

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY OF THE NATIONAL FARMERS ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

L. L. Pile, President, North Carolina.
E. B. Linn, Vice President, Kansas.
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Executive Board—C. W. McCune, Chairman; A. Ward, J. F. Tillman.

DECLARATION OF PURPOSES.

Whereas the general condition of our country imperatively demands unity of action on the part of the laboring classes in reformation in economy, and the dissemination of principles best calculated to encourage and foster agricultural and mechanical pursuits, encouraging the tilling masses—leading them to the road to prosperity, and providing a just and fair remuneration for their just exchange for our commodities, and the best means of securing the laboring classes the greatest amount of goods, we hold to the principle that monopolies are dangerous to the interests of our country, tending to enslave a free people and to finally overthrow the great principle purchased by the fathers of America's liberty. We therefore adopt the following as our declaration of principles:

1. To favor for the education of the agricultural classes in the science of economic government in a strictly non-partisan spirit.

2. To inculcate the motto: "In things essential, unity; and in all things, charity."

3. To develop a better state, mentally, morally, socially, and financially.

4. To create a better understanding for sustaining civil officers in maintaining law and order.

5. To constantly strive to secure entire harmony and good will among mankind, and brotherly love among ourselves.

6. To suppress personal, local, sectional and national prejudices, all unhealthy rivalry and selfish ambition.

7. The brightest jewels which it garners are the hearts of widows and orphans, and its imperative commands are to visit the homes where lacerated hearts are bleeding; to assuage the sufferings of a brother or sister; bury the dead; care for the widows and educate the orphans; to exercise charity toward offenders; to construe words and deeds in their most favorable light, granting honesty of purpose and good intentions to others; and to protect the principles of the Alliance unto death. Its laws are reason and equity; its cardinal doctrines inspire purity of thought and life; its intention is "on earth peace and good will toward men."

OCALA DEMANDS.

1. We demand the abolition of national banks; we demand 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 per cent per annum on non-perishable farm products, and also upon real estate, with proper limitations upon the quantity of land and amount of money; we demand that the amount of the circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.

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

3. We denounce 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 railroad 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. 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 methods of public communication and transportation, and if this control and supervision do not remove the abuse now existing, we demand the government ownership of such means of communication and transportation.

STATE BANKS.

Senators have beaten any former record in the introduction of bills during the first week of Congress, and they are still pouring in. Senator Harris, of Tennessee, has introduced one to abolish the national tax on State banks of issue. This is a subject that now demands more than a passing notice. It is one of the most seductive sidetracks yet prepared for the Alliance by the wily politician. The hope is to be able to agitate many Alliance men into the support of that measure by accepting their cry of more money and presenting that as the quickest way. Never was hope more delusive. Wildcat banking is a long step backward in material progress. Money issued by State banks is not a legal tender and can't be made so. It can not, therefore, be made to be of material assistance in raising general prices in times of depression. It simply adds to the volume of personal paper, such as checks, drafts, bills of exchange, etc. When State bank money passes current it will for all practical purposes increase the volume of local money, but it is entirely under the control of the capitalists that issue it, and, therefore, instead of being a relief from present conditions, may well be regarded as a potent means of intensifying them, because the trouble, the curse of the day, is fluctuations in local prices on account of violent contractions and inflations of the local volume of money. The general prices nor the gross volume of money do not fluctuate near so much. With a local issue in the control of local banks, local scarcity could be prolonged until local speculators bought all the local products, and local inflation could be vigorously pushed during the season in which local producers were compelled to make purchases of commodities the most freely. Nothing more would be necessary to completely enslave local producers to local capitalists. The people are aroused to a determined opposition to banks of issue, national or State, and of the two, State banks of issue are the worst. The issue of the legal money of the country under this system of government is a monopoly *per se*, and as such is the function of government and should not be delegated to any citizen or set of citizens, because like all other true monopolies it carries with it the power to levy tribute at will, and that is incompatible with liberty. The true position on this question is, that the general government should alone issue the money, and that it should be supplied in necessary volume to do the business of the country, and that the volume be regulated by the amount of business to be transacted at all seasons and at all times.

This State bank side-track was presented two years ago as a rival of the sub-treasury plan, and it has been vigorously pushed in some of the Southern States by the professional politicians, not because they believed in it or thought it a good thing for the people, or had any hopes of securing it, but because they believed the arguments in favor of it could be so plausibly presented as to catch some Alliance men who are perhaps not well posted on financial matters, and thereby produce division in the Alliance ranks. But the Alliance school-master has been abroad in the land, and his name is sub-treasury, and prediction is here freely made that this side-track will grow rusty ere it is marked by a single Alliance shoe.

