

THE MONEY QUESTION

TRUE MONEY AND OUR PRESENT VICIOUS SYSTEM.

The Intrinsic Value Fallacy Is the Sum of All Villainies and the Foundation of All the Monetary Evils That Afflict the World.

Rev. D. Oglesby in Chicago Express: A true system of money would secure a just exchange of the products of labor. But the money systems of the world are perverted, and money is made the instrument to rob and enslave labor. It is so perverted that it places the cart before the horse. Ignoring the fact that labor fixes and regulates prices of all property to be exchanged, money is made to usurp the place of labor, and it becomes master instead of servant. It sets and regulates prices of everything on earth, of money too, when as a matter of fact it is nothing but the price of property itself. We read of money being "cheap," or "dear," an "easy money market," a "tight money market," etc. Money, true money, bears a similar relation to property that the yard stick does to a bolt of cloth, or the surveyor's chain to a tract of land.

The yard stick does not make the bolt of cloth longer or shorter, but is used to ascertain its actual length. So the surveyor's chain is used to ascertain the boundary of a tract of land, not to change the area. If the chain was made of rubber the quarter section might be made to contain 1,000 acres instead of 640; just as our rubber system of money makes the farmer's wheat sometimes \$1.50 per bushel and sometimes 50 cents; or the laborer's day of work sometimes \$2.00 and sometimes \$1.00, all of which is accomplished by expanding or contracting the volume of money in the country. It is a wicked perversion of money to give it such power.

It makes the master and enslaves the toilers. This perversion of money is based on the false idea that money is property; that it possesses intrinsic value. It is even recognized as not only property, but elevated above all property.

1. This idea gives rise to a class of money-mongers—men who deal in money. Money is not made to deal in, but to do business with.

2. This property idea is the basis on which usury or interest stands. There is no other justification for interest than the property claim.

3. This property idea is the source of all debt.

4. In spring property values are inflated, all profits, all wealth, all activity, all production, all value, all satisfaction.

5. This property idea is the cause of the property claim.

6. This produces panics and hard times, causing all prices to shrink, banks to fail, business houses are ruined and business paralyzed.

7. This property fallacy is the foundation for the theory of redeeming one kind of money with another kind; of swapping dollars.

8. This property fallacy causes the world to cling to coin as the only material to use for money. All money made out of paper is only currency redeemable in coin.

The object is to make money scarce and produce debts in order to get interest. And the theory now is to have no real money in the world but gold; all other money must stand on that.

We are assured that all the minted gold in the world could be stowed away in an ordinary church, house or hall. This little pile of metal is to fix the price of, and measure the value of, every kind of property on the earth. It is absurd and monstrous. It is so contemptible that, as the boy said, it isn't fit to be ridiculous.

Thus we must keep \$100,000,000 of gold as a sacred reserve, to accommodate the banks. Nobody else wants to redeem greenbacks.

9. This intrinsic property idea of money is the cause of Wall street gold gambling.

10. To sum it all up in few words, this property idea of money adopted by the world, is the sum of all villainies. It is the upas tree breeding death to all governments.

It not only robs mankind, but robs God too. Here is the proof: God makes the oak tree. It bears acorns. The acorn is invested with vitality. It will grow and make another oak tree. Man makes money—the dollar. It is falsely invested with vitality. The dollar will grow and make another dollar. Thus man becomes a creator too, and man's work, money, is equal or superior to God's work. The oak tree will grow old and die. But the dollar planted in debt never grows old or dies.

Sam Jones said when the old prophet Daniel waked up in the lion's den after pillowing his head on the shaggy mane of the lion and sleeping soundly all night, he rubbed his eyes, and, looking round, said, "This beats h—l."

His idea was that if he had disobeyed his God he would have been cast into hell instead of the lion's den. But this property theory of money beats the great God.

His intention was that every man should eat his bread in the sweat of his face, or by labor. But this system lifts the money-monger above God's law of labor. He can snap his finger in defiance of his creator's law.

