



# BROAD-AXE



"HEW TO THE LINE, LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY."

VOL. IV

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NO. 3.

## GET OUT OF DEBT.

BY C. E. TAYLOR.

They say that prosperity is here. True, the prices of agricultural products are better than a few years ago, perhaps excepting cotton, and there are fewer complaints of hard times than formerly. Now, pay off that mortgage. Pay those notes. Push your collections. Push them hard, and settle past due accounts, even if you have to "knock off" a part. Your patrons like you better when they do not owe you, and they are then more likely to employ you. After they have paid you, urge them to pay their mortgages and notes, and get out of the slavery of debt. Interest eats like moths and corrodes like rust. Get rid of it, and get your people free from it. He who is free from debt is least disturbed by panics and hard times. Indeed, that is frequently a harvest-time to those who have ready money. Panics should not come, and the times should always be normal. But since the days of the Bank of Venice, the commercial world has had panics and "crashes," and we will continue to have them until we learn what a normal dollar is, and insist on having it. A normal dollar is one that will at all times purchase the same average amount of commodities or services, no more and no less, and remain constant and uniform in purchasing power, neither increasing nor decreasing in value, as determined by the average of purchasable commodities. Such a dollar could be maintained only by the multiple standard. The material of which such a dollar would be composed would not be an important matter, but paper is the best material for such a dollar. Intrinsic value money is not real money; it is commodity money—a refined form of barter. If a man wants gold or silver for use in the arts, he should go into the market and buy it, just as he would buy lead or platinum; and the price of gold and silver should be determined by supply and demand, just as the prices of other commodities are determined, and not by legislative law.

With this kind of a dollar, panics would not come, and debt would not be the danger that it now is. A good commercial maxim is, "out of debt, out of danger." Get out of debt, and stay out, whatever the temptation may be, and thus stay out of danger. The gold standard breeds frequent panics. They are sure to come, unless we establish a standard and normal dollar, which will be uniform and "honest" at all times. So prepare for the next panic by getting out of debt. Save all the money you can, to use to advantage when the pinch comes. When will the panic come? I am not a prophet, but I feel safe in saying that it will be within five years, and possibly much sooner.

We are still burdened with metallic dollars, and but few yet understand the multiple standard; so we will, for some years, have to accommodate ourselves to existing conditions, but we should be sure to trend in the right direction. How would the following do as a financial "plank" on which all money reformers might unite?

### PROPOSED PLATFORM.

We oppose all private banks of issue; we favor the government issue of all money; we demand that every dollar issued by the United States Government shall be equal before the law to any other dollar so issued; we demand that every legal dollar shall be a legal tender for all debts, both public and private; we demand that, regardless of the material of which legal money may be composed, a sufficient quantity of such legal money shall be issued by the United States Government to constitute an honest measure of values at all times, to the end that the purchasing value of a dollar, in the general average of commodities, shall remain stable and uniform at all times, establishing and maintaining absolute justice at all times among all interests and classes, thus pre-

venting those shocks and depressions of business from which our people have so often suffered. We favor the establishing of Postal Savings Banks, so successful in other progressive countries, thus placing in every community a safe and secure depository for the poor.

We oppose the exorbitant rates paid to the railroads for carrying the mails, and we demand that the same shall be reduced to the point of strict and just equity, in which event penny postage will be practicable, and a cheap package post, for the service and convenience of the people. We oppose discrimination in freight rates, still criminally indulged in by the railroads; and as a final and complete remedy for the same, government ownership and operation of the railroads may become necessary, thus using the most powerful instrument for internal commerce for the service of the people instead of for private profit.

The transmission of intelligence by electricity as well as by mail should be a government function, beyond the control of private interests; therefore, for prompt, cheap and impartial service of all the people and of every interest, we favor government ownership and operation of the telegraph, which is now accomplished in every other civilized nation on the globe. Telephones being mostly local in their operation, we favor municipal ownership and operation of this service, with harmonious co-operation with the proposed government telegraph service.

We favor the removal of all protective tariff from articles controlled by a trust.

