then about to take form. He was of that opinion from the day when he saw the last of the "lost cause" at Appomattox, and has so continued without wavering ever since. These people were placed by that event in a most difficult situation without any experience of independent responsibility as a lamp to guide their feet along the doubtful path which was before them. That they have acted as well as they have has been infinitely to their credit, as the writer has always maintained and now maintains. This is his record, and he once more urges upon the leaders of their race to exert their influence to keep them out of the towns. It need not be supposed that anything is here written from a political or partisan standpoint. As readers of THE ECONOMIST well know, the writer is a southern man and a Democrat, but he believes that a new alignment of parties, and a new combinations of States in political union are at hand.

The great economic questions which are now so earnestly debated, have generated cleavage

planes running through old parties and old sections and new alignments of forces; new political areas are a logical, inevitable result. He does not say the Farmers Alliance is a third party or will ever become such; he does not believe so. He believes there will be two parties and not three. A peoples' party, and a rump party, composed of the extremists of the two existing parties, who, notwithstanding all their bloodthirsty denunciations of each other, are scarcely separated by a shade of actual difference. They will find no difficulty in combining at any moment, and that they will ultimately combine there is not the smallest doubt. To day they are all worshippers of one beast, and they have the mark of that beast stamped indelibly upon their foreheads. That beast is plutocracy, and even now his image is enshrined in Wall street to be duly unveiled in the fulness of time.

We say that the negroes will scarcely prove a political factor of any future separate potency in this country. Agricultural industry is the ark of their safety. In the pursuit of it they will not only find their own safety and their own strength, but they will add great strength to the community of which they form a part.

This decline in the rural life of this young nation is an evil omen. To probe its courses and to discover effective remedies is the task of the American statesmen of the imminent future. Such a decline means premature national decay, and it means neither less nor more.

TRANSPORTATION A FACTOR IN SCIENTIFIC FARMING.

It has been shown that money is a factor in scientific farming. Transportation is equally so. In the great food producing area of the Northwest this is doubly true, because they not only have to get their produce across half the continent to market, but they must depend on phosphates which will have to be carried to them from the Atlantic coast, and it makes a long haul both ways. Now it will be in vain that we show those farmers that the principles of science demand restitution to their soils of the phosphates exported in wheat, and corn, and beef, if the transportation of a ton of fertilizer costs them more than the increase of crop derived from its use will sell for. The railroad law of "all the traffic will bear" both ways, will make a mockery of science as applied to the agriculture of our great meat and bread producing territory. We must make this a railroad law in place of "all the traffic will bear," viz: No railroad is allowed to exceed a fair profit on the cost of transportation, either for a long or short haul, or a small or large quantity. A large, a very large branch of scientific agriculture is the improvement of farm animals of all sorts, and nothing has stood so much in the way of progress along this line as excessive transportation charges, often exceeding the price of breeding animals of the improved breeds.

Applied science is in practice completely dominated by economic

conditions which often render the soundest principles impracticable. Faster than science has been able to reduce the cost of production, have false economic conditions reduced the selling price of the product of a day's labor in all agricultural industries. The railroads are largely to blame for this state of affairs both by their own tyrannies and their corruption of legislatures. Now they have overreached themselves. They are water-logged from beginning to end, and by helping on contraction of currency and increased taxes laid upon the greatest of the industries which supplies their traffic, their water is become dead weight to carry, and they can't unload it. They are the heaviest borrowers of money, and have done more than all other agencies to make the cost of money high. They have become anasarcous, and if their dropsy is not to prove fatal they must be tapped. The water must be got out of them or the government will have to undertake for them. The great central industry which is the nursing mother of sciences and arts, including government, must not be deprived of the benefits of science. Is it supposed that while agricultural pines and shrubs and retrogrades the advances of other industries can be maintained? The railroad problem is the greatest in American social science, and it is none too soon to begin the discussion of it in earnest. In the last analysis the interests of the railway and of its chief patron are, and must be, identical, and that chief patron is agriculture. Why have railroad men been blinded to this fact, and pursued the rip-goose policy toward the producer of their golden eggs? Have they been so blind-drunk with usurped and unlawful power or so swelled up with dropsy that they could not see, having eyes? Now, let us see whether having ears they will refuse to hear the muttering thunder of a people's wrath. Senator Stanford is a great railroad man. Have the scales fallen from his eyes, and, whereas he was blind, does he now see? If the land-grab railroads could get money at a per cent on their lands, and twenty years to pay it in, they might tap themselves and let the water out, which would enable them to do long haul and short haul, big bulk and small package business for the farmers at a fair profit on the cost of the service—can they ever do this? Will they ever do it? If they can't and won't, the long and short of it is, the government can and must; that's all. We farmers, on our part, must not fail to realize that we have entered upon a gigantic conflict; we have got a tremendous battle to fight; it is going to be a fight to a finish. It is a struggle for existence, and the fittest will survive.

THE JAPAN CLOVER.

The experiment of the writer with Japan clover in central Maryland shows that it thrives here and forms seed. It will prove useful in strengthening late summer and fall pasture, and poor washy lands will produce a good coat of it where no other green thing will grow. In open woodland it also grows well and makes a good show under

tolerably dense foliage; creeping into all sorts of waste places among outcrops of stone, brush heaps, stumps, and old logs. There is a species of yellow burr clover which grows in this part of Maryland very freely, and has been often mistaken for the Japan clover. It has a very similar stalk and leaf, but the bloom is a golden yellow and about the shape and size of a small continental bullet. It also blooms in May, and the plant is as distinctively a spring and early summer growth as the Japan clover is a late summer and fall growth. The burr-clover seems to be the same as the English sanfoin. It is relished by stock and helps a pasture field during three or four weeks. Neither of these plants is of any value on good and well cultivated land in this locality, but may be of service in occupying waste places and covering, as with a mantle of charity, the nakedness of galls, gulleys, and washy hillsides. Neither of these plants is to be confounded with the common purple blossomed burr clover, commonly called woolly-head, which is valueless.

