State Librarian

THE FARMERS' ADVOCATE.

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BRIEF OPINIONS.

A CAMPAIGN of bitterness in this State will result disastrously. The political leaders should bear this in mind.

FREEDOM is one of the grandest words in the English language. If you love *freedom* then stand by your principles.

BE a man in the coming political fight. Do not allow yourself to be driven by political bosses. Think and act for yourself.

THE next meeting of the State Alliance will be held at Greensboro. This is considered the most central point, and for that reason it was chosen.

IF the masses will remain united this year we believe they will be able to obtain relief. There is nothing like a firm adherence to principles and measures.

THE National Republican party held their convention in Minneapolis last week. The National Democratic party will hold its convention in Chicago on the 22nd instant.

THIS is the time when every member of the Alliance should do his duty toward the organization. Don't let all of the teachings of the past three years come to naught. Stand by your organization.

THIS is the season of joy to the young people—especially those who, for long, weary months have been engaged in their studies at school. They now have vacation and will enjoy rest after their labors.

THE Wilmington *Messenger* thinks Congressman Alexander should be defeated for renomination because he endorses the St. Louis platform. Extreme Democratic papers had better stop such talk as that or else the consequences might prove serious.

THE people of North Carolina are considered very conservative, and so they are. But they have sense enough to know when they are being oppressed, and courage enough to act. This is one of the chief characteristics of our people. Let them remain united and determined, and the power that oppresses can be crushed.

CLARKSBURG *Current* (Clarksburg, Va.) says: That which any laborer creates is in right his and any process that deprives him of the enjoyment of and the possession and use of it is unjust. The wealth of the earth, and of the United States in particular, was created by the joint labors of the whole people, then of right the whole people ought to own it and operate it, but do they? No. Then there is wrong somewhere in the government machinery that causes a wrong distribution.

THERE are some people who are unwilling to be convinced when they have made up their minds on certain things. When we say that the people are desperately in earnest in the fight this year, some will say that it amounts to nothing. They may continue in their belief, but a large portion of the people are determined to be emancipated from present evils. They are in no mood to be abused or trifled with. This is written for the benefit of that class of people who think they can lead the masses without assurance that relief will be obtained.

BECAUSE there may be some disappointments that should not cause a single Alliancemen to relax his efforts in behalf of the reform movement. There must of necessity be some contentions among the brethren. Every man can not have his own way in the management of affairs. He may have a decided opinion as to the methods of accomplishing certain ends, but if the majority decides to accomplish them different ly then it is the duty of those members to subordinate their views. Remember that nothing can be done unless there is unity of action.

THE *Rock Islander* (Rock Island, Ill.) says: Those men who have legislated for the country for years tell us laws protect every one. One of them can discourse for an hour on the beauties of our banking system, telling us how every dollar of the people's money that goes in these banks is safe. And yet three bank failures within six months have resulted in the loss of $6,000,000. One of those orators will say that the comptroller of the currency has absolute control of all these banks; nothing can be done in them unless he knows it. It is proved that John Bardsley and the officers of the Keystone bank were stealing money for three years, and now in the Maverick bank in Boston, which has just failed for $2,000,000, it is found that the president and two of the directors, distinguished men and financiers, had robbed the bank for two long years without the slightest interference from the comptroller. It is just this class of legislation that requires the farmers of the country to take hold themselves and stop a system that ruins them.

STATE NEWS.

THE DOINGS OF OUR PEOPLE BRIEFLY AND PLAINLY TOLD.

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK CONDENSED.

Judge James E. Shepherd informs us that the University Summer Law School will open on the 1st of July.....We regret to learn of the death of Mrs. John L. King, of Greensboro, which occurred at her home at that place on Sunday.—*News & Observer.*

Belfield Barham, an old negro man 80 years old, was murdered last week, in Northampton county by his wife, Amanda, also 80 odd years of age. Amanda is crazy, but was considered harmless. She beat the old man's brains out with a hatchet. They have lived as man and wife for fifty-six years, and have grand children and great-grandchildren.

