

# The Mount Airy News.

VOL. XXIX

MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1908.

NO. 8

## Republican Policies and How they Oppress.

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 5.—Obviously, the proposal to guarantee bank deposits has appealed powerfully to the masses of the people. So far as I have been able to judge the drift of sentiment, in a journey through twelve States during the past few weeks, not only is there acceptance of the proposal, but an actual demand that it be carried into effect through the enactment of Federal legislation. This demand comes from small depositors, as well as from every large account, in city and village, from merchants in urban and suburban localities, from workmen, from farmers, in fact from all classes. In some quarters objections are heard, and the matter seems to have become the chief, or at least a chief, issue in the present campaign. One of the convincing arguments in favor of the guarantee of deposits may be offered in presenting the method whereby insurance, both fire and life, is carried in all countries. Bank guarantee of deposits is merely in another form the principle applied in the insurance system—that a fund be collected by the imposition of a moderate charge on each one of many persons (or banks) in order that all may be secure. Some one pertinently has remarked that, if it be tenable to oppose deposits' guarantee on the score that it would induce bad banking, equally it is tenable to oppose fire insurance because it might induce suicide. This parallel may at first thought be regarded as facetious; yet upon second thought, probably most persons will see that the parallel not only is serious but also logical. As a matter of fact, as has been cited frequently, the banks of the nation themselves have applied the deposit guarantee plan whenever financial stress has prevailed, and have issued clearing house certificates, behind which stand all the resources of the banks in the clearing house association, and, at times, have assumed responsibility for all deposits in the case of banks which already have been proven to have been victims of "bad banking," as, for instance, in the case of the John R. Walsh institution in Chicago.

Has the economic drift in late years been such as the American farmer should endorse? I have lived all my life either in an agricultural community or at the seat of government in Washington, D. C. It always has been difficult for me to understand why the farmers did not protest against an arrangement whereunder they sold in a competitive market, and bought in a market, the prices of which were absolutely controlled by the seller. Ignoring the effect of market manipulation on the selling values of farm produce, the producer must accept what his stuff is worth under the law of world supply and demand; yet, when he goes into the market to buy, he must submit to the payment of prices fixed arbitrarily by governing boards of trusts and combinations, who frequently maintain prices in the face of increased supply, even at times raising them, and at other times lowering them in the face of decreased supply. A boiled statement of the existing system of political economy now apparently endorsed by proposals to continue trusts in existence, is: Starting with raw materials, further production (manufacturing) is mostly controlled by trusts; distribution

(railroads) is controlled by virtually one trust. Just how the farmer is to get his share of the country's wealth and prosperity (when prosperity there be to share) seems to be a problem worthy the effort to solve. In my judgment, it never has been solved.

Every farmer carries a watch. It cost him, perhaps, \$20. Some buy \$50, perhaps, \$75. Observe—If it cost him \$75, he may buy the same timepiece in England marked and actually "made" in the United States, for \$42.50. The watch trust in this country controls the selling price by retailers, and, under the terms of the existing tariff law, are able to maintain the \$75 price here, at the same time selling the same product in foreign countries so low that you could make that \$42.50 purchase in England. An elaborate presentation of these facts, setting forth evidence sufficient to prove it in a court of law, according to the judgment of many of the government's best lawyers at Washington, was made to the Department of Justice two years ago by Congressman Rainey, of Illinois; yet, up to this time, the watch trust continues to enjoy its \$75 selling in this country, while it sells gladly the same watch in England for \$42.50.

Let it be noted here that export duties on agricultural machinery made in the United States are sold in foreign countries cheaper than at home. I am sure most well informed agriculturists will remember that these assertions were denied with strenuousness up to two years ago, at which time the manufacturers suddenly changed front, and certain members of the congress substituted explanation for denial.

In 1905, \$90,000,000 worth of implements were bought by American farmers. Not less than \$18,000,000 of this was the added tariff incus which manufacturers are enabled to load on the farmers by reason of existing revenue laws. In other words, had the machines been sold at home as cheaply as abroad, they would have cost the American farmer \$18,000,000 less than they did.