Some one made the calculation that

1 cent put at compound interest on the day Christ was born at 6 per cent would amount to more now than all the wealth of every kind on the American continent. Only 1 cent.

One dime placed at 5 per cent compound interest on the first Christmas would now amount to over 32,000,000,000,000 of spheres as large as our earth of solid gold. It would take a man 1,500 years to count these globes, counting 100 a day. It would make over 800,000 rows of globes as large as the earth made of solid gold, reaching to the sun. Only a dime.

That is the outcome of property money. The world is groaning under its load and it is getting heavier every hour. No wonder it crushed to powder Rome, Greece, Egypt, and all the great empires of earth.

We are traveling the same road and unless we "face about" we will land where they did.

But we don't propose to "face about." We voted to stick to the gold standard because the Republican party wanted us to do it.

For thirty years or over the Republican and Democratic parties pretended to fight each other with all their might. The reformers told the people that it was a sham war. The old parties held up the tariff before the people, like shaking a red rag at a mad bull, so as to keep the country from seeing that they were manipulating the money question so as to enslave them. Now the two old parties are married and enjoying their honeymoon.

It was not free coinage of silver that both the old parties hated. This was sham again. It was the income tax, government by injunction, but especially the war on national banks that these our enemies hated.

The hard conditions of life produced by this heathen system of money is awful. "The destruction of the poor is their poverty." Bible. The harvest of mammon worship is appalling.

In the year 1895 over two hundred men were hanged each day to drunkard's graves. Over thirty murders each day, and over ten suicides. Estimate if you can the anguish, the tears, the groans, the crushed hearts and blasted lives of the wives and children of wrecked families.

Yet we voted to worship the gold calf on Nov. 3.

So this dance of death is to continue. The priests of mammon rejoice. They have gained a great victory.

They have put down anarchy. They have crushed out rebellion. They have their feet on the neck of the toilers, and their slaves are subdued. Hanna's money did it and they shout for joy. Let the masses weep, starve, suffer and die. What care they? God is God. "What is the Almighty that we should serve him." "Is there knowledge in the Most High?" Yes. "How do we laugh at their calamity and mock when their fear cometh," and it

Richview, Ill.

The Fewer the Better. For three successive elections Mississippi has chosen seven Congressmen on a total vote of less than 66,000. In 1894 the total vote was less than 40,000. The Fourteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution reads in part as follows:

"But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice-President of the United States, representatives in Congress, the executive and judicial officers of a state, for the members of the legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male citizens of such state, being twenty-one years of age and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such state."

Outside of South Carolina there were perhaps no three Congressmen, who will occupy seats in the next house whose districts did not cast in the aggregate more than 66,000 votes, and in many single districts in the late election more than half that vote was thrown. Now if the clause of the constitution above quoted means anything it means that under such conditions as now prevail in this state and South Carolina the representation in Congress shall be cut down in the proportion which the number of male citizens disfranchised by state laws bear to the whole number of male citizens in the state over twenty-one years of age.

This would give Mississippi two, certainly not more than three Congressmen, and unless we had a wonderful improvement on the old gang who have masqueraded at Washington the past six years, we do not hesitate to say the fewer the better.

The People Are Getting What They Voted For.

The coal monopoly is turning its screw once more for the oppression of the people. There is no duty on anthracite coal and never has been. It was thought the reduction of the duty on soft coal from 75 to 40 cents per ton would tend to reduce the price of anthracite. But it has not had that effect, and gradually coal has been going up while all other products are going down. It simply shows that there is a combine or trust that they have the people by the throat. Government will have to take hold of that monopoly, as of the railroads and other great corporations, and exact that which is just and right for the benefit of the public. Even wages in the mines have been crowded down. The poor man everywhere suffers while the rich mine-owner prospers. Often the railway companies are partners in helping to give another turn to the monopolistic screw.—Western Rural.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Professional politicians will do to watch.

The world is going mad after wealth and power.

Push the work of education on government railroads.

There is a strong mistrust that the meat trust is hoggish.

A howler for office is out of his place in the People's party.

"Banks are more dangerous than standing armies."—Jefferson.