GOVERNMENT LOANS IN RUSSIA.

In obedience to instructions from the department, I have prepared the following report upon the system now in practice in Russia of making advances on farmers' grain stored in warehouses or delivered to officials of the several railroads of the country. Inasmuch as the rules and regulations touching this important question are not published for public distribution, I am indebted to the imperial ministry of finance for an official copy of the "Laws Governing Advances on Cereals on Account of the Imperial Bank of Russia," from which I have been courteously permitted to make the following summary for the use of the department:

1. Advances on grain may be made by any railway company authorized by the imperial ministry of finance. As stated in previous dispatches, the inhabitants of the districts through which the rebels pass make no resistance to them; on the contrary, they have furnished the soldiery

must not exceed 60 per cent of the value of the grain as thus estimated. In case the loan is granted for a period of six weeks or less, an advance of 50 per cent of the estimated value may be obtained.

3. The rate of interest on these loans is fixed by the Imperial Bank, and is usually 6 per cent, varying, however, a little from this rate according to the condition of the grain and the nature of the security. This interest is paid in advance and for the length of time it has been actually granted.

4. In addition to the regular interest, as above stipulated, the borrower is charged: (a) 2 per cent per annum for a sinking fund, but the percentage for the sinking fund must not exceed one-third of 1 per cent of the total loan; (b) a sum not exceeding one-third of 1 per cent as remuneration to the railway company for the trouble of negotiating the loan.

5. Loans are granted usually for six months, or without fixing the time in advance, but loans may be made for a longer period, as the necessity may arise. In the latter case the loan must be settled not later than one year from the date thereof.

6. The owners of the grain stored in the warehouse, and their legal representatives, are entitled, under the control of the railway company's agent, to inspect the grain from time to time, and to take measures in order to protect the same from being damaged or to demand that such measures be taken by the railway company on their account. In case of need, the railway company may take these measures on account of the owner, without being requested by the latter, and charge the expenses thereof to the owner.

7. The natural loss in weight resulting from the above operation is fixed by regulations issued by a council of officials appointed by the several railway companies.

8. The grain is returned by the railway company on repaying the advances, and other charges, as mentioned above.

9. If the sum advanced is not repaid when due and there is no good reason to grant an extension, the grain is sold by the railway company at public auction.

10. Such sale may be made imperative under the following circumstances and regulations: (a) If the stored grain shows signs of being irreparably damaged; (b) if the fear is entertained that the value of the grain stored in warehouses can not cover the charges for storage, the amount advanced, and other expenses. The receiver of the loan must, in all cases, be informed at least seven days in advance of the date of sale.

11. The railway company, after deducting the expenses of the public sale, covers all its own charges, i. e., the amount advanced, charges for storage, and other charges allowed by the government, before all other liabilities of the owner, even if he be bankrupt, can be liquidated.

12. Such railroad companies as are authorized to make advances on grain are entitled (a) to grant loans from their own means not being previously advanced by the Imperial Bank; (b) to buy or hire warehouses for storing such grain for a period of six months, charging for storage a certain percentage, which is fixed for each depot by the ministry of ways and communications, not exceeding 1 per cent; (c) to employ agents to cover the charges for storage, the amount advanced, and other expenses. The receiver of the loan must, in all cases, be informed at least seven days in advance of the date of sale.

13. The railway companies must bear the entire responsibility for the advances made on behalf of the Imperial bank.

14. If the amount due to the Imperial bank is not paid in 7 days after the sale of the goods, or within 7 days after the loan is repaid, the railway company must, besides the interest to the day of settlement, a fine of one-half of 1 per cent a month for the amount overdue.

15. The reserve fund mentioned above may be used by permission of the ministry of finance, as a gratuity to railway officials and to cover any loss sustained by the railway company in the operation of the loan.

16. The railway company may make advances (a) on grain intended for transportation and on grain stored in warehouses at the starting point, charging for storage not more than one-third of 1 copeck per peck per month; (b) on grain received by the railway company at the starting point, whether stored or loaded upon the cars at once or not; (c) on grain arrived at the place of destination and stored there in warehouses until sold or consigned, the charges remaining in all cases the same.

17. Advances can not be made on grain which is already hypothecated or upon which any unsettled charges whatever are resting.