Indirect taxation for the support of the government by means of importation duties and internal revenue, being a tax on consumption, bears much more heavily upon the poor than upon the rich. We therefore favor a progressive inheritance tax, and a progressive income tax, by means of which the rich will be required to pay their just share of the expenses of the national government.

The present method of electing United States senators is corrupting, wasteful and mischievous in every way. Experience during the winter just past proves this afresh, with failure to elect in Pennsylvania, Delaware and Utah. We favor election of United States senators by direct vote of the people of each state.

In municipal matters we favor the municipal ownership and operation of all public necessities monopolistic in their nature, as the water supply, gas, electric light, street-cars, etc.

In harmony with the above program, the strictest possible merit system of civil service is necessary, instead of the far too prevalent spoils system, which has so disgracefully corrupted and debased our public service, municipal, state and national. We therefore pledge ourselves to the greatest possible improvement of the civil service by the complete overthrow of the spoils system, and the improvement and extension of the merit system.

### Weekly Crop Bulletin.

WESTERN OREGON.  
Portland Or. May 22 '99.  
WEATHER.—The cool, rainy weather has continued. The mean temperature for the week, 51 deg., is 1 deg. higher than for the preceding week and is the same as for the corresponding week last year. Rain fell from Monday to Friday, about one-half inch in amount. Frosts occurred on the 18th and 19th. A heavy hailstorm occurred on the afternoon of the 17th in sections of Polk, Marion and Clackamas counties.  
CROPS.—The soil is cold and wet. Seeding has been delayed, and now cannot be finished before June 10th. Fall-sown grain has made little growth, though it has an excellent stand; early-sown spring grain is doing well on the higher land.  
Fruit continues to drop, and

especially so for prunes. In some orchards the Italian prunes will be an absolute failure; in others a small crop is probable. The Petite and Silver prunes have not fallen so badly, and they are expected to give a fair yield. Cherries and pears have been dropping, but as a rule, good crops will be had. The peach crop in the southern counties is good. Apples are yet blooming and a good crop is promised. The cause of the dropping is evidently due to the cold soil and absence of heat to force the sap up the tree; the small fruit is therefore literally starved to death, and it then drops to the ground. The fruit, today, promises to be a smaller crop than was ever before grown in the State. Garden produce is not making rapid growth. Potatoes and corn planting continues.

### NO COLOR LINE AT THE GRAVE.

Continued from Fourth page.  
alle to the occasion. The southern negroes are proverbial for the melody and compass of their voice, and I thought that hymn, mellowed by distance, the most solemn and yet the sweetest music that had ever fallen upon my ear. The stillness of the night and strength of their voices enabled me to distinguish the air at the distance of half a mile.  
It was to me a strange and solemn scene, and no incident of my life has impressed me with more powerful emotions than the night funeral of the poor negro, for this reason I have hastily and most imperfectly sketched its leading features. Previous to retiring to my room, I saw in the hands of the daughter of the lady at whose house I stopped for the night a number of the Home Journal, and it occurred to me to send this to your paper, perfectly indifferent whether it be published or not. I am but a brief sojourner here. I shall return to my northern home, deeply impressed with the belief that the negroes of the South are the happiest and most contented people on the face of the earth.

### Jenious Jaka.

Geel! I wish I was a rock  
Yonder on the hill  
Doin' nothin' all day long  
Only settin' still;  
Jest sollowizin' like  
For a century  
On the ups and downs of life.  
Chumps these mortals be!  
Human bein's work an' toil,  
Fuss an' fume an' fret  
Then they die, but that's your rock  
Jest the same, you bet!  
Rocks don't have no discontent:  
They don't notice things  
What would make 'em like mankind  
Full of sufferin';  
They jest set an' set an' set  
Soakin' in the sun;  
That's the kind of a job I like—  
Work like that is fun!  
Trampin' 's all right, in its way,  
Still, I'd rather be  
Like the rock that, in a trance—  
Restin' constantly.  
Lazy?—Me?—Well, I do know!  
I'm too strong for work!  
Like a rock I seldom move—  
Hurts me jest to shirk.  
'I could have my way on earth  
I'd be like a rock;  
Wouldn't eat—nor sleep—nor stir:  
Wouldn't walk—nor—talk:  
Wouldn't even dream, nor breathe—  
Darned if I would wash:  
I'd jest lay still a thousand years  
And rest myself, b'gosh!  
From Joe Kerr's Chery Book.