Let the war against banks of issue be waged all along the line.

The Republican party has a large batch of promises to redeem. Watch it.

Agitate the question of compelling the banks to give full security to depositors.

The Jaw Gymnasium, alias the American Congress, is now in full blast.

If we had Direct Legislation we could wipe up the earth with the politicians.

One of the demands of the times, and one that the people will have soon, is an income tax.

The banks have declared war on the people's money, now let war be declared against the banks.

The People's party is no one man's party or two men's foolishness. The rank and file must rule.

One of the principal objections which plutocratic papers urge against Populism is Peffer's whiskers.

In Illinois a banker has been sent to the penitentiary for robbing his depositors. Mark one for Illinois.

It costs about \$20,000,000 a year to sustain the army, and the proposition now is to increase it.

The little dollar makes the big dollar of the rich rich, and the poor poorer.

If the law We have made money, then let us repeal the law which makes gold a legal tender.

The New York Journal is authority for the statement that the Republicans had a campaign fund of \$16,000,000.

The Republicans threaten to break up the trusts if they don't give up the people.

Don't depend too much upon the question of free silver as an issue; educate along the lines of the Populist platform.

A number of the men who marched in Chicago for "sound money" in the recent campaign are now marching for something to eat.

If it is unconstitutional to tax the rich then we should have a system that would make it impossible for a man to become very rich.

Did you ever think what little respect the rich anarchists have for the laws. They seem to think that laws are made for the poor to observe only.

Finance, Transportation and Land constitute the main issues which concern humanity most. Let every Populist continue to educate along these lines.

The law cannot make a wrong right; robbery is robbery whether a violation of law or not. Trusts, however, are unlawful combinations and therefore unlawful robbers.

The Imperative Mandate enables the people to vote office-holders out of office when they don't do to suit them. Of course plutocracy and the office-holders will oppose it.

The war against excessive rates of railroad and express companies is increasing in its intensity. The logic of events points to government ownership as the only remedy.

More rotten armor plate has been discovered going into the construction of some of our war vessels. The armor plate companies seem to be in the steel business as well as the steel business.

Railroad corporations have done more to corrupt our courts and legislatures than all other things combined. Government ownership will avoid all this, as well as be a great saving to the people.

The Republicans seem to be in a peck of trouble; they are asked by the bankers to retire the greenbacks and they don't see their way clear to do it without issuing bonds, which they fear to do. If they do either, or both, defeat stares them in the face at the next election.

There is considerable fear expressed among Populists at the proposition to increase the standing army, but a greater danger than that threatens us. It is the aggressive spirit of the banks. Having disposed of silver, as they think, they now propose to destroy the greenback and assume full control of the currency.

QUEEN ON ARBITRATION.

Refers With Gratification to the Treaty With the United States.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT OPENED.

The Speech from the Throne Read in Joint Session in the House of Lords—Salisbury Leads Arbitration—Treaty Diminishes the Risks of War—Brings Nations Together—Address Cheered.

LONDON, England (By Cable).—The third session of the Fourteenth Parliament was opened Tuesday with the usual ceremonies, including the formality of searching the vaults of the Parliament buildings for a possible spy. The United States Ambassador Bayard and Secretary Carter were present in the House of Lords. Senator Edward O. Wolcott, of Colorado, was in the "distinguished strangers' gallery" in the House of Commons.

That part of the Queen's speech devoted to the arbitration treaties was as follows: "My Government has discussed with the United States, acting as a friend of Venezuela, the terms whereunder pending questions of the disputed frontier between that republic and my colony of British Guiana may be equitably submitted to arbitration, and an arrangement has been arrived at with that Government which will, I trust, effect an adjustment of existing controversies without exposing to risk the interests of any of the countries whose established rights are in the disputed territory."

"It is with much gratification that I have concluded a treaty for general arbitration with the President of the United States by which the greatest risks of war or restraint a Napoleon or Bismarck, but the policy with the United States was full of an indefinite number of small differences, which, sometimes exaggerated, caused irritation and animosity. The tribunal of arbitration would settle these differences. Lord Salisbury plighted the nations' growing under excessive armaments, and declared that the Government believed the greatest risk of war or restraint a Napoleon or Bismarck, but the policy with the United States was full of an indefinite number of small differences, which, sometimes exaggerated, caused irritation and animosity. The tribunal of arbitration would settle these differences."