Constitutional or Unconstitutional?
Atlanta Constitution.

One of the most remarkable features of our North American development (giving a sort of faith-cure significance to the term) is the fact that all of our citizens, especially if they have any leaning in the direction of politics, are constitutional lawyers. There is no vagueness about their knowledge. If they are not editing papers and telling the public all about it every day in the week, they are ready to write a card for publication on the slightest provocation; or, if they have no attack of the cackywethes scarabeus, as Uncle Joe Medill, of Chicago, calls it, they are ready to mount the stump and exhort about unconstitutional propositions. This is truly a country where every man is his own constitutional lawyer, some of them for revenue only, and some for the mere fun of the thing, having the exculpating unselfishness of the man who is learning to play the fiddle. It is calculated to give a man great respect for the country at large to wake up in the morning and feel that, as far as the population extends, our institutions are fortified by constitutional lawyers who know all about it. Thus the organic law is guarded at both ends, at the corners and in the middle. There seems to be no chance for sagging anywhere. And yet, in spite of this wonderful array of knowledge on the part of our thriving political population, there is evidently a hitch somewhere. In another article we have alluded to the queer state of things which give constitutionality to all laws made for monopolists and speculators, while even the suggestions of laws for the benefit of the agricultural classes and working people are denounced as unconstitutional. It is a matter that is worthy the serious attention of that small portion of the public which is not composed of constitutional lawyers. Whenever there is a whimper from Wall street, William Windom, the Secretary of the Treasury, rushes to New York to consult with the speculators, and when he returns to Washington he proceeds to us all the machinery of his office and all the money in the people's treasury to help the speculators out of the hole into which they have fallen. When all other schemes fail, the treasurer of the people spends the money of the people in buying the people's bonds at a premium, which is not only an extravagant waste of the money of the taxpayers, but a scheme for contracting the currency. The national banks hold most of the available bonds, and have them deposited in the treasury as a security for their notes. When these bonds are called in by the government, the banks are compelled to contract their circulation. And so the vast machine of monopoly and speculation goes on, grinding the people more heavily day by day. If the farmers of the country and the working people were to look to William Windom and the Treasury Department for relief in their financial straits, as the capitalists and the speculators do, 10,000 thoroughly equipped constitutional lawyers would denounce their attitude as unconstitutional. A few months ago a number of the most prominent capitalists in the country, including representatives of Wall street, Senators and Representatives in Congress, combined together and bought up all the surplus silver produced by our mines. They held it until Congress came to their relief with the vicious silver measure which is now the law, and then they sold at a great profit. Here was relief from the government in great shape. But the silver law goes further than this. Instead of making silver a money metal for the benefit of the whole country, the government now undertakes to increase the price of bullion while it is yet a commodity. The law now in operation, instead of being for the benefit of the people, is for the benefit of the silver miners and the speculators. And yet, when the farmers suggested their sub-treasury plan, there was a loud cry of unconstitutionality, and it is a cry in which the Republicans heartily joined. Here we have the whole modern scheme of our government set forth, with thousands of constitutional lawyers dancing around and gesticulating. What is constitutional for the monopolists and the speculators is not constitutional for the farmers and the common people. This much is certain. How long will such a system last?

Third Party Movement.
Correspondence: Atlanta Herald, Montgomery, Ala.

The old leading politicians, through the press of the State, have had a good deal to say about the third party movement since the meeting of the National Alliance at Ocala, Fla., but I notice that the little village papers do not follow every issue and yelp with all their might as if they, too, smelt something every time the old dogs opened their mouths as they did once when the old leaders told the public that the leaders of the Alliance were Republicans and had brought politics into the order to break up the Democratic party. It may be that the little pups have learned that they have been barking too much for their health, and that it is best to wait until the game jumps up so they can tell if there is danger ahead. The National Alliance re-asserted and re-endorsed the St. Louis demands by States at Ocala, without a dissenting State, and went farther demanding the issuance of cheap money upon real estate as well as non-perishable farm products, and that transportation shall be controlled by the government. It is upon the platform adopted at Ocala that the political battle of 1892 will be fought. The Alliance will fight for the principles involved in that platform without regard to party. Men will be measured by these demands, and it matters not to what party they belong, unless they do endorse these principles they can not be the candidates who will get the votes of the members of the Alliance and other organizations. If to elect representatives that will endorse and carry out these demands in good faith necessitates a third party, then it will necessarily come, but the Southern States, believing that these are true Jeffersonian principles, will advocate them as such and demand their recognition. We may not fight upon the same line with our Western and Northern brothers, but we will be united upon principles and issues, and work for the same results. No party or candidate that does not endorse our demands can hope to receive the support of the members of the Alliance and Industrial Union or any other labor organization north, south, east or west, and if neither of the old parties think proper and best to fight under our banner then we will hoist and unfurl its pure white folds to the breeze and go it alone in every State of the Union. It will not be party first, but Alliance principles first and party second, and woe to deserters and traitors from its standard and colors. The time has come when the Alliance should know its true friends, so as to know how to guard against its enemies. Our sitting members in the different State legislatures will afford an opportunity to find out some that may be of future advantage. Why take a little justice lawyer and make him probate judge of a county and pay him twenty times more than he could make by practicing law? The salaries of every county officer should be cut down, the same man that fills them would, before they were elected to their position, have been glad to swap their former position on the farm or other places for the office at the same salary they were getting, and the honor, luxury, and comfort enjoyed in the office. Why give the same brains and hands twenty times as much as they could make at anything else, with harder and not so pleasant or honorable labor? One hundred dollars per month is the standard of official labor in the Alliance. This process of reducing official salaries should go through every county, State, and national office, and when the Alliance has the power and fails to do it, they are not the councilmen the farmers and laborers need to represent and make laws for them. There is no farmer or laborer who would not be willing to fill the office for the same amount he is making at his business, but they are not the ones who fill the offices, hence you hear so much about capable men when it is proposed to reduce the salary, as if it had anything to do with who is elected to office, when every one knows the man is not elected because of his efficiency, but most times because of his ability to bribe and pay for votes. Reduction of the taxes is the leading demand of the Alliance, and one of the most efficient modes of doing it is to cut down the expenses to a just and economical basis for the efficient administration of the government—county, State, and national. Then the office will hunt the man, and corruption in politics be lessened to a minimum. Taxes cannot be reduced but by reducing extravagant salaries.