We see that Colonel Summers is to be breveted general of volunteers. This will advance Lieutenant Colonel Yoran to the command of the Second Oregon Regiment in the regular order.

It has been said that the volunteers wish to remain in the Philippines. Then why did all but 7 percent refuse to reenlist, though offered \$500 apiece to do so. And why was the Nebraska regiment, whose courage cannot be denied, guilty of so gross an act of insubordination as petitioning in mass to be withdrawn from the front? Things are evidently going on at Manila, under the shadow of the censorship, at which the American people would revolt if they knew the facts.—The Public.

## OUR MONTHLY TALK.

BY C. E. TAYLOR.

I will remember the old-fashioned debating societies which were at once interesting and educating and developing to the young minds that participated. I also remember some of the stock questions, as "resolved that the pen is mightier than the sword;" "resolved that the American Indian has suffered more injustice from the white man than the negro;" "resolved that fire is a more destructive element than water;" "resolved that according to the Bible, baptism by immersion is essential to salvation," etc.

Those were days when the politicians were wearing the bloody shirt and protecting the American workman with the blessed tariff which now has degenerated into a protection of trusts. The outs wanted to "turn the rascals out" and the ins wanted to "keep the rascals out." A political speech was then a rebuff of party history, mingled with condemnation and vituperation of the other party. When politics were on such a low plane it was just as well for the school boys to spend their time discussing such questions as those given above. But now at the close of the "wonderful century" vital questions are forced upon us and their proper solution is imperative. Our schoolboys and our collegeboys should join in with the mature men, and the women should join for these questions affect everyone of us. Conditions come about once or twice a century requiring united and supreme effort; thus are new epochs born.

Winter used to be the time that people came together to discuss various themes. Now summer with its numerous camp meetings, Chatauqs, etc. bring the people together perhaps more than winter. But whether for summer or winter or rather for both summer and winter, I wish to propose for discussion some of the leading public questions of the present time and I wish to urge their full and free discussion at all proper times and places by every part of the country and its government. They will never be settled until they are settled right. These questions will suggest numerous other questions.

Is the gold standard conducive to the best interests of the masses of the people of this nation?

Would the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1 be conducive to the best interests of the masses of the people of this nation?

Would the free coinage of silver at any other ratio than 16 to 1 be conducive to the best interests of the masses of the people of this nation?

Would the multiple standard for money, as contained in Prof. Parsons' "Rational Money," be conducive to the best interests of the masses of the people of this nation?

Is our present national banking system conducive to the best interests of the masses of the people of this nation?

Is the issue of money by private banking corporations good public policy?

Would state banks of issue be in harmony with the best national policy?

Would the issue of all money by the general government be the best policy?

Would postal savings banks be an advantage to the people?

Is government ownership and operation of the telegraph desirable?

Is public ownership and operation of telephones desirable?

Is an enlarged and cheapened package post desirable?

Is government ownership and operation of railroads desirable?

Would a progressive inheritance tax be good public policy?

Would a progressive income tax be advantageous to the masses of the people?

Would the removal of tariff from articles controlled by trusts be good public policy?

Should not the war revenue law be repealed, now that the war is over, or should it be continued to

wage a war against the Filipinos?

Is expansion in harmony with good public policy at this time, and is it in harmony with the constitution?

Is alien ownership of land desirable, and if not, what remedy would you propose?

Would the exemption from taxation of all small homes occupied by the owners be good public policy?

Would the single tax be good public policy for cities and towns, for the state, for the nation?

Has the judiciary usurped too much power in recent years by issuing injunctions?

Is direct legislation, consisting of the initiative, the referendum and the recall, desirable?

Should direct legislation be obtained and used for local and state affairs for some years before being pushed as a national issue?

What issue or issues are most important to be discussed during the campaign of 1900?