A GEORGIA LYNCHING. The Murderers of Mrs. Rowland Haug and Riddled With Bullets.

Friday night Charles Forsythe and Willis White, negroes, were taken from Twigg county jail, at Jeffersonville, Ga., and lynched by a masked mob of 100 men. The negroes were swung from a scrubby oak and before death could ensue from strangulation their bodies were filled with bullets and buckshot.

The crime for which the men were executed was the killing of Mrs. Rowland at Adams Park, on the night of January 13. They went to Rowland's store and asked for money and food, and while Mrs. Rowland was complying with their demands one of them shot her with a pistol, the ball striking her in the abdomen, causing death the next day. The negroes were arrested, and each accused the other of the crime, but there is no doubt of their guilt.

It is said the lynching is the result of the long-deferred punishment of Mrs. Nobles and Families, convicted of murder by a jury of technicality have falling heavy expense on the county.

CUBA'S OTHER SCOURGE. There Are 2,053 Cases of Small-Pox in Havana Alone.

There are now 2,053 cases of small pox in Havana. At Guanajay, in Pinar del Rio, which has only 10,000 inhabitants, there are 467 cases. Yellow fever and malaria are also ravaging the country, and it may be safely affirmed that the sanitary condition of Cuba is a far greater danger to the United States than the much-feared bubonic plague of India. Cuba is close to our coasts, and there is daily communication between the island and the main land.

At the end of March the depressing winter weather begins here, and then diseases of a contagious nature spread twice as fast as during the winter. Cuba is now a focus of disease, and may become a source of danger, perhaps to the whole world.

The small pox was introduced here by the 200,000 soldiers from Spain. The Spanish common people are not cleanly in their habits, and moreover, they come to Cuba crowded by thousands in the dirty steamers of the Compania Transatlantica, in which no well bred American would travel if he could help it.

Women for War. A question of woman's rights has been raised in the war department and is likely to cause discussion. The civil service commission recently advertised to fill a \$1,500 vacancy in the Adjutant-General's office, requiring knowledge of five modern languages, typewriting in these languages, proof reading, literary methods and other qualifications. Miss Ann Stalaker, of Washington, a lady of unexceptionable character and accomplishments, was the only person who passed the examination and she was duly certified for the position, but the appointment has been rejected on the ground that the department does not desire to have women in the place.

Eighty-Three Cuban Claims. Friday in response to a resolution the President transmitted to the Senate a list of the claims filed in the Department of State by American citizens against Spain, arising out of the insurrection in the Island of Cuba, together with such correspondence relating to the capture of the schooner Competitor and the persons claiming American citizenship taken on that vessel as he does not deem it incompatible with the public interest to communicate. The list of claims includes 83, and aggregate nearly ten million dollars, where the amount is stated.

Southern Improvement. The Manufacturers' Record, in its weekly review of business conditions in the South, gives a detailed statement showing the total value of all exports from Southern ports for the eleven months ending November, 1896, as compared with the corresponding time in 1895. The total figures for 1896 being 263,628,300 against \$229,208,612 in 1895, a gain of \$78,699,000. The increase in the value of exports for the period named from the entire country was \$156,300,000; the gain at Southern ports being a little more than one-half of the total for the country.

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ON WINS IN ILLINOIS. The lean Caucus Nominates the Ex-Congressman.

W. Mason, of Chicago, was nominated for the United States Senate to succeed John M. Palmer, joint Republican caucus at Springfield candidates withdrawing because apparent that Mason would carry it. The Democrats voted Governor Altgeld.

Will Mason was born in Frankville, Illinois County, N. Y., in 1833. In 1868 he with his parents to Iowa. He was elected to the State Legislature in 1873, and to the Congress and re-elected to the Fifty-fifth, and was defeated for the Fifty-sixth by Allen C. Durbin.