Just a few comparative prices, before passing to another phase of the discussion. Farmers use wire nails—they bring \$2.25 a hundred-weight here and \$1.35 abroad; horseshoe nails cost \$3 per 100, abroad \$2; barbed wire costs in the United States \$3, abroad \$2; while the sewing machines the farmer's wife uses cost in the United States from \$27.50 to \$18. In foreign countries American-made machines cost from \$20.75 to \$12 for corresponding grades.

Quite naturally most American citizens favor the economic proposition that American workmen should be benefited by the tariff system of the nation; as a matter of fact, the application of the fundamental principle underlying that proposition, as regards the tariff laws, has been to up-build huge corporations which in many lines have obtained absolute control of production—for instance, the steel trust.

The actual capitalization of the trust's constituent companies did not exceed \$360,000,000, and of that aggregate much was "water." The present capitalization of the steel combination is \$1,-

600,000,000. The annual profits of the trust are \$180,000,000, which is 50 per cent of the actual combined capitalization of the constituent companies.

Have the workmen employed by the steel trust received in wages their proportionate share of the enormous profits reaped by the trust's operations? is a question which, in all fairness, should be answered by the trust's officers who, in common with most of the other trust officials, oppose reasonable reduction of the tariff.

Inasmuch as the original argument for a high tariff, after the war necessities ceased to offer excuse years ago, was that it would bring benefits to the workmen, the disparity between their benefits and those received by the capitalistic owners would appear to be worth attention by the apologists for the prevalent unreasonably high tariff duties levied to assist "infant" industries, such as the steel trust.

To call in question the motives of others never is a pleasant task for a person of healthy mind. One prefers to believe in the sincerity of his fellows. Yet, in the face of the record, to credit absolute honesty of motive to the "standpatters" taxes even the best natured. For years, the people have been told, first, it would not be wise to revise the tariff now, because political affairs have quieted, and it would injure business to stir up tariff matters; then, later, it would be unwise to revise the tariff before the Presidential election, because it would not be wise to do so sufficiently with business, without the additional "scare" of upset tariff schedules; and then after election, the argument has been that the country has suffered enough from political interference with their business to entitle them to be "spared" the further disquieting effects of a tariff revision discussion.

Inasmuch as the time of the nation all is divided into three periods—between election, just before election and just after election—it has appeared hitherto difficult for the friends of protection of the ultra-high variety to locate a point of time when revision would be wise.

Does it matter when the tariff is revised? Let us see. President Van Cleve, of the National Manufacturers' Association, admits that the prevailing high tariff causes annually the addition of \$3,000,000 for each working day to the cost of goods bought by the people of the United States, or a total increase of \$900,000,000 each year. Four years ago, the country was promised that "when the necessity arose for the revision of the tariff, the Republican party would revise it," or words to that effect. If President Van Cleve be correct in his estimate, then it has cost the nation \$900,000,000 a year, or \$3,600,000,000 for the past four years, because the "necessity for revision" seemed not to have arisen. In the opinion of the "standpat" friends of the existing too high tariff.

"By their fruits ye shall know them," and "proof of the pudding is in the eating," are different statements of the same idea. Assume that it has been applied to the (apparently) un-revisable tariff, (looked at from past performances,) keeping in mind that practically all the blessings of the American people have been credited to that same existing tariff laws, and then read these figures, vouched for by unimpeachable authorities:

The wealth of the nation is \$107,104,211,917; yet 70 per cent of it is owned by 200,000 persons, the other 30 per cent belonging to about 90,000,000; 5,000 persons own one-sixth of that total wealth; when the steel trust directors meet around the board table, they represent one-twelfth of the whole country's wealth. Everyone has seen that picture

entitled: "There ain't goin' to be no core." It represents two boys, one with an apple, the other saying: "Aw, give me the core; wontcher?" It is not of record that the artist designed a covert reference to the comparative status of the two highly protected trusts as the boy with the apple, and the American workmen as the boy who asks for the core; yet well might that artist have conceived such a thought, for surely, there has not been much of a "core" for the workman, as compared with the employers, in reference to the adjustment of the existing tariff duties.