According to Dr. Satchwell, in his address before the State Medical Society, the Pine forest regions of North Carolina are exempt from malaria, consumption and fever. They do not produce consumption, diphtheria or diseases of any class due to bacterial infection. He, moreover, states that in the pine belt in surgical operations there is no danger of septic poisoning, gangerene and erysipelas in wounds.—*Ex.*

Bishop Hendricks will be in the city this week, the guest of Rev. C. W. Bird. He will preach at the Central M. E. Church South, Thursday night.....Rev. J. W. Lee, the evangelist who has been so successful in his recent meetings at Bethel, commenced a series of meetings Riverside last night. His preaching in the State this year has been attended with wonderful results.—Asheville *Gazette.*

Wilson people propose to celebrate the 4th of July in grand style. The programme is not yet complete. It will perhaps include racing from 8 to 11 o'clock, a. m., an address at 1 o'clock by some distinguished gentleman, parade by the Military and Fire Companies, headed by Wilson Cornet Band at 2 o'clock, a game of ball between Wilson and Wilmington clubs at 4 o'clock and fire works at night. The day will be fully occupied and it will be pleasant for all visitors.—Wilson *Advance.*

Some of the State press comment on republican meeting in this city Monday in which J. C. Prichard was present. The meeting in question was strictly an informal one and Mr. Prichard was not present—he being in attendance at the Minnapolis convention.....The North Carolina Teacher for May is before us. It is replete, as usual, with choice literature for teachers, and contains among other interesting features, a cut of the democratic nominee for State Superintendent of Public Instruction—Hon. J. C. Cearborough, of Johnson county.—*State Chronicle.*

Taxation And The Farmer.

For the Farmers' Advocate.

Edward Atkinson estimates the total annual production of wealth to be about thirteen billions of dollars or about 20 per cent. of the total wealth. In round numbers the total revenues for national government per year are some four hendred million dollars for state and local, nearly the same or a total of about 800,000,000. Of the national revenues some $220,000,000 are from protective duties. It is estimated by good experts that for every dollar of that amount five dollars go to the protected beneficiaries. That means they collect from the consumer about $1,100,000,000 annually. This added to the national and local revenues makes a burden of nearly $1,900,000,000, upon production annually.

A very large part of the taxes, both protective, both local and national are added by the manufacturers and dealers to the price of products for sale plus a percentage for advancing the tax.

It is safe then, to estimate the burden due to our present cumbersome and complex mode of taxation to be about two billion dollars annually, or over 2 per cent of production.

A farmer with a farm and improvements including personal property, such as stock etc., worth say $3,000 will do well if he produces $1,000 annually. At 15 per cent. then the total burden to him of our present system of taxation will be about $150.

Any farmer can test the accuracy of that estimate by taking his State and local taxes and to them add an equal amount for the national and another equal or greater amount for his tribute to the starving protected manufacturers, such as Carnegie of Pensylvania for instance. If his total assessments are about $3000, and the rate is 2 per cent. for State, county town, and school districts this local tax is about $60, multiply that by 3 to give his total burden and he would have $180 instead of $150 in our first estimate. So it is very conservative to say that a farmer worth $3000 all told and producing $1000 per year bears a total burden under our present methods of taxation of at least $150 per year.

No wonder farmers have a hard time, and are often compelled to see their children deprived of suitable education and suffering even in many cases for suitable food, clothing, shelter and medical attendance.

How would it be with the farmers under the single tax on land values as proposed by Henry George and others?

First, let us see clearly what is meant by land values, ground rent or economic rent or unearned increments as is some times called. In a city it is the value of a lot independent of the building and other improvements put on it by the owner or lessee. It is that value that remains to the lot after the improvements have been destroyed by fire. Some such land in New York City is worth at the rate of $13,000,000 per acre. A farmer can get an idea of the land value of his farm by estimating what the land would be worth if fire and cyclone should sweep away his house, stock, machinery and other improvements. What he could rent or lease the land remaining for would be the land value or annual ground rent.