He Re-Elected. At a by both houses voted separate United States Senator from Mississippi resulted as follows: In the first pm., 85; Kears (Rep.), 84; J. A. In the Senate—Yest, 19; Kears.

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COMMERCIAL REPORT.

Financial and Commercial Markets Advancing Towards Better Conditions.

Messrs. R. G. Dunn & Co. says: "There is more business, though not at better prices. It is interesting that almost all prices which change at all are lower than a week ago and yet business is unquestionably larger. There is a larger production, but as yet not as much increase in consumption, and there is larger buying of materials, but at present only because better prices are expected in the future. A few conspicuous failures during the week have had no material influence. The market for securities are slightly stronger and yet there is very little doing. The number of hands employed, all industries considered, is slightly larger than a week ago, without adverse changes in the rate of wages. All apprehension of foreign disturbance of money markets has passed away, but there is still a great caution in making loans. It is a mistake to reckon these as symptoms of depression. On the contrary, in spite of the lower range of prices in important industries, the conditions all indicate larger production and consumption increasing, not as yet largely, but steadily."

The earnings of railroads in January have been 4.4 per cent smaller than last year.

"Wheat, corn and cotton exports are the key of the financial situation, and during the past week wheat has declined 5-8c, and corn 5-8c, while cotton is unchanged. The woolen industry is as slow as ever, and no real improvement appears in the demand for goods, although owing to the lateness of the season there is a little more doing, both in spring and in winter goods, without quotable change in prices."

"Failures for the week have been 400 in the United States, 878 last year and 35 in Canada, against 61 last year."

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FIFTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

The Proceedings Briefly Told From Day to Day.

SENATE. TUESDAY.—The Nicaragua bill was under consideration in the Senate today for two hours. Turpie, (Dem.) of Indiana, denounced the bill. Mr. Hill, (Dem.) of New York, spoke for an hour and a half on a joint resolution relating to the electric sub-ways in the District of Columbia. The matter went over without action. Monday next was fixed upon as the day for the delivery of eulogies upon the late Speaker Crisp.

WEDNESDAY.—The Senate passed the custom house bill for the erection of a new custom house at New York at a cost not exceeding five million dollars. They are still hammering at the Pacific railroad matter. As to the lines between Venezuela and British Guiana, it was referred to the committee on foreign affairs. Turpie, (Dem.) of Indiana, continued his onslaught on the Nicaragua canal bill. The legislative appropriation bill was passed.

THURSDAY.—An unsuccessful attempt was made by Mr. Hill, backed by Mr. Chandler, to have a bill considered and passed fixing the term of all postmasters at four years. Mr. Hale, (Rep.) of Maine, objected and the bill was not taken up. Turpie began his third day's argument against the Nicaraguan canal bill. Mr. Morgan, (Dem.) of Alabama, wanted a day set for the final vote, but objection was made by Turpie and Vilas. Finally, a vote of yeas and nays showed an absence of a quorum, so the Senate adjourned until Friday.

FRIDAY.—The recognition of Cuba was brought up by Mr. Turpie, (Dem.) of Indiana, saying he would call up Cameron's resolution Monday and address the Senate on the subject. The arbitration treaty was discussed at some length, but was finally declared out of order, and the matter was dropped. The Nicaraguan bill was taken up again.

SATURDAY.—The Senate devoted itself to the business of clearing the calendar of pension bills and of other bills to which no objection was offered. Of the former all were passed without a single objection. There were 104 of them and it required only 95 minutes to dispose of them. Of the latter class of bills there were some 50 passed. Among the above appropriations was a bill to build a lighthouse at the mouth of the Cape Fear river near Wilmington, N. C., to cost \$7,000, \$100,000 additional for the public building at Norfolk, Va.

HOUSE. MONDAY.—The House spent the day in consideration of miscellaneous matters, business of the District of Columbia occupying the greater portion of the session. The bill amending the patent laws along the lines proposed by the American Bar Association to give to the United States the benefit of devices patented by naval officers was passed.