Is the merit system of civil service, as distinguished from the spoils system, a necessary and vitally important measure to go along with other reforms that you favor?

Many object to government ownership and operation of railroads, telegraph, etc, fearing that with the aid of so many government employes one party could be kept in power indefinitely. England solves this problem simply by disfranchising government employes. Would you favor a plan like this?

Municipal employes would be disfranchised only at municipal elections and government employes only at national elections. This seems rational, for an officeholder ought to submit his work to the judgment of those whom he serves. By voting he becomes his own judge to that extent.

Is a law for purifying elections desirable, similar to the English "Corrupt Practices Act"? This act forbids an officer being installed if it can be proved that his election was aided by bribery or any other corrupt act. Thus corruption is fatal to success, and the opposing sides watch each other very closely. This act has done more than any other to purify English politics.

Legislative bodies in this country decide cases of contested election concerning their own members. Thus decisions are generally made by a party vote instead of according to the facts in each case. Some other countries refer such cases to a court, thus substituting judicial examination and decision for partnership. Is such a change desirable for determining the membership of our congress?

### Notes and Comment.

Oregonian: The Oregon State Grange is now holding its twenty-sixth session in this city. The history of the Grange movement in Oregon is one familiar to the intelligent and well-to-do among the farmer folk of the state, and the order holds a high place in the esteem of very many of them. A conspicuous feature of the Grange is its social side, and in this respect it has been an important factor in rural life. When the order was first instituted in the state, farm-houses were relatively few and far between, and the loneliness of isolation brooded over what was known as "the country." This isolation was greatly relieved by the weekly meeting of the Grange, and soon these meetings came to be anticipated with pleasure, and made ready for with the zest of true hospitality and neighborly good-will. This period and feature of the Grange movement cannot be too kindly remembered and commended for their influence upon the development of the rural community along lines of neighborliness and good cheer. Interest was, of course, developed in more material lines—sometimes, but not always—to the financial profit of the farmers whose earnest intention was to get rid of the "middlemen" in the marketing process. If they have not realized their expectations in this line, however, they have

learned many practical and some commercial lessons in the effort, and the fact that they still stick loyally to the Grange shows their abiding faith in it as a measure of self-help.

An order that, after a quarter of a century of varying fortunes, shows a total of sixty-two lodges and 2400 members in the Willamette valley, and rallies between 300 and 400 members at its annual meeting, commands and receives public consideration as an instrument of good-fellowship among the class from which it draws its membership.

The editor of the Broad-Axe can testify to the truths set forth by the Oregonian, and he remembers with keen pleasure the many pleasant hours he has spent with patrons of husbandry in their Grange meetings.

Oregon City, May 23.—Solomon Bachart, a young man living near Marks Prairie, was found this morning in the woods, lying on his face, having shot himself with a revolver. He is still alive, but recovery is doubtful. At five o'clock last night, Miss Hilton, aged 17, living at Marks Prairie, while returning home from Aurora, was assaulted and dragged from her horse by Bachart. She reported that Bachart tried to kill her, then said he would kill himself. Bachart belongs to a respectable family.

La Grande, Ore., May 23.—A. W. Rynearson, a wealthy rancher was drowned in the Grande Ronde river this morning. Rynearson was crossing the river on a foot bridge a mile and a half from town. A floating log struck the bridge, hurling Rynearson into the water and the swift current swept him away.

Washington, May 23.—The war department is not going to spare any pains in making the return voyage of the volunteers pleasant and comfortable. This is not only due to the fact that these volunteers have done great service, but the administration is especially anxious to have them well treated and satisfied with what the government has done in the way of taking care of them on their return. So extra efforts will be made to leave a good impression with the returning soldiers who are going to mingle with the people very largely during the next few months.

A card received from Mr V L Holt dated at Pacific Grove, Calif., says: "The fruit crop is not materially injured by the late frost. What it may lack in quantity will be made up in quality. There will be a grand yield of grain in northern California. The southern portion is still suffering from the drought and has little over half a crop at best."