This value is due not to his industry but to the demand created by the growth and industry of the community. In case of cities, harbors mines and water privileges it is great; for farms comparatively small, being greater for the farms easy of access to markets and nothing for those most remote.

Land values also include railroad, telegraph, telephone, gas and water supply franchises as their franchises depend upon the right of way granted by the people to continuous strips of land. It is estimated that the total land values amount to nearly one-half of the total wealth.

The total actual wealth of the U. S. is over sixty billions. This does not include stocks, bonds and mortgages and paper currency which are not wealth, but only evidences and titles to wealth.

We are away under then, if we estimate land values of the United States to be twenty billions or less than one-third the total value of wealth of the country. 5 per cent. on that would equal one billion dollars, or two hundred billions more than the present local and national revenues.

Let us see how that would affect one $3000 farmer? His land value, reckoned on this basis we have assumed, would be one-third of $3000 or $1000, 5 per cent. on $1000 would be $50, *his total share of the public burdens as against $150 that they now cost him—a clear saving to our farmers of $100 per year.* Surely there is no single reform that can do as much to benefit the *working farmer.*

But the effect of the single tax would be more far reaching than that. 5 per cent. per annum upon the value of vacant lots, unused mineral and agricultural lands would compel speculative holders to use or to relinquish. If used, he would become a wealth producer giving employment to labor. If he relinquished he would open up opportunities for labor, to employ itself, and would make voluntary co-operation more than a dream.

Labor steadily employed, reciving the full fruit of its labor, would give a home market for the farmer's cotton and wool, wheat and corn, until every hungry, ragged person in this fair land should be amply supplied with food, clothing and shelter. The manufacturer and merchant would share in constantly increasing prosperity. There would come leisure and opportunity for every one to use and enjoy to its fullest this fair earth which God has given to mankind.

When the farmer comes to clearly understand what the single tax means to him and to all producers, our present unjust, cumbersome, complex system, which is so steadily robbing the producer for the benefit of the privileged few, will be swept away. Each will then pay only for the value of the special privileges which he uses, and will have for himself the full value of his labor. No man willing to work should ask for more, none should be satisfied with less.

We have shown conclusively that the single tax will reduce the burdens of the farmer. Will it enable the manufacturer to escape his just share of public expenses?

Largest factories are situated on valuable lands. Philadelphia and New York are the two largest manufacturing centers in the United States, simply because, though land values are high, the facilities for manufacturing and then putting on the market are greater than in the country. A farmer may say that if the manufacturer establishes a large factory in a small country place where land is cheap, that he will escape his unjust share, and that in consequence his stock and machinery should be taxed. If you tax his stock and machinery he will add the tax as part of the cost of production, and when the farmer buys his clothing he will have to pay the tax and a profit besides. This was perfectly illustrated in the case of the close of the war. When that tax was removed the fall in the price of matches was greater than the tax removed. The manufacturers of matches opposed that repeal because under the tax they with their wealth could shut out the small producer, create a monopoly and fleece the consumer. What is true about quinine and other things which have served as object lessons, true almost invariably wherever you attempt to tax production. It fosters monopolies at the expense of the consumers.

Our present system is a price on industry and a premium on monopoly, the single tax on land values, including franchises is a fine on speculation, on monopoty and a premium on industry.

Today if the farmer paints his house improves his stock, increases his crops up go his taxes. Under the single tax all such improvements would be exempt. If he doubled his crop his tax would remain the same and the percentage of tax to crop would be reduced 50 per cent. Whereas with the lazy farmer the case would be different. The farmer wants to see factories going up for the operatives will want his crops and on the other hand the more that is manufactured the more the farmer will get in exchange for his crops.

The single tax, in other words, is the only tax which benefits all industrious classes alike, and injures only the speculators, the monopolies, those who seek to roll up vast fortunes at the expense of the producer.