Its Own Tape Line.

Resolutions adopted by Pearl Alliance, Madison county, Miss., in session December 6, 1890:

Whereas the members of this body, fully concurring in sentiments expressed by a correspondent of the Atlanta Constitution and republished in THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, national organ of the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, over the signature of "Georgian," setting forth a platform of principles, as follows:

1. The overthrow of sectionalism.
2. A reduction of taxation to the needs of the government, economically administered.
3. State and inter-state control and regulation of railroads.
4. A sound, stable, and flexible currency based upon the grain staple crops and issued by the general government in accordance with the law of supply and demand.

And whereas, we are duly sensible of the inequality now existing under the financial system of legislation, conferring certain advantages to certain classes to the great injury of the producing class, therefore

Resolved, That while we claim to be loyal to sound democratic principles of ancient type, we can no longer submit our destiny in the keeping of political demagogues of either of the political parties of the present day; and our aim in future shall be to do our own thinking and measure with our own tape-line such official aspirants as may offer themselves for our support, and will insist that they be weighed on the foregoing platform. We further

Resolved, That, feeling sorely the effects of blindly following political leadership in the past, until the liberties of the people are well nigh gone, and believing, as we do, that the weal of the nation is as safe in the hands of those who feed and clothe it, as in the control of those of other callings, we therefore resolve, Henceforth to claim equal rights to dictate policies, rather than sustain such as are inimical to our interest.

"Southern Alliance." Iowa Tribune, Des Moines, Iowa. The National Farmers Alliance has passed no such resolution (sub-treasury). The body that passed it is the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, or as it is commonly called the "Southern Alliance." The fact

that the National Farmers Alliance and the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union are two separate and distinct bodies, having no connection beyond the similarity in name, cannot be kept too constantly in view.

Homestead.

There is no such body in existence as the "Southern Alliance." Nor is the "National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union," commonly called the "Southern Alliance," by anybody except a few Republican editors, who constantly live, move and have their being in an atmosphere of petty sectional jealousy and hatred. The country has had enough of this business. The Alliance is not a sectional organization. It has higher aims and nobler purposes. Its noblest purpose is to banish sectionalism and lead the whole country to the common ground of brotherhood, where, under humane legislation, the rights of the humblest as well as the mightiest shall be secured. This is the feeling of the Alliance everywhere, without regard to the particular division to which they chance to belong.

The States of New York, Kansas, South Dakota, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Indiana, Colorado, California—ten Northern States—belong to the Farmers and Laborers Industrial Union, and the Knights of Labor everywhere belong to this Union. Many local Alliances in Iowa belong also. Besides this, the whole body of the Alliance in this state, Nebraska, Minnesota and elsewhere entertain the friendliest possible feeling for their brethren of the "Union," as it is called. The two Alliance bodies are in substantial accord in their platforms. They may not be in unison regarding the "sub-treasury system," but they declare with one voice that the national bank system shall go. They are a unit upon that. They have agreed upon the sub-treasury which they don't want. We can safely trust to their ultimate judgment as to the other.

A New Departure.

BY G. L. CRUM, HICKORY FLAT, MISS.

"More money and less usury" is the crying demand of the laboring people of all occupations, and the cry is rapidly climbing the ladder of climactic desperation. The merchant, the doctor, the lawyer, and, in fact, every honest business is demanding more money in circulation. The Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, in demanding more money, has truly voiced the sentiments of millions of honest citizens both North and South. The end to be accomplished is a matter that all agree upon, but as to the means of economically and conservatively adding this needed money to the fixed volume of circulation there seems to be some difference of opinion, though the difference by no means divides the Alliance. It seems to me that the cheapest and most conservative means of adding money to the circulation is to abolish all national taxation and defray the governmental expenses by issuing legal tender treasury notes. As a preliminary action it is absolutely necessary to abolish the present national banking system, for the people who use the money to buy the necessities of life will necessarily suffer when a few men con-

trol the amount of money in circulation, as the bankers to a considerable extent do. There would be added annually to the circulation about three hundred and sixty millions of dollars, or about \$5.50 per capita, if the government would cease collecting all customs and internal revenues. This process should be carried on until there had been added the proper amount to the fixed volume of circulating medium. It would then be right and proper to institute a system of taxation based upon a man's ability to pay, an ad valorem tax is the only just tax that can be levied under any conditions.

There are several advantages to be derived from this proposed plan:

1. It will afford a steady increase in the volume of circulating currency. To add, in one day's time, a sum of money equal to forty dollars per capita would be to shake the business world from centre to circumference. Make the addition steady is the only just way of increasing the money, when labor and capital are both considered. Therefore I am of the opinion that this means of adding money would be an improvement upon the proposed plan of lending money upon real estate security. In this case the money borrowed could not properly be said to represent so much labor done by the possessor, for the money borrowed would be his in this case no more than when he now borrows it from his neighbor. The probability is that prices would be liable to great fluctuations, nearly or quite equal to the present, because of the probability of large amounts of money being added to or withdrawn from the circulation. The best and most practical plan is to let the money that goes to make the fixed volume of currency ever remain with the people as the representative of so much labor done by them, which will be great or little, in proportion to the relative amount of money in circulation.