18. In fixing the highest percentage for advances on grain, the price current at the place of destination are taken as the basis of such calculation; provided, however, that such place of destination is a market place. In making such calculation the usual expenses of transportation are reckoned as a portion of the sum loaned. The highest advances which may be made by any depot and for any kind of grain are fixed by the respective railway companies, they in turn being responsible to the Imperial bank.

19. The charges mentioned in paragraph 4, viz. one-third of 1 per cent of the sum advanced, are entirely put into the reserve fund of the respective railway companies and placed to the credit of the Imperial bank. This one-third of 1 per cent so advanced is thus divided: Two-thirds goes to the railway company at the starting point and one third to the railway company at the place of destination for the management of the loan.

20. When an advance is granted, an indorsement to that effect has to be made both on the railway note and its duplicate, mentioning the date on which the advance is made, the rate of interest, and other charges on the loan. Besides this, the receiver of the loan gives a special receipt for the money advanced either on grain which is intended for transport or which has been received to be stored in warehouses. When the loan is repaid, the receipt and other papers are returned to the borrower.

21. In case of advances made at the place of destination, the railway company is entitled to retain from the advance all their charges except those charged for the operation of the loan. An indorsement to this effect is made both on the railway note and on its duplicate.

22. The officers of the different companies are compelled to inform the other companies, as well as the Imperial bank, of the amount of grain received in warehouses at the different railway depots, as well as to advertise this fact in the local newspapers, that all may know when a given warehouse is full and unable to receive any more grain.

23. The owner of grain which is intended for transport and is stored in warehouses may receive it back on demand on paying the usual fee for storage, viz. one-third of 1 copeck per peck per month, and on settlement of all legal claims relative thereto.

24. If the owner of the grain wishes to warehouse it at the place of its destination, he must declare such intention in advance, and an indorsement to that effect must be made on the railway note and its duplicate; provided, however, if the warehouses at the place of destination are full, such a request can not be granted.

25. Cleaning, reshelling and screening of grain stored in warehouses must only be done under the supervision of the railway company. Before taking measures to prevent the warehouse grain from being damaged the railway company must inform the owner in its report, and the necessity of such action.

26. Should the railway company be compelled to sell the hypothecated grain for reasons mentioned in paragraph 10, the order for the sale may be revoked if the advance, or a reasonable part of it, be repaid seven days after the receipt of the notice of the intended sale.

In addition to the general rules governing this question, as enumerated above, I have learned that no distinction is made between farmers and so-called middlemen. The loans are made only on the grain, and it is of no consequence who delivers it and negotiates the loan. All such loans are made in paper rubles, the Russian copeck is part of it, and these paper rubles are taken from the regular governmental issues.

This scheme went into effect on June 14-26, 1888, and at the present day it is generally adopted throughout the country. The Russian copeck is a part of it on a very large scale. I should also add that the scheme gives great satisfaction to the farmers, many of whom declare that it has become an essential feature of successful farming in Russia.

The Russian copeck is a copper coin valued at three-fourths of a cent; a peck is equivalent to 36 pounds avoirdupois.

FOR FREE COINAGE.

December 10, Senator Stewart introduced the following bill; which was read twice and laid on the table.

A bill to provide for the free coinage of gold and silver bullion, and for other purposes.

SECTION 1. That from and after the date of passage of this act the unit of value in the United States shall be the dollar, and the same may be coined of four hundred and twelve and one-half 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 for his own use and without charge; but that he shall not receive any deposit of less value than one hundred dollars, or any bullion so based as to be unsuitable for the operations of the mint.

SEC. 2. That the provision of section three of an act to authorize the coinage of the standard silver dollar and to restore its legal-tender character, which became a law February twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and seventy-eight, is hereby made applicable to the coinage in this act provided for.

SEC. 3. That the certificates provided for in the second section of this act shall be of denominations of not less than one nor more than ten thousand dollars, and such certificates shall be redeemable in gold for all debts, public and private.

SEC. 4. That the certificates provided for in this act, and all silver and gold certificates already issued, shall be redeemable 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.

SEC. 5. That 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.

The following is taken from the report of the United States treasurer:

There has been a net increase of \$12,769,909 in the circulation since the 1st of November. The items of increase were as follows:

Standard silver dollars, \$561,743; subsidiary silver, \$740,301; gold certificates, \$6,549,650; treasury notes, \$4,509,802; United States notes notes, \$810,320; national bank notes, \$1,706,090. The items of decrease were: Gold coin, \$838,995; silver certificates, \$269,032; currency certificates, \$1,000,000.