J. M.

N. C. Agricultural Experiment Station.

BROOM CORN.

The Experiment Station has distributed a large quantity of Broom Corn seed and instructions as to its cultivation to Alliancemen and others with a view to establish it among the profitable crops in places well adapted for its development.

Close planting on fairly rich land is required for a good crop of brush fitted for making fine brooms.

In order to better assist those who desire to learn all they can of this crop, and that all may have the benefit of as much information as possible on the subject of growing broom corn and making brooms, the Experiment Station will engage to supply as many as wish a copy of "Broom-corn and Brooms," a small book published by Orange Judd Co., of New York, at the wholesale price, with the postage added. The usual price is 50 cents. Send 30 cents in silver or stamps to the Experiment Station at Raleigh, if you wish a copy of this little book.—*F. M Emery, Agriculturist, N. C. Experiment Station.*

GARDEN PESTS.

The N. C. Agricultural Experiment Station has just published a 26-page Bulletin (No. 84) dealing with fungus and insect enemies of garden and truck crops. The trucking interest has become one of the most important in the State. Good home gardens are not, however, so plentiful as they would be were it not for the ravages of insects and diseases. The annual loss on this account to the truck farmers of North Carolina is not less than $50,000, while the loss to those who grow only for home use is nearly as much more. Three-fourths of this large sum may be saved by taking suitable and timely precautions. This Bulletin shows how to do it. It gives 10 different formulas for compounding insecticides and fungicides, and explains the necessity for garden hygiene. The most approved forms of spraying apparatus are illustrated and described, and some trustworthy dealers in fungicidal chemicals are named. Every one who has even a small garden is interested in the matters this Bulletin treats of. it is sent free to all residents of North Carolina, and will be sent as long as the supply lasts to residents of other states who send 6 cents in postage stamps. Address N. C. Experiment Station, Raleigh, N. C.—*Gerald McCarthy, Botanist*

POTATO BUGS.

Much complaint comes from all parts of the State on account of the Colorado potato beetle, which this year seems to be quite destructive. There is a very simple, convenient and cheap remedy for this pest. It is Paris green or London purple. This poison is entirely safe to apply upon potatoes, as it is insoluble and cannot reach the tubers in the soil. On a large scale it is best to apply it wet by means of a knap-sack sprayer, such as are figured in Bulletin 84 of the N. C. Experiment Station. In a small way it may be applied in a watering-pot, or else as a dry powder, sifted on the plants from a fine meshed sieve or from a coarse or thin cloth bag.

Formula No. 1 is for a wet application:

Paris green or London purple, 1 tablespoonful.
Wheat flour boiled into a paste, ½ pound.
Water.....10 gallons.

DIRECTIONS.—First make the paste and then stir it into the water; add the Paris green or London purple and stir thoroughly. It is then ready for use. Wet, but do not drench the plants. Repeat in about ten days. Usually only two applications will be needed.

Formula No. 2, for a dry application:

Paris green or London purple, 1 tablespoonful.
Wheat flour,.....½ pound.
Air-slaked lime, ashes or plaster, or road dust,.....3 pounds.

DIRECTIONS.—Mix dry and use. Sift a thin layer on the leaves while wet with dew or after being sprinkled.—*Gerald McCarthy, N. C. Experiment Station.*

CULTIVATION AND SOIL MOISTURE.

Very numerous experiments have been recorded to show that moisture is saved by cultivation. During this hot, dry weather every foot of plowed land should be kept well stirred on the surface with any tool which tends to keep it from baking. A loose, fine surface will hold down water like a wet blanket. A field kept thus may give an increase in crop over one not cultivated equal to that produced by a heavy application of fertilizers. Preservation of the soil water thus becomes of great importance. A blanket of fine soil on the surface during a hot, dry week can be of great value to the crop and really become the turning point for profit if present when loss might result from its absence.—*Frank E. Emery, N. C. Experiment Station.*

Alliance Aid Degree.