### Taft Gets Busy.

Middle Bass Island, O., Sept. 5.—William H. Taft will make a traveling campaign during the month of October, devoting his time principally to those States which the national committee may consider doubtful, if the ideas of both the candidate and his national chairman Frank H. Hitchcock, as expressed to-day, are carried out.

Mr. Taft had let it be known before he left Hot Springs that he rather favored activity for himself during the campaign, but he indicated then that the matter was one for the decision of the national committee and the decision of that body has been that the candidate remain in Cincinnati to conduct a dignified canvass.

"Mr. Hitchcock has changed his mind," was the expression made by Judge Taft after the hour's conference he had to-day with the national chairman. This change was undoubtedly because of the pressure which has been brought to bear on him in the demands for speeches and the presence of the candidate, especially from the West.

Mr. Taft indicated that although the greatest demand for his presence had come from the West, this would not preclude his appearance in Eastern States and the tour was decided on it would undoubtedly reach both East and West.

Aside from getting together on this important phase of the situation, Mr. Hitchcock gave the candidate a detailed account of the reports he has been receiving from national, State and local leaders from all sections of the country. These reports he said, embraced all phases of political conditions, some good and others not so good.

Judge Taft took his usual morning fishing trip but with no success.

### Lynching in Georgia.

Albany, Ga., Sept. 5.—John Towns, the negro who attempted criminal assault on Mrs. Joe Wheeler at her home near Damascus Thursday night, was taken from the guard house at Damascus early this morning by a mob of a hundred men and lynched.

Towns was tracked from the Wheeler house to a cotton field two miles distant. He was arrested by a posse and lodged in the guard house yesterday morning, after his identity had been established. There was intense feeling in the community, however, and it was evident yesterday that a lynching could not be prevented by the cooler heads and a guard was placed around the negro's prison last night, but the early hours brought a mob of men who demanded the prisoner.

The deputies, who refused to release him, were overpowered and the doors of the guard house were broken open. Towns was carried down the railroad track just outside of the town and swung up. His body was riddled with bullets. Deputy Sheriff Ed Black, who went to carry the negro to Blakely for safe-keeping arrived just in time to hear the distant volleys, which were fired into Towns' swinging body.

### Words of Wisdom.

Wilkesboro Chronicle.

When Rome was mistress of the world and every government and power respected and did obsequence to her name and power, she had a free and unpoluted, unpurchasable electorate; there were no special privileges granted to certain persons because of the particular business engage in; voters owned their own property and plied the business of their own choosing without environment or estimation of obligation to any other person or business. Every voter was a proud, untrammelled citizen, and a candidate that in any way did or said anything that had the remotest appearance of bribery was scorned, repudiated and banished. Some 200 years later the people lulled to sleep by a sense of security, slumbered while the government granted special privileges to certain classes, and concentration of wealth and the pollution of the electorate soon followed.

And then quickly followed the downfall of the government. And history tells us that in the last days about 600 men in the city owned 90 per cent of the property of the government and voters were purchased like cattle. When Babylon fell, 1 per cent of the people owned about 95 per cent of the property. It has been stated in the United States Senate by Senator Taylor and also by others of authority and denied by no one that today in U. S. 10 per cent of the people own 97 per cent of the wealth. And what about the voters? It is as true as day light to-day, that a principal part of the employes of manufacturing and mining plants are virtually slaves and must vote the regulation ticket of special privileges to the owner of the plant, or give place to imported labor.

These conditions have grown up since the war under the nourishment of special privileges granted to favorites by the government. Where are we drifting? Are we following close after Babylon and Rome?

When the aeronaut reached a height of more than 500 feet the spectators were amazed to see small tongues of flame issuing from under the gas bag in front of the motor. At this time the balloon had passed out of the fair grounds. Many persons in the great crowd endeavored to advise Jones of his danger, but several minutes elapsed before he noticed the fire. Then he grasped the rip cord and by letting out gas, endeavored to reach the earth. The machine had descended but a short distance when a sudden burst of flame enveloped the gas bag and the frame work, immediately separating it from the bag.