### Chinch Bugs.

In a good many localities in the West chinch bugs were injuriously plenty last year, and in such sections farmers should take every possible precaution to reduce the power of the pest for mischief this season. The winter has been very severe, and many will be of the opinion that on this account the number of bugs that lived through will be limited. Possibly this is so, and yet it is not at all certain.

As a rule hibernating insects stand long, steady cold weather very well. It is the open winter with alternate freezing and thawing that is hardest upon them. Every means should therefore be adopted on farms where the chinch bugs appeared last year to destroy as far as possible those likely to live through the winter this year. This can best be done by a thorough cleaning up and burning of all the weeds, rubbish, fence corner growth and all the loose trash about the premises in which the bugs might take refuge. The draws, wood patches, edges of groves, road sides, hedges, etc., should be carefully cleaned up and the refuse burned before the insects leave their winter quarters. Of course enough will escape to serve as seed. They always do. But the course suggested will reduce the numbers and then, if the small grain is attacked, another campaign against the bug can be made when it is migrating from the stubble fields to the corn.

## THE ASSOCIATION.

### Report of the Lane County Sunday School Association.

The tenth annual convention of the Lane County Sunday School Association convened at Pleasant Hill May 18th and 19th. Was called to order by the president sister Clara J. Bond of Irving. The secretary Mrs. Ella Benham being absent on account of sickness Wm. M. Pitney was appointed secretary protem. A good substantial program was rendered. Most of the officers and 36 delegates were present, ten being from Cottage Grove.

Lane county is divided into six districts as follows, Junction, Eugene, Springfield, Creswell, Cottage Grove and Siuslaw. Statements from the presidents of these districts were received, all of which were very encouraging, and showed the work to be in a prosperous condition. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, and bad condition of the roads the convention was well attended, and a grand deal of zeal, and enthusiasm for the work was manifested, and every one felt strengthened and encouraged to enter into the work with more enthusiasm than ever.

The president appointed the following committees on credentials, D. Read, Evelyn L. Barton, L. N. Peck who reported 37 delegates present. On finance A. J. Zumwalt, Wm. M. Pitney, W. L. Wheeler. They reported no money on hand, and recommended that all schools in the county be urged to pay the two cent per capita of the average attendance for State, county and district work, and also that a collection be taken up to defray the expenses of the convention which was \$4.00. Carried. Collection \$2.21.

Committee on nomination reported the following which was adopted: For president Mrs. Clara J. Bond, Irving; vice president, Will Bristow, Creswell; secretary, Wm. M. Pitney, Junction City; Treasurer, James S. Kelley, Pleasant Hill. District presidents, Mrs. Mitchell, Eugene; J. I. Jones, Cottage Grove; R. G. Callison, Springfield; Mr. Burton, Creswell; O. Bennett, Junction City; F. E. Freemont, Siuslaw. Committee on resolutions submitted the following which was adopted.

Resolved that we tender our thanks to the good people of Pleasant Hill for their words and acts of welcome. And be it further resolved that the Lane County Sunday School Association ever hold in remembrance the early pioneers of this vicinity, and especially the name of Elijah Bristow who settled on this ground on which we now stand in 1848, and built the first house in Lane county.

And who so kindly dedicated this ground to school and church purposes. Resolved that we put forth a greater effort the coming year and let our motto be Lane county for Christ. And that the thanks of this are due sister Clara Bond for her zeal, and good work for the success of the Sunday schools in our county. And that these proceedings, and these resolutions be sent to our county papers for publication.

### Official Route of Editors.

General Passenger Agent Hurlburt, of the O. R. & N., Tuesday gave out the official route of the National Editorial Association in its trip across the country. It will leave Chicago over the Chicago & Northwestern, and continue west over the Union Pacific, Oregon Short Line and O. R. & N. to Portland. It is expected that the train will reach Portland on the evening of July 3. It is understood that the most of the members of the association will return East by way of Vancouver over the Canadian Pacific and "Soo" to St. Paul, thence back to Chicago over the Chicago & Northwestern. The time to be spent in and about Portland has not been determined, and probable will not be before the arrival of the association. It cannot exceed a week, and it will probably be four or five days, every one of which will be filled with editorial pleasure.