Hundreds of inquiries come pouring in for more complete explanation and information relative to the new degree authorized by the Supreme Council at Indianapolis, showing a deep interest in the plan, and a desire to know more of it and to avail themselves of its benefits.

The resolution establishing the degree reads as follows:

WHEREAS, One of the cardinal tenets of our Order is the duty we owe our brethren in distress, their widows and orphans; and whereas our charter expressly provided for a fund for their relief; therefore, be it

Resolved, That a co-operative degree be instituted in the Order for the purpose of creating and maintaining a fund for the benefit of the families of deceased worthy members, and that the executive committee be instructed to establish said degree as soon as practicable.

The National Alliance Aid Degree is the result, and it provides for life insurance on assessment plan precisely similar in general features to ancient Order of United Workmen, Knights of Honor, Woodmen, Odd Fellows, and Masonic and other secret-order aid associations. It admits all members of the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, men or women, between ages of eighteen and fifty-five years, who can pass the required careful medical examination. Members over fifty-five, or those physically disqualified, are welcomed as honorary members without fees, and do not participate in the insurance but do in the other advantages. A member can take either a $500, $1,000, or $2,000 policy, or a man and wife can take a joint $1,000 or $2,000 policy, in which case the survivor receives the entire amount of joint policy. A joint policy costs one-half more than a single policy of the same amount.

The entry fees are low; just enough to pay expenses of securing members, viz, $3 for $500, $5 for $1,000, $6 for $2,000. A registry fee of $1 on all policies, which are $1.50, is also collected for office expenses. All unused fees are turned into the benefit fund at close of each year.

Where a sub-Alliance or county Alliance wishes to establish a degree lodge, and seven or more members join at one time, seven being lowest number a charter will be issued to. The fees may be reduced to $3 each, but only to charter members, and regardless of size of policies taken, thus making it an object for an Alliance to join in a body.

Assessments are not made oftener than once in two months, and then when deaths occur, and are graded according to age, and never advance after a member once joins. A member aged 18 to 25 is assessed $1.00 on each $1.000 carried by him; from 25 to 30 $1.10; 30 to 35, $1.20; 35 to 40, $1.35; 40 to 45, $1.50; 45 to 50, $1.75; 50 to 55, $2; $500 policies one-half as much, and joint policies one and one-half times as much. On a joint policy where the ages differ, one half the sum of their ages is taken as a basis.

N. B.—An error exists in first copy of by-laws relative to assessments will be rectified next issue.

One assessment is always collected in advance. Any regular physician can make examination, and the fee of physician is usually $1.00, and is paid by applicant.

A relief department, designed to care for the sick and unfortunate, is instituted in every lodge, and it is expected they will act together in State or national calamities.

A bureau of information intended to assist members in selling or exchanging their farms, or securing employes or employment, is a part of the plan, costing nothing, except to those who utilize it.

A brief but attractive ritual is used to avoid confusion of names.

The general headquarters are at Washington, D. C., with Western headquarters at Huron, South Dakota, where the secretary's office is located for the present, and where all applications for charters, and fees, and money should be sent, addressed National Alliance Aid, Huron South Dakota. The Alliance Aid Association, of South Dakota, which had a large membership, and has been in successful operation for over three years, and the Alliance Mutual Benefit Association, of Kansas, have consolidated their business with the National Aid, putting it on a strong basis to start on. Assessments are made through The *National Economist* and the official State organs, and the scribe of the local lodge collects the money and forwards it. The business is conducted directly under the control and supervision of the national officers of the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, and is a part of the general work, holding no separate charter. All officers and organizers must give satisfactory bonds, and it is believed that our membership will appreciate the effort in their behalf and patronize it generally. There should be a degree lodge in every Alliance in the United States, and that quickly.

HOW TO ORGANIZE.

