

The Democrat.

WHO OWNS THE COUNTRY?

The statement that there is an excessive and dangerous concentration of wealth going on in the United States, has been often made and again disputed, yet never have we seen the figures and conclusions so strongly stated as by Thomas G. Shearman in the *Forum*. For some one to shout wildly and loudly "beware of the wealthy aristocrats and great accumulations of capital," has but little effect, for our people have come to distrust those that thus rise up to rebuke others, but when one comes with facts, free from ranting and clamor, his words must have weight and be fairly considered. Thus comes Mr. Shearman and says:

"As lately as 1847 there was but one man in this country who was reputed to be worth more than \$5,000,000; and although some estimated his wealth at \$20,000,000, there is no good reason for believing it to have been so great. At the smallest reasonable estimate, there must now be more than 250 persons in this country whose wealth averages \$20,000,000 for each. But let us call the number only 200. Income tax returns show that the number of incomes, when arranged in large classes, multiplies by from three to five-fold for every reduction in the amount of one half. For extreme caution, however, we estimate the increase in the number of incomes at a very much lower rate than this. At this reduced rate, the amount of wealth in the hands of persons worth over \$500,000 each in the United States would be about as follows:

200 persons at \$20,000,000	\$4,000,000,000
400 " " 10,000,000	4,000,000,000
1,000 " " 5,000,000	5,000,000,000
2,500 " " 2,500,000	6,250,000,000
7,000 " " 1,000,000	7,000,000,000
20,000 " " 500,000	10,000,000,000

\$36,250,000,000
This estimate is very far below the actual truth. Yet, even upon this basis, we are confronted with the startling result that 31,000 persons now possess three-fifths of the whole national wealth, real and personal, according to the highest estimate, (\$60,000,000,000) which any one has yet ventured to make of the aggregate amount."

This is a showing that is indeed startling and calls for investigation, not so much into the facts, as to the causes that have led to such a condition of affairs. We may well inquire what is responsible for this tendency of concentration. Is there something in our form of government or our peculiar manner of dealing with public affairs that is carrying us toward the hour when wealth concentrated shall be able to rule or ruin our institutions? What, if anything, can be done to stop this trend of affairs? Certain it is that a continuation of our present course will soon bring us to a point where wealth, not the unbiased public mind, will control the elections of the country, and the dictates of the rich decide the policy of the government. When that point is reached our boasted rule of the people will be but a sham, our appeal to the popular will a farce and our law makers the subsequent tools of combined wealth. The people of ordinary means, the farmers and mechanics, should think of this for in them lies the ability to insist that wealth shall not encroach upon our free institutions, and that the government of the people and for the people shall remain true to its object and purposes.

The death of Congressman Cox, of New York, and Laird, of Nebraska, makes a Democratic and a Republican vacancy in Congress. The places will both be filled at the November election and by successors of the same political faith of the deceased members. Laird's district is at least 5,000 Republican and Mr. Cox's majority in his district last fall was about 11,000. These deaths will make no change in the political complexion of Congress.

Langston, the Republican colored candidate for Congress in the Fourth Virginia district, who was beaten last fall by 642 majority, announces that he will support the Republican state ticket if the Republican National committee and all the Republican members of Congress will agree to give him the seat in Congress which he proposes to contest. There is an unblushing frankness in this openly avowed proposition which commands some respect.

So many Virginia Republicans agree with the Democrats of that State on the subject of William Mahone's political sinfulness that he seems much more likely to land in the soup than in the Governor's chair.

INSURE AT ONCE.—Mr. Julius Gradwohl's advice to the people of Albany is to insure at once before it is too late, for the fire fiend is devastating the cities of the N. W. Mr. Gradwohl represents seven solid companies, with an aggregate capital of \$76,000,000 and a cash deposit of \$350,000 at Salem. As well as business men, farmers should insure their crops, for they will burn, as a number of cases already testify. Through Mr. Gradwohl's companies lost some in Seattle, Vancouver, Ellensburg and Spokane Falls their capital is so great the loss is not felt, and they will continue to place risks and pay losses with their usual promptness, the same as they did after the great Chicago fire, in which their losses were heavy.

The Republican party, now apparently in the plenitude of its power, really stands at the dividing of the ways. One leads to a policy of legalized waste and prodigality; the other to a careful, judicious pruning of public expenditures and a gradual lifting of public burdens. If the noisier and more obtrusive elements of the party get the upper hand, its day of disintegration has fairly begun, for it would surely not require much independence among voters capable of reflection to refuse to follow the lead of irresponsible blatherskites.

ALL NIGHT.—Mr. Ivancovich keeps an all night house on First St. between Elliott and Lyon, at which is to be found fresh oysters, porter house steaks, ham and eggs etc.

BABIES.—The finest line of baby carriages in the Valley just received at Stewart & Sox's. Prices are remarkably cheap considering the superior quality of the carriages.

The best line of kid gloves at W. F. Read's.

NOTICE.—All persons indebted to the late firm of Bardue & Robertson will please call at the store and settle their accounts without delay and greatly oblige
J. M. BARDUE,
Successor to Bardue & Robertson.

J. J. DORRIS,

Abstractor and Conveyancer,

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DR. G. A. WHITNEY,

Physician and Surgeon.

Graduate of Bellevue Hospital Medical College New York City.

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Office, Froman's Brick, Albany, Or.