3. By abolishing for a period of years all taxation the government's expense of paying such an army of tax-collectors would also be dispensed with, and from a point of economy this plan surpasses anything that I know of. To lend money upon realty would require many agents. And they would cost the people many dollars.

Some one will probably object to these treasury notes, because they will not pass for money the world over. Of course, these notes will not, nor will our gold and silver dollars pass any better than the paper dollar would, except upon their commercial value. If the United States was required to furnish money for the world at large this objection might be good; but all that any money should do is to represent in making exchanges, so much labor done. If it is intrinsic worth that is required in the material that is used to make money, it would be much better to have iron or brass, for they have far greater intrinsic worth than gold or even silver. It is an idea grounded in the darkest superstitions ignorance that gold or silver were peculiarly intended for money-metals. Some men are not so ignorant as they are corrupt in claiming the justice of a circulation based upon one or both of the metals. They make the pretense that the supply of money may be limited. These notes are based upon the credit of the government. National bank circulation has no other basis. I respectfully ask the members of every reform order to consider this new departure, and I shall appreciate any criticism whether favorable or unfavorable to this idea.

Why Issue Bonds?

BY B. B. TURNER, BROAD RUN, VA.

After carefully considering the proposition of Secretary Windom to make the supply of circulating medium flexible by an interconvertible bond drawing a per cent interest, I do not exactly see how the average farmer is to get his share of the benefit arising therefrom. Now, I am sure that I, as representing the class referred to, would never have the money to invest in an interconvertible bond, and therefore could never have the interconvertible bond to convert into money; wheat or almost any product of agriculture I may have. Now, the question is, How on my wheat am I to realize money? Only, so far as I can see, by putting it on the market, where it may be bought by some one who has the money or can get it, perhaps more easily, under the interconvertible-bond scheme; but that one must be a speculator, for the vast mass of consumers like the farmers will not be able to raise more money than is needed to supply daily wants. Now, the question is, What is to keep these wheat buyers from taking advantage of my necessities, and forcing me to take for my wheat less than its actual worth? I suppose those favoring the plan would answer competition between speculators, but where is my safety from combination between speculators instead of combination between the

Just at present the Rural New Yorker is fighting the sub-treasury bill and rehashing old-time slavery matters. One is about as interesting as the other.

Alliance Leader (Bolivar, N. Y.) says:

Experience has taught us at this last election that Alliance men could be elected without its being done upon an independent ticket since of the thirty-eight Alliance Representatives elected, but seven were elected in that way, so why form a new party when the very men whom we desire should occupy the legislative seats can be and are being elected upon the old party tickets. All that we demand is legislation for the producer and we care not from what source it comes only that we get it. So let us again say, that the Alliance is not a political party, and should not be so considered.

The sub-treasury plan would be a good one, because if I could not get a fair price I could store my

wheat and get an advance upon it until I could. So it does not seem to me, if the object is to help the farming community and rescue it from the power of the speculators, there is any comparison between the plans at all. Again, under certain circumstances, the 2 per cent bonds might have to be sold for gold. Now, what is the guarantee that they would bring face value; and, lastly, why should the government be required to pay any interest on bonds at all to supply a basis for currency when we have free of all interest the very best basis in those articles themselves, for the handling of which the money is needed, and which the world must have? Why force the productions of the farmer to pass through the hands of the speculator when he can deliver them all over into the hands of the consumer?

Loans on Real Estate.

BY N. C. CORDRAY, MASON, MICH.

About the year 1870, there being a large surplus in the treasury of Ingham county, Michigan, it was loaned on real estate for a number of years. It is an easy matter for the county treasurer to do this business. He is a safe man to do it, for he is elected by the community. His office is near the abstract and record office. From the United States to the State, and from the State to the county treasury, is very easily done. We now have too many departments of business. The express, post office, bank and treasury. Postal savings banks do well in Europe; we should work with nature toward solidarity. The Stanford bill seems to add extensive machinery—seems at a glance to be less practicable than an act through present offices and officers. Real estate is not a good security for a private lender, but it is for a government loan. Land is ceasing to be private property, but it will always be a national necessity or a human necessity. The time is slowly but surely coming when private loaners will withdraw from real estate. This is coming by the fact that natural land is not private property; and improvements are perishable and now rising rapidly by a lack of interest in their owners. If the State loaned on much land and got voluntary surrender of title on it, there would be no probable harm if the money in circulation was not too much per head. Thirty or forty dollars could do no harm. The right basis for bills is products, and sub-treasury bill the way, but it will take time.

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Alliance Leader (Bolivar, N. Y.) says:

The essentials of life are food, shelter and raiment. These are the products of labor. To secure these the toiling masses the world over expend their muscular power in manual labor. An abundant distribution of these essentials of life among the millions who toil is prosperity; a scarcity, is adversity, while their absence is death from hunger and cold. Of these essentials the farmer produces the most important—the food. The life of every human being depends upon the products of soil. To limit the supply of food by speculation is crime, and yet this is just what is done by our present system of exchange. The farmer produces a

The Discussion of Current Topics in the Organized States.