The organization will be under management of the State Alliance officers so far as possible, who will appoint district organizers, a list of whom will be kept in the *Economist* and the various State papers. Apply to your nearest organizer for information. Where none have been appointed, apply directly to National Alliance Aid, Washington, D. C., care the *Economist* or *Huron*, South Dakota, which ever is nearest, and blanks will be sent. Any one can organize the lodge. Have officers elected and send in the application for the charter, with the fees and one advance assessment, and a charter will be sent. The secret work will be communicated at earliest convenience, but you need not wait for that; the insurance commences at acceptance of application.

Local, county, district and State organizers are wanted at once. Reasonable compensation for services actually performed. It is the duty of every Alliance man who is in debt, to an extent that would embarrass his family in case of death, to carry a policy large enough to pay the debt. It is cruel and inexcusable not to do so. That is what this fund is created for, to assist famlies of worthy members when in need.

The Fraternal Life Associations are the safest and cheapest. They rarely fail, and average but one-third the cost of old line speculative life insurance. The average cost of Fraternal Life Insurance for a long period of years made up from over four hundred companies in the United States, ranges from $7 to $12 per year per $1,000 carried, according to age of policy holuer. You can't afford not to do it!

We give address of some of State and district organizers to whom all communications from those districts should be addressed:

Michigan—A. E. Cole, Fowlerville.
Iowa—E. B. Gaston, Iowa *Tribune*, Des Moines.
Kansas—W. H. Biddle, Topeka; or H. Baughman Burton.
Missouri—J. B. Dines, 810 Olive street, St. Louis; or J. Weller Long, State secretary, Warrensburg.
Arkansas—J. W. Dollison, State secretary, Rector; or J. E. Bryan, Fayettsville.
Texas—Milton Park, Dallas; D. J. Eadlemon, Denton; R. W. Coleman, San Antonia.
Louisana—J. W. McFarland, State secretary, Homer; T. J. Guice, Grand Cane.
California—J. L. Gilbert, Reedly.
Oregon—M. V. Rork, Salem.
New York—Ralph Beaumont, Addison; J. W. Dean, Honeoye Falls.
Tennesse—W. F. Gwynne, White.
Indiana—T. W. Force, Shoals.
Illinois—H. M. Gilbert, Genesee.
Kentucky—T. T. Gardner, Bardwell.
Mississippi—B. G. West, Memphis, Tenn.

Our Reform Editors.

New Forum St Louis

There is a stubborn persistency and patriotic devotion possessed by the editors of our Reform papers that should challenge the admiration of all those who would like to see the dawn of a better day—the incoming of a higher civilization.

The lives of such editors are usually made up of continuous toil and personal sacrifices. The world will never be able to know, or knowing will never appreciate, the sacrifices, the desperate struggles, the bitter disappointments and lives of constant toil of those of whom it may truthfully be said are to the great body politic what the Governor is to a steam engine.

Nor is this life of toil and drudgery the worst feature of the case. The average Reform editor is a bundle of nerves and activity and work is his natural element. But there is a want of appreciation of his efforts among those for whose interests he is contending that enters his soul and embitters his life Only those who have sat at their desks in weary toil while this awful truth stared them in the face can realize its depressing effect. It robs the soul of its inspiration, genius of its fondest hopes.

The man who has looked upon his children, denied of those comforts which his labors in some other channel could give them, while he gave his life and labor for a cause that had in it no future to him, but would bring for others a brighter, happier and better state, can only appreciate how the iron enters his soul to know that he does not receive that support to which the noble cause he represents entitles him.

Take the case of John Swinton: Several years ago he started a weekly newspaper in New York. He is one of the ablest newspapermen in the country ever produced, an associate with Horace Greely, Henry Raymond and Thurlow Weed. He saw the necessity of a Reform paper and believed that the people would bravely rally to its support. He gave up a salary of $10,000 a year on the New York *Sun* and threw his life in the scale on the side of the workingmen and women of the country. For six years he published the brainiest and best labor paper ever published. At the end of that time, broken in health and in heart, and with a debt of $25,000 hanging over his head, he was compelled to suspend his paper.