Jones fell with the frame of his motor, and when the spectators reached him he was lying under it. The gas bag was completely destroyed. The physicians who were in the crowd found that Jones had no chance to survive as he was injured internally, and his spine was broken.

### Aeronaut Dashed to Death.

Waterville, Maine, Sept. 2.—In full view of 25,000 horrified spectators, assembled on the Central Maine fair grounds here late to-day, Charles Oliver Jones, of Hammondsport, N. Y., aeronaut, fell a distance of 500 to his death. Among the witnesses of the frightful plunge were Mrs. Jones and child, and they were almost the first to reach the side of the dying man. Jones died an hour and a half after the accident.

Jones had been at the fair grounds with his dirigible balloon "Boomerang," known as a Strobela ship, since Monday. Today he arranged to make a flight between 3 and 4 o'clock, but such a high wind prevailed that a delay was necessary. At 4:30 conditions had modified and he gave the word to have the machine released.

Kodol will, in a very short time, enable the stomach to do the work it should do, and the work it should do is to digest all the food you eat. When the stomach can't do it Kodol does it for it and in the meantime the stomach is getting stronger and able to take up its regular natural work again. Kodol digests all you eat. It makes the stomach sweet and it is pleasant to take. It is sold here by J. H. Gwyn.

When the aeronaut reached a height of more than 500 feet the spectators were amazed to see small tongues of flame issuing from under the gas bag in front of the motor. At this time the balloon had passed out of the fair grounds. Many persons in the great crowd endeavored to advise Jones of his danger, but several minutes elapsed before he noticed the fire. Then he grasped the rip cord and by letting out gas, endeavored to reach the earth. The machine had descended but a short distance when a sudden burst of flame enveloped the gas bag and the frame work, immediately separating it from the bag.

Jones fell with the frame of his motor, and when the spectators reached him he was lying under it. The gas bag was completely destroyed. The physicians who were in the crowd found that Jones had no chance to survive as he was injured internally, and his spine was broken.

### Victim Of Swollen Neuse.

Kinston, Sept. 2.—Mr. O. W. Patterson, a book-keeper for the National Bank of Kinston, was drowned in the Neuse river this afternoon about 5 o'clock. Mr. Patterson was out on the river in a small gasoline boat with Messrs C. E. Speer, C. W. Pridgen and Asa Hawkins. When nearing the county bridge the swift current swept the boat irresistibly toward the bridge, the floor of which was only about three feet above the surface of the water. Striking the sustaining rods of the bridge,

The boat was capsized. The other gentlemen saved themselves by grasping the structure of the bridge, but Mr. Patterson is supposed to have sustained a stunning blow on the head which rendered him unconscious. He was seen to rise to the surface feet foremost one time, since which his body has not been found.

It is not probable that the body will be recovered for several days owing to the swollen condition of the river.

The Knights of Pythias have employed a force to search continually until the recovery of the remains.

Mr. Patterson leaves a young wife, who is at present visiting her parents in Florence, S. C. They recently sustained the loss of their only child, a little girl, and this will be a serious blow to Mrs. Patterson, who has not yet recovered from their former sad bereavement. They were excellent young people and many friends deeply sympathize with the young widow.

Said a poet to an unfortunate speculator: Don't you think that the opening lines of Tennyson's little poem, 'Break, break break,' are plaintive and sad?

"Yes," was the melancholy reply. "But I think that 'Broke, broke, broke,' is a good deal sadder."—Chicago Journal.

Many people suffer a great deal from Kidney and Bladder troubles. During the past few years much of this complaint has been made unnecessary by the use of DeWitt's Kidney and Bladder Pills. They are antiseptic and are highly recommended for weak back, backache, rheumatic pains, inflammation of the bladder and all other annoyances due to weak kidneys. They are sold by J. H. Gwyn.

## PIGS.

I have a fine lot of pigs ready to ship. More than fifty to select from. I always ship best pigs in the lot. Order at once and get choice.

JOHN A. YOUNG,  
Greensboro, N. C.