The Peoples' Journal (Pickens, S. C.) says:

That the Alliance should enter the seductive and enchanting realm of politics, has been a subject of benevolent concern and gratuitous consideration on the part of some disappointed politicians and chagrined writers on political science. The main objection is placed on the humane and disinterested ground that such a course is now undermining that institution, and will inevitably level it with the ground. This we believe is only a technical objection, but the real reason is the fear of the power, begotten of united concert and organized efforts. To neutralize that power, they are attempting to sow the seeds of discord and to arouse petty jealousies in the Alliance ranks. But their futile efforts will only add to their mortification, when their threadbare appeal of sickly sentiment and their harmless arrows of ridicule are treated with the contempt they so well merit. The farmers and other producers of wealth could long ago have effected their emancipation from unjust taxation and unequal representation, had they made a concentrated and continuous endeavor. In every attempt in the past to unite their forces, their plans have been frustrated by selfish politicians who come in as friends and then betray the trust reposed in them by a kind and generous people. This part of creation have been awakened by the sad experiences of the past and have been forced to learn the lesson that the oily tongue and deceitful expressions of men who love them only for the gifts and presents in the way of offices and honors, should be trusted no more—so, when these chronic aspirants and insatiate office-holders repaired to the Alliance temple to worship their hypocrisy was detected, and their hopes deferred for a period of probation. Having failed to control the Alliance and to receive recognition as to their fitness for office, they cry out that the farmer pays for the products created by wage labor; and all that the farmer receives comes out of the sum that the wage laborer pays for the products of the farm. Both are alike robbed by the same false system of exchange, and both have the same interest in its removal. Between these two great classes of producers there is no clashing of interests, as soon as their mutual relations toward each other are understood. In the questions which are now forcing themselves upon public attention, nothing but ignorance can keep these two great wings of the wealth producing power of the country divided into hostile factions. Under a just system of distribution the exorbitant profits which now go to speculators, would in accordance with known economic law, be divided between the producer and the consumer. The farmer would receive more for his products while the wage worker would receive more for his labor. Both would also be benefited by a substantial reduction in the cost of living. These two classes produce all there is of wealth and are poor, while the non-producers who speculate in the products of their labor amass millions. Justice demands that the system by which such results, so much at variance with all the demands of even handed justice, shall be abolished. This must be done by united action to control the machinery of the state and the nation. But in the very nature of things we cannot hope to change the present system all at once, even if such a sweeping change was desirable. We grew into our present false system and we must grow out of it. The immediate objects now before the Alliance are within reach. Questions of finance, transportation and our warehouse and elevator system can be settled just as soon as the dominant feeling among the people in regard to these matters can find an expression. The only present hope of monopoly, is to prevent such an expression by stirring up discord in the ranks of the elements which are moving in this direction. Hence we may naturally expect to find the paid henchmen of plutocracy, assuming the livery of reform to serve monopoly in. Like the Pinkerton detectives in labor organizations, they

will be the most loud-mouthed in their denunciation, with a view to breeding discord, and defeating the movement in which they claim to be workers. But to be forewarned is to be forearmed. The breeder of discord in our own ranks is a more dangerous enemy to the cause, than any open enemy can be. We must unite. In union there is strength, while division is weakness.

Brevier (Mo.) Appeal asks:

Men are too prone to spend their time brooding over the wrongs that they are suffering from, than to employ it to apply the remedies that are within their reach to remove the evils and bring about a better and purer state of affairs.

Once convinced that wrongs exist it is our duty to do all in our power to remove them. There are two classes among those who are dissatisfied with the present conditions, those that are eternally whimpering and whining against existing abuses, but do nothing, and those who are nobly and manfully doing all they can to help the down-trodden and oppressed of earth, so that they may reap the benefits of advancing civilization.

Reader, to which class do you belong? If to the first you obstruct all the wheels of progress and deserve all the evils you suffer from; if to the second, God speed you in your work.

Peoples Paper (Bloomington, Neb.) says:

The merchants and farmers should understand each other; the permanent prosperity of both depends on each. We cannot do without farmers, nor merchants. The final destiny of one is dependent on the other. If farmers prosper, merchants are bound to prosper. If the merchants prosper many years the farmers must of necessity prosper also. The truth is, farmers and merchants, as well as many other classes are in the same boat together.

Farm View (Porterville, Cal.) says:

There seems to be a disposition to boycott the Alliance press by some classes of advertisers. It is only a question of short time when these boycotters will wish they had treated the farmers' newspaper friend with fair consideration. It is within the power of an Alliance journal to get down to business with this class of dealers when it sees fit to.

The Faulkner County Wheel (Conway, Ark.) says:

The man who believes in the demands of labor as enunciated at St. Louis and reaffirmed at Ocala and then pins his faith to either of the old parties to carry them out, will find himself a terribly disappointed man.

Kentucky State, Union, (Louisville) says:

We assert that the present financial system is down-right robbery, and that it will sooner or later make slaves of every wealth producer in this country. The fight is on us—let us make it red hot. Those who are willing to submit to this legalized system of robbery should not attend our meetings and call themselves union men.

Industrial Union (Kokomo, Ind.) says:

The government has bonded warehouses for whisky and the money power thinks it is all right; but it is all wrong for the government to have bonded warehouses for anything else. The certificates issued on bonded whisky are as good as money and will buy anything that money will purchase. The only thing for the farmer to do is to get his corn made into whisky, and then the government will be with him.

Alliance Record (Montezuma, Ga.) says:

Farmers who have lost their homes through usury and mortgage foreclosures, would now relish an opportunity of a seat in the Wall street stock exchange gallery to look down into the cesspool of iniquity and there behold the serpents writhing with agony of despair, because their stocks will no longer hold water, and because their prospects in the future to skin the farmers have been blighted. The Farmers Alliance should continue to organize and press this victory of currency and transportation reform to a successful conclusion.