This is all wrong. We repeat, it is all wrong. The newspaper is the great educational agency in the reform movement. The editor and publisher of a reform paper stands in a different light from the ordinary obstacles to overcome. He not only has the usual competition of the newspaper man, but the principles he advocates put him under the ban of displeasure and distrust of the business world. Most business men have but little confidence in either the justice or final success of our demands. Hence the publisher of a reform paper is practically under a business boycott. He cannot secure the usual terms in buying his paper. Why? Because business men have but little confidence in the success of the paper. They say the people will not support it; they will not stick together.

The publisher goes to the business man for an advertisement. He is refused. Why? Because he has no confidence in the success of the paper. "The people," he says, "will not support their own papers." These business men have some experience in that line. They know that John Swinton's paper went down, and that hundreds of other papers have gone to the wall. It is not, as is, frequently supposed, because they are prejudiced against the reform movement, but because of a want of confidence in the support of the people.

A few days ago we received a letter from a business man—a friend, by the way—and a Reformer. He said he had lost $15,000 in a single year on promises of support by the people. He was discouraged. Because for want of support of men who cast their lots with us we are crippling ourselves and losing the respect of the business world. The motto of the business man is to do business where it pays best. The people have it in their power to better their condition, but they have got to go about it in a business way. Some people seem to think that a newspaper can be run on patriotism. They are so intensely patriotic that they are willing to sacrifice everybody but themselves on the altar of patriotism. To these kind and perhaps well-meaning people we would say: Give us a firm who will trade paper and printing ink for patriotism; a press and pressman that cost nothing but patriotism; make arrangements with Uncle Sam to pay postage in patriotism; pay rents, buy fuel, lights, etc., patriots; and if they will come and edit the paper and take their pay in patriotism, we'll agree to do the mailing of the paper for nothing as long as they can live on patriotism.

We learned long ago to measure patriotism and religion like we do potatoes and wheat—for what they are actually worth. The man who boasts of his patriotism and never puts a dollar or a day's work to prove his assertions is are destitute of it as a billiard ball is of hair.

Patriotism is not measured by empty declarations, but personal sacrifices.

No class of men in the Reform movement is making greater sacrifices than the editors of Reform papers. It is to be hoped that in the coming conflict—the approaching campaign—they will receive the hearty support that many new ones may be encouraged to start in localities where we have none at present.

Kansas Mortgage Foreclosures.

The Topeka *Advocate* of recent issue gives some very interesting figures in the matter of the foreclosure of mortgages in four counties in Kansas.

The figures are taken from the county recoeds, and were compiled by county officials, and therefore can be relied upon as absolutely correct.

In Osage county 22 cases are given wherein the amount of the judgment and costs in each case is given, the selling price or amount the property brought at Sheriff sale, and the amount of judgment remaining against the mortgagor, after taking his property. The total amount of judgments in these 22 cases aggregated $16,078,76. This property sold for $2,850. The judgments remaining against the mortgagors—after taking their peoperty, aggregate $14,228,76. To show how "the old thing works," a few cases are cited: One man's judgment against him was $3,770.95. The property was bid in for $300, leaving a judgment of $3,470.95. Another judgment was for $3,350.81, selling for $500, leaving judgment of $2,850.81. The mortgagee in every instance bought in these lands, bidding a mere nominal price—taking in these two instances alone several hundred acres of land with valuable improvements.

In Jewell county more frightful cases of the rapacious greed of Shylock are given in 27 cases presented. The total amount of judgments and costs in these 27 cases is $38,163,39, selling for $10,437, leaving judgments that amount to $27,725.76. In one case in this county the judgment and costs amounted to $7,383.10, and the property was bid in by the mortgagee for $50, leaving a judgment hanging over this man for $7,333,10. The interest on these judgments average more than 10 per cent.

In Clay county 18 cases are presented of a similar character.

In Davis county 35 cases are given and the judgments and costs aggregate $64,687,80, and the judgments to the amount of $58,578,57 are left hanging over the mortgagors.