Since November 1 there has been a net increase of \$8,867,045 in money and bullion in the treasury, the increase being made up as follows: Gold coin, \$3,796,754; standard silver dollars, \$852,013; gold bullion, \$4,271,668; silver bullion, \$3,884,053. There was a decrease as follows: Subsidiary silver, \$806,794; treasury notes, \$275,420; United States notes, \$810,320; national bank notes, \$397,041; trade-dollar bullion, \$1,147,898. The circulation per capita December 1 is stated at \$24.38.

The discussion of the Alliance on the volume of circulation has been a source of much concern to the present and past managers of the Treasury Department. Notwithstanding the plain statement of facts concerning this matter that has been made, showing the circulation to be less than one-third the amount claimed by the department, the same false position is adhered to. Mr. Windom acknow-

edged before a committee that this per capita amount was exaggerated, and Mr. Foster in his recent campaign document on that question made a failure in defending it. All the money outside the United States treasury is calculated to be in circulation, no matter whether it is in America, Europe, or the bottom of the sea.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The President's message to the Fifty-second Congress was delivered on the 10th instant. It furnishes a comprehensive view of the administrative work of the last fiscal year relating to internal affairs under thirty-three different heads. The State Department has made reciprocal trade arrangements with the Republic of Brazil, with Spain for its West India possessions, and with San Domingo.

An agreement was reached and signed in June by which Great Britain undertook from that date until May, 1892, to prohibit seal killing by her subjects in the Bering Sea, and the United States for the same period agreed to prohibit pelagic sealing and limited the catch by the Fur Seal Company upon the Islands to 7,500 skins. England has agreed to have the whole controversy as to the seal fisheries settled by arbitration.

Germany, Denmark, Italy, Austria and France have opened their ports to inspected American products, and an agreement has been reached with Germany looking to equitable trade concessions in consideration of continued free importation of her sugars.

The United States expressed an anxious solicitude for the peace of Brazil, and the advice offered was received in a friendly spirit by that government.

The lynching of eleven men of Italian nationality, at New Orleans, by a mob of citizens, did not have its origin in any animosity to the Italian people, nor did it mean disrespect to their government, our relations with Italy being of the most friendly character.

In regard to the Chilean revolution the United States tendered its good offices as a friendly and peaceful adjustment, but disappointment met her. Our naval officers and minister at Santiago were enjoined to treat Chile with impartiality, and by no means interfere. The United States was in diplomatic relations with the established government of Chile, and is now in such relations with the successor of that government. No official complaint of conduct of the United States minister or naval officers have been presented to the United States.

The Baltimore sailors on October 16 has been brought to the attention of the Chilean government and the United States waits an adequate and satisfactory response.

The late outbreak in China against foreigners has reached the larger form of an insurrection against public order. Congress is recommended to insist upon a continuance of the protective and punitive measures. The Chinese government has declined to receive Mr. Blair as minister of the United States on the ground that while Senator he participated in the enactment of the existing legislation against the introduction of Chinese laborers, Congress is asked to consider the expediency of making special provision for the temporary admission of Chinese artisans and laborers in connection with the exhibit of Chinese industries at the Columbian exposition.

As to the rights in the Caroline Islands, United States citizens had prior claims by settlement and purchase and had secured certain rights, that Spain was pledged to recognize and maintain.

Spain's failure to carry out these pledges has resulted in great injustice and injury to the American subjects.

Spain proposes to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the discovery of America by holding an exposition at Madrid which is to open in August, a fourth treaty was negotiated to facilitate the carrying out of the principles of the treaty of 1884.

Surveys for the sub-marine cable from the Pacific coast to Honolulu are progressing.

The President strongly recommends that provision be made for the improving of the harbor of Pearl river and equipping it as a naval station. He hopes that neither sectional lines nor party will be allowed to obstruct the completion of the Nicaragua canal, and continues until December 31, 1892. A cordial invitation to the United States to take part in this commemoration, the President hopes will receive friendly promotion.

Provision for the connecting links of the projected inter-continental railway are in progress in Mexico and at various other points. A treaty with Mexico was concluded on November 12, 1884, re-affirming the boundary between the two countries. On March 29, 1889, a fourth treaty was negotiated to facilitate the carrying out of the principles of the treaty of 1884.

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