Labor's Tribune (Carthage, Mo.) says:

There exist in each community a few wild screamers who are screaming out against the Alliance as a Democratic move to defeat the Republican party, and Carthage has her share of them. In the South the same state of affairs exist, only down there the screamers scream out that the Alliance is a Republican move to disrupt the Democratic party. It is fortunate that the screamers are on both sides, and that the screaming is prompted by a low down sectional and selfish motive, which nothing but the Alliance can remove. We will now inform those screamers and their more cautious sup-

porters and rascality have brought the country to what it is to-day. In New Mexico, as in Congress and the States, there is great need of a middle tier of seats in the halls of legislation and occupied by representatives of the people.

Superior (Mo.) Times says:

The Alliance can successfully combat either of the old parties, but when it comes to fighting both old parties who have joined hands to down the independent movement, then the utmost care and vigilance must be exercised to thwart the foul conspiracies.

Alliance Advocate (Rockdale, Tex.) says:

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porters that the Alliance, if successful, means the complete overthrow of both the Democratic and Republican parties. Not that the only end contemplated is the overthrow of those two parties, no, but in properly educating the people as to the cause of their financial depression, the result, will be the end of the two old parties. We have no use for those two old hags o' parties, unless perhaps the American people might wish to preserve them as relics of misrule and corruption, from which, we have escaped only by the skin of our teeth. It is, however, a safe conclusion of the people that inasmuch as there is place for the two old corrupt parties in the heavens, there is none here for the same reason.

Arkansas Economist (Searcy, Ark.) says:

An increase of the currency without distribution would be as valueless to the people as boots to a footless man. The politicians of both the old parties are proposing to increase the currency, but they suggest no method of distributing the same. The sub-treasury plan is absolutely the only one which has yet been formulated, and thousands of new converts are now being enrolled as its supporters.

Alliance Voice (Batesville, Ark.) says:

We see upon our streets every day men whose clothes are ragged, old and patched; whose boots are worn out and leaky; whose sheltering roof is a hovel or mortgaged, windowless shanty; whose table is spread with water and cornbread; whose children are overworked and illiterate. What's the cause of all this wretchedness and poverty? Isn't there any nice, warm, respectable, clothing on hand in the country? Isn't the man an honest toiler and would he not lift the debt and own his home if possible? Isn't wheat only sixty cents a bushel, and isn't he and his family just as likely to enjoy the comforts as any one? Isn't there a free school system in this State, and isn't there any good books or papers in our land? What's the cause? Some say it is the high tariff. Well for goodness sake, if a pauper reduction of only seven per cent on the few dollars it would take to make life pleasant, if seven per cent will do it, take it off at once. The proposition of the tariff reformers is too silly to consider for one moment.

Rice Eagle (Lyons, Kas.) says:

Congress has spent about seven weeks in doing nothing, and about six weeks more remain in which to finish the job. Perhaps it is asking too much, but the country certainly has a right to expect that that august body should, at least, devote a small share of their time to the work they were sent there to do, and for which they are liberally paid.

Huron (S. Dakota) Independent says:

The farmers know exactly what they want. Their demands are well known to everybody. The politicians are busy trying to side track them on questions not germane in this issue. If the farmers keep their faces set in the right direction, always taking their cue from the Ocala demands, the politicians will have a happy time fooling them. They realize they have been fooled, and since discussion has opened their eyes, it makes them less susceptible to what they say.

The Alliance Economist and Cottage Home (Texarkana, Ark.) says:

This is no time for finching upon the part of the members of the Alliance. The issue has been laid down by the National body, and the demands made clearly and emphatically. Those persons who cannot support them had as well get out of the way, as the Alliance will take no back step, but press forward to victory.

The Weekly Union (Butler, Mo.) prints a letter from Pierce Hackett, which has the true ring:

The needs and demands of the hour are men of courage, men with sound convictions and with the courage of their convictions. All great reforms have been inaugurated and carried to a successful ending by just such men, but the man who becomes a leader in the work of reform must be a man of peculiar construction. He must be endowed first of all with an almost incredible degree of patience, for without that virtue he will never be able

to bear the opposition with which he will come in contact, the misconstruction of his notions, and the warfare which those whose interests are being affected by his advocacy of reform will wage upon him. He must be influenced by higher motives than the hope of pecuniary gain. True reforms do not make much money; capital is never on the side of reform. Reforms never originate among what is called the higher or lower classes, it is among the middle classes that true reforms are born, and it is from those classes that reforms secure their support. Then when we consider that there is not a school district in this country but that there is one or more men capable of becoming a leader of influence, it is not a difficult work to do either, nor nearly so difficult as farmers sometimes think. Over the entire country there is practically a unanimous sentiment among farmers that something ought to be done and that something must be done. These people are ready and just waiting for some man to take the lead, some one to lead in the revolt against partisan and ring methods, some one simply to say, "Come on boys, we will go together and stand together for our rights against bank monopoly, trusts and all combines, for equal rights to all; a government of the people, by the people and for the people." Who will do this in your community, reader? Who will take the first step toward inviting farmers to meet at the school-house and form a Farmers and Laborers Union in your school district, if there is not already one, who will lift his voice for equal rights and justice to the farmers and laborers of this country? A great hindrance to the advancement of these reforms in which the farmers are interested is the fact that those who have led have not been properly supported by others who should have come out as leaders. Affairs are left to drift as they will. Brothers, come to the front.

The National Citizens Alliance (Washington, D. C.) says:

The Democrats of different parts of the country have been celebrating the birth of one of their patron saints, Andrew Jackson. Jackson was famous for several things. But the greatest act itself so recently among our people, will be sufficient incentive to our representatives in the county meetings to give them courage and enable them to discern more clearly the possibilities of the future, and our experiences in past efforts will enable them to steer clear of the obstructions that have hitherto impeded our progress; to impress upon their minds the vital necessity of the dissemination of true Alliance doctrine throughout the entire order, to give them a clear insight into the needs and necessities of the hour than it has ever before been our lot to possess, and that the work done in January, 1891, will ever be memorable as a grand step taken in behalf of honesty yeomanry battling on the one side against the world devouring monopoly on the other. Let shoulders be thrown to the wheel and let it not be said of a solitary Alliance member that you have added nothing to the cause you claim to have enlisted in.