These are samples of how the Kansas farmers are paying off their mortgages, and the showing in these four counties are fair samples of what is going on all over that State, and yet the rotten Republican leaders of that common-wealth abuse the farmers and call them calamity howlers for crying out against a system that is mercilessly robbing them.

The insatiate greed and avarice of the heartless Shylocks is not satisfied with stripping their victims of all they have, but they hang up a judgment over them to follow them wherever they go like a Nemesis.

The orthodox theory of the actual existence of a hell—which many people doubt, is liable to become popular if the mortgage system prevails. If there is not a hell—as some think, there ought to be, where special apartments should be provided for the mortgage fiend—the merciless Shylock who bids in at a nominal price a man's farm and valuable improvements—robs him of his all and then hangs a judgment of several hundred dollars over him.

Gov. John A. Martin, of Kansas, in oneof his messages said: "It should require something more than a mortgage to take a farm either in this or any other State. * * * Our chattle mortgage system invites outrages on property rights that are as flagrant as grand larceny."

The Corrected Platform.

Owing to many understandings of the platform adopted by the St. Louis Confepence on February 21-22 the national executive committee of the People's party hereby submits a copy of the platform as adopted, for the information of the reform press. (The preamble is printed correctly in most of the papers.)

PLATFORM.

FINANCE.

We demand a national currency, safe, sound and flexible, issued by the general government only, a full legal tender for all debts, public and private, and that without the use of banking corporations, a just, equitable and efficient means of distribution, direct to the people, at a tax not to exceed 2 per cent., to be provided as set forth in the sub-treasury plan of the Farmers' Alliance, or some better system; also by payments in discharge of its obligations for public improvements.

We demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

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

We demand a graduated income tax.

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.

We demand that postal savings banks be established by the government for the safe deposit of the earnings of the people and to facilitate exchange.

TRANSPORTATION.

Transportation being a means of exchang and a public necessity, the government should own and operate the railroads in the interest of the people.

The telegraph and telephone, like the postoffice system being a necessity for the transmission of news, shouldbe owned and operated by the government in the interest of the people.

LAND.

The land, including all the natural sources of wealth, is the heritage of all the people and should not be monpolized for speculative purposes, and alien ownership of land should be prohibited. All lands now owned by railroads and corporations in excess of their actual needs and all lands now owned by aliens should be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

The following resolutions were adopted, but are not part of the platform:

ADDITIONAL RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved. That we hail the conference as the consummation of a perfect union of hearts and hands of all sections of our common country. The men who wore the gray and the men who wore the blue meet here to extinguish the last smouldering embers of civil war in the tears of joy of a united and happy people, and we agree to carry the stars and stripes forward forever to the highest point of national greatness.

Resolved We demand that the government issue legal tender notes and pay the Union soldiers the difference between the price of the depreciated money in which they were paid, in gold.

We demand that the question of universal suffrage be submitted to the legislatures of the different states and territories for favorable action.

H. E. TAUBENEK,
Chairman.

ROBERT SHILLING,
Secretary.

Approaching The Crisis.

Cincinnati Enquirer, Dem.

The edict has gone forth from the representatives of the money power, which now controls the administration of our Government, that gold shall be the standard of all values, and that all debts and obligations to pay money must be discharged in gold—a fickle, unstable, constantly diminishing commodity.

The United States has outstanding $346,800,000 of Treasury notes, $314,00,000 silver certificates and $200,000,000 of National Bank notes on which the Government is indorser. In other words, the United States is liable to be called upon to pay over $800,000,000 and has only $100,000,000 laid by as a reserve fund to meet these obligations. There is no danger of Government bankruptcy, because it can sell bonds without limit as to amount, and it has the taxing power, and can increase indefinitely the burdens upon the people. To meet the annual running expenses the Government must have over $500,000,000. Upon the theory that the tariff taxes are paid by foreigners, we have no occasion to fear from that source, and our internal taxes upon beer, whisky and tobacco are paid by the consumers of those luxuries, and may be increased if necessary.