A reliable U. S. Standard 5-ton scale, only \$37. Delivered at your nearest railroad station free of freight on thirty days trial. Larger scales at proportionately low prices. Warranted five years.
Address,

F. C. HOFFMAN

Albany, Oregon

WANTED.—Girl to do general house work. Apply at residence of Wm Fortmiller.

FOR SALE CHEAP.—I have a good work horse five year old and past, weighs about 1050 pounds, which I will sell for \$80. For further information call at the Democrat office or at my residence one mile north of Albany in Benton county.
W. H. WARNER,

SAND, & C.—Persons desiring sand, loam or gravel from the premises of F. L. Such in Benton county, can procure tickets for the same at my office, Crawford's block, Albany, Oregon.
CHAS. E. WOLVERTON.

KINDERGARTEN.—Mrs. Wait Mead recently from New York, will open a school and kindergarten, in the W. C. T. U. Hall, Monday, Sept. 9th, 1889. Terms liberal, patronage solicited. Satisfaction guaranteed.
MRS. WAIT MEAD,
Albany, Or.

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.—The partnership heretofore existing under the firm name of Wallace, Thompson & Co., wherein T. L. Wallace, W. S. Thompson & E. LaForest, of the city of Albany, Lincoln county, Oregon, were general partners, is this the 7th day of August, A. D. 1889, dissolved by mutual consent, T. L. Wallace, retiring. The business will be conducted at the same place by W. S. Thompson and E. LaForest, under the firm name, LaForest & Thompson, who will assume all liabilities and collect all accounts due the firm.
Dated this 7th day of August, 1889.
T. L. WALLACE,
W. S. THOMPSON,
E. LAFOREST.

Z. T. WRIGHT,

Foot of Morrison St., Portland, Or.

—AGENT FOR—



The Advance Threshing Machinery

The best and fastest thresher in America, and a machine that stands without a rival. The ADVANCE thresher has NEVER BEEN REPLACED by any other machine on the Coast, but has replaced several others that HAVE FAILED to fill WARRANTEE. The ENGINE is guaranteed to pull more than any other, and will out travel all others on the road. If you hear any loud boasts, please tell the parties the ADVANCE THRESHER and ENGINE are sold on their merits entirely. And I am willing to prove all I claim in my field at any time. Do not be humbugged by buying any machine until you see the ADVANCE. I also handle steam fitting goods, iron pipe, pumps, mowers, seeders, springtooth harrows, blacksmith's forges, drills, church, farm and school bells, and many other special ties.
Albany Branch House one block below Russ House.

JAS. E. KNOX,
Manager.

These Goods will be sold at the lowest prices by Blain,

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No
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Ties
Pins
Hats
Caps
Suits
Shoes
Boots
Jeans
Cuffs
Canes
Vests
Knives
Gloves
Scarfs
Purses
Brushes
Chains
Charms
Shirts
Collars
Hosiery
Rubbers
Mittens
Trunks
Valises
Suitings
Half Hose
Overalls
Silk Hats
Clothing
Oil Goods
Slippers
Kid Gloves
Umbrellas
Overcoats
Overshoes
Undershirts
Suspenders
Silk Shirts
Trousers
Pea Jackets
Windsor Ties
Woolen Drawers
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Rubber Boots
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Cardigan Jackets
Engineer Jackets
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Tailor Made Suits and many other things too numerous to mention.

L. E. BLAIN THE LEADING CLOTHIER.

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in the fact that I am offering better bargains than any one else in Albany Bought at bankrupt sales I can sell

First-Class Goods:

at or below COST.

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General merchandise of all kinds call on me. Particular bargains in a sample of shoes.

Cash for Goods or Country produce

G. W. SIMPSON

Albany, Oregon.

FOR THE BEST FURNITURE

—CALL ON THE—

Albany Furniture Company

OPPOSITE STEWART & SOX'S,

BED ROOM SETS, TABLES, CHAIRS, UPHOLSTERED GOODS. ; BABY CARRIAGES

ETC. ETC., ET

HAWKINS & FARRELL

At Cost At Cost

TO MAKE ROOM FOR MY LARGE STOCK OF FALL AND WINTER GOODS I WILL SELL MY ENTIRE STOCK OF

BOOTS AND SHOES.

AT COST. THIS WILL BE A CLOSING OUT SALE, AND THEY MUST GO. COME EARLY AND GET

Real Bargains.

AT THE SAME TIME DO NOT FORGET THAT I HAVE A COMPLETE STOCK OF

DRY GOODS

Notions, Furnishing Goods, etc,

WOULD ESPECIALLY CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING LINES:

Dress Goods, Trimmings, Silk, Table Linen, Gloves, Hosiery, Fancy Goods, etc

ALL AT LOWEST CASH PRICE.

RESPECTFULLY,

W. F. READ,

The Leading Cash Dry Goods Store.

HOPKINS & SALTMARSH

—DEALERS IN—

STOVES; TIN WARE, SHEET IRON, COPPER WARE, ETC., ETC.

Agents for "On Time" Heating and cooking Stoves. Job work, plumbing, etc., promptly attended to.

CHEAPEST AND BEST PLACE IN THE CITY

MATTHEWS & WASHBURN,

Carry a first-class stock of

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Which they are selling at remarkably low prices.

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Paints, Oils, Stationary, Etc., And Prompt attention

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