Industrial Age (St. Paul, Minn.) says:

Wealth is produced, distributed and consumed. How to secure an equitable balance between these is the great consideration that should engage the attention of the economic student. Wealth is produced by labor and in the very nature of things all but a small fraction of it must be consumed by the laborers. If these laborers who create this wealth fail by any means to secure all that they need for the purposes of consumption, it demonstrates that something is grossly wrong with the system by which it is distributed and exchanged. To discover what is the nature of this wrong and to devise the means by which it can be removed, is the work in which every true reformer is engaged. We find by observation that the wealth created by labor, as a rule, passes from the possession of the laborer, and into the hands of the non-producer by means of our systems of interest, rent, profit and taxation. This fact is obvious to every observer, and such being the fact, it follows as a logical sequence, that whatever measure of reform that reduces the sum total of the wealth that it takes to pay interest, rent, profit and taxation, will leave the amount of this reduction in the hands of the laborers that produce it. And if the entire amount was saved labor would have all that it produced. Then if the petitioner chooses to tell it is his own business, but he could not blame the Union. Union men as a rule are too loose with their mouths and much hard feeling might be avoided if this were not so. We hope they will be more careful in the future, and not cause so much hard feeling among neighbors. The time is fast approaching when we will need all the harmony possible in our own ranks, and as few enemies outside as possible.

Ours is a benevolent organization of the broadest kind of charity, and if we cannot benefit an individual we should do him the least amount of injury. While we cannot accept as members all who might wish to join us, we should not injure them in the eyes of their neighbors, or make enmity between them and individual members of our organization. Let us have absolute secrecy in regard to balloting.

Alliance Union (Eureka, Kas.) says:

Suppose, for a change, Congress should drop politics for awhile and adopt a little legislation for the benefit of the country at large. We know that this is an impossible sort of a supposition, but all the same it would be a mighty good thing to do, and a thing that would add much to the popularity of the individual members who could succeed in bringing it about.

The Rural New Yorker says:

A number of papers are much concerned because the Alliance at Ocala passed a resolution condemning the Lodge Election Bill now under debate in the Senate. Their objection is that this is a purely partisan measure, and that by opposing it the Alliance ceased to be an independent body, but distinctly endorsed one of the great parties. We merely refer to this here as a little instance of the way the Alliance is just now being criticised and advised by the press of the country. It is very seldom that a body of representative men can "endorse" one party and make the other smile. The Democrats, for example, claim that this "endorsement" pledges the Alliance to several other

Democratic doctrines. The Republicans assert that this "endorsement" killed the third party in the Northwest and "shows the old soldiers that the Southern Alliance men are working only for the Democratic party." The action of the convention looks about a fair stand off so far its injury to either party is concerned. The political papers everywhere are doing their best to magnify the mistakes or unwise suggestions of the Alliance. No organization or party ever yet tried to rise and prove its strength in the face of a fiercer opposition. It will surely be like pure gold if it comes through the fire of party hate and misrepresentation—or, deadlier still, party flattery. But if its critics have not the courage to tell the story of the good it has done by the side of the mistakes it has made, they must know, if they know anything, that the good is never lost. History ought to tell them that the years burn away from such movements all but the true and just. What they sneer at now may be only needed fuel for this burning. The spirit of the Farmers Alliance, the cry for justice, rude and untrained though you may consider it, will never be stifled. Under one name or another it will continue to call until you will be forced to listen to it.

Alma, (Kas.) News says:

The questions growing out of the financial condition of the country are very complicated and difficult to solve. Many are the theories and schemes presented to cure these financial troubles, but to all of these, the question where is the money to come from and how it is to be distributed among the people is a serious stumbling block. One thing is sure, the old financial system does not meet the demands of the times, and we must look to the future for something better. We must study and discuss the new measures proposed and carefully sift that which is sound and wise from that which is specious and impracticable.

Industrial Union (McPherson, Kas.) says:

The subsidized press is having lots of fun jumping on the proposed warehouse bill introduced into Congress in the interest of the Alliance. There is no attack to be made on the principle of the warehouse plan, as its enemies well know; so they confine themselves to criticism of its minor details, the number provided for, etc., which can and will be easily corrected, if the bill is given a half chance for its life. But the fun of it is, that the g. o. p. editors, to indulge in strictures on its details are recording themselves as in favor of its underlying principles.

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The Rural New Yorker says:

A number of papers are much concerned because the Alliance at Ocala passed a resolution condemning the Lodge Election Bill now under debate in the Senate. Their objection is that this is a purely partisan measure, and that by opposing it the Alliance ceased to be an independent body, but distinctly endorsed one of the great parties. We merely refer to this here as a little instance of the way the Alliance is just now being criticised and advised by the press of the country. It is very seldom that a body of representative men can "endorse" one party and make the other smile. The Democrats, for example, claim that this "endorsement" pledges the Alliance to several other

Democratic doctrines. The Republicans assert that this "endorsement" killed the third party in the Northwest and "shows the old soldiers that the Southern Alliance men are working only for the Democratic party." The action of the convention looks about a fair stand off so far its injury to either party is concerned. The political papers everywhere are doing their best to magnify the mistakes or unwise suggestions of the Alliance. No organization or party ever yet tried to rise and prove its strength in the face of a fiercer opposition. It will surely be like pure gold if it comes through the fire of party hate and misrepresentation—or, deadlier still, party flattery. But if its critics have not the courage to tell the story of the good it has done by the side of the mistakes it has made, they must know, if they know anything, that the good is never lost. History ought to tell them that the years burn away from such movements all but the true and just. What they sneer at now may be only needed fuel for this burning. The spirit of the Farmers Alliance, the cry for justice, rude and untrained though you may consider it, will never be stifled. Under one name or another it will continue to call until you will be forced to listen to it.

Cotton Plant (Orangeburg, S. C.) says:

The Alliance is seeking to make the rich man pay his proportion of the taxes. It is seeking to pay up the bonds that have almost ruined the people and nation. It is seeking to forthwith reduce the salaries of officials to an equal of other salaries and prices. It is seeking to make it possible for a poor man to get money as cheaply as any banker can get it. It is seeking to break the speculator's corner in grain and pork. It is seeking to have the government issue all money in sufficient quantity to do the business of the country. It is seeking to watch the Congress from the people's side for the next twenty-five years. It seeks to make a profit in farming and industry as well as in money lending. It attacks the giant monopoly and intends to follow him to his overthrow. The Alliance demands great things—things that monopoly always said was impossible, and is buckling on its armor none too soon to save the overthrow of a great republic. It is marching on demanding justice where justice has been unknown. The farmer and laborer who take this stranger in will find the best friend they have known in twenty-five years.

Alma, (Kas.) News says:

The questions growing out of the financial condition of the country are very complicated and difficult to solve. Many are the theories and schemes presented to cure these financial troubles, but to all of these, the question where is the money to come from and how it is to be distributed among the people is a serious stumbling block. One thing is sure, the old financial system does not meet the demands of the times, and we must look to the future for something better. We must study and discuss the new measures proposed and carefully sift that which is sound and wise from that which is specious and impracticable.

Industrial Union (McPherson, Kas.) says:

The subsidized press is having lots of fun jumping on the proposed warehouse bill introduced into Congress in the interest of the Alliance. There is no attack to be made on the principle of the warehouse plan, as its enemies well know; so they confine themselves to criticism of its minor details, the number provided for, etc., which can and will be easily corrected, if the bill is given a half chance for its life. But the fun of it is, that the g. o. p. editors, to indulge in strictures on its details are recording themselves as in favor of its underlying principles.

Industrial Age (St. Paul, Minn.) says:

Wealth is produced, distributed and consumed. How to secure an equitable balance between these is the great consideration that should engage the attention of the economic student. Wealth is produced by labor and in the very nature of things all but a small fraction of it must be consumed by the laborers. If these laborers who create this wealth fail by any means to secure all that they need for the purposes of consumption, it demonstrates that something is grossly wrong with the system by which it is distributed and exchanged. To discover what is the nature of this wrong and to devise the means by which it can be removed, is the work in which every true reformer is engaged. We find by observation that the wealth created by labor, as a rule, passes from the possession of the laborer, and into the hands of the non-producer by means of our systems of interest, rent, profit and taxation. This fact is obvious to every observer, and such being the fact, it follows as a logical sequence, that whatever measure of reform that reduces the sum total of the wealth that it takes to pay interest, rent, profit and taxation, will leave the amount of this reduction in the hands of the laborers that produce it. And if the entire amount was saved labor would have all that it produced. Then if the petitioner chooses to tell it is his own business, but he could not blame the Union. Union men as a rule are too loose with their mouths and much hard feeling might be avoided if this were not so. We hope they will be more careful in the future, and not cause so much hard feeling among neighbors. The time is fast approaching when we will need all the harmony possible in our own ranks, and as few enemies outside as possible.

Ours is a benevolent organization of the broadest kind of charity, and if we cannot benefit an individual we should do him the least amount of injury. While we cannot accept as members all who might

wish to join us, we should not injure them in the eyes of their neighbors, or make enmity between them and individual members of our organization. Let us have absolute secrecy in regard to balloting.

The Farmers Vidette (Alexandria, La.) says:

Singular to state that those who oppose the sub-treasury bill with the greatest vehemence are those who have no remedy to offer the oppressed farmer. No sane man denies that the honest methods of our forefathers are fast disappearing. No intelligent American sees his country fast drifting into the avacious clutches of the barons and shysters of Wall street, and yet while standing on the brink of this yawning chasm these great constitutional lawyers pose with an indifference that boggles the mind. While Nero fiddled Rome burned. While this great American continent is being rapidly transformed into one vast British syndicate, these affect the learned and the profound.

Farmers Vidette (Alexandria, La.) says:

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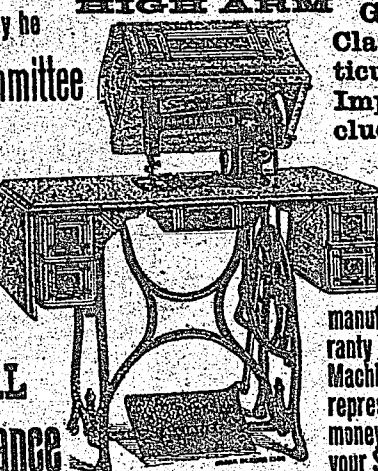
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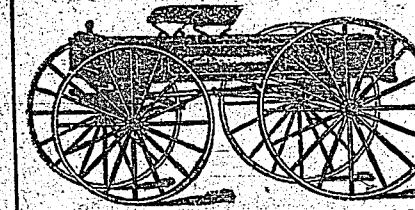
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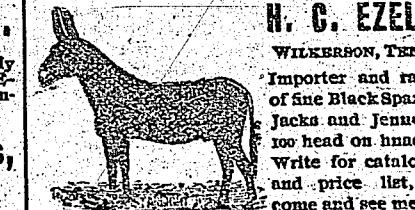
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