WHO HAS THE MONEY?

NOT THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE EARNED IT.

Figures from Great Britain and Several States in Our Own Country —Our Foes Acknowledge Justice of Principles of the People's Party.

Distribution of Wealth.

It has been denied that the rich are getting richer and the poor poorer. It has been asserted that the poor and the rich are growing richer together. In the Arena Mr. Elwood Pomeroy has an article in which he seeks to demonstrate that there is a concentration of of wealth, and the arguments which he offers will demand a better answer than has been given to others of the same kind. Mr. Pomeroy takes neither the assessment returns which, for obvious reasons, are likely to be incorrect, nor the census returns, which are hurriedly made and which rely largely upon the owners of wealth for their statistics. He takes for his basis the official returns of estates made by the administrators.

The commissioners of internal revenue for Great Britain, among whose duties is the collection of the succession tax, published a report in which occurs a table of the deaths during the five years from 1890 to 1894. From this Mr. Pomeroy shows that 56 per cent. of those who died owned less than 3 per cent. of the wealth and 90 per cent. owned less than 8 per cent. of the wealth. Persons whose estates were returned as over $1,250,000 were less than 3-100 of 1 per cent. of the whole, or .028, yet they owned 13 per cent. of the wealth.

The commissioner of labor of Massachusetts has collated the probate returns by series of years. The first table covers 1829 to 1831, the second table 1859-1861, and the third 1879-1881. The following shows the distribution in 1829-1831:

Class—	Per cent of Population.	Per cent of Wealth.
Nothing	61.81	.....
Under $1,000.....	19.61	4.17
$1,000 to $5,000....	13.20	20.85
$5,000 to $25,000...	4.68	30.58
$25,000 to $100,000.	.689	22.81
$100,000 to $500,000	.069	12.84
Over $500,000.....	.002	8.75

The following covers the years 1859-1861:

Class—	Per cent of Population.	Per cent of Wealth.
Nothing	66.00	.....
Under 1,000.....	12.02	1.96
$1,000 to $5,000....	12.89	12.75
$5,000 to $25,000...	6.40	24.97
$25,000 to $100,000.	1.27	23.00
$100,000 to $500,000	.39	27.76
Over $500,000.....	.03	9.56

The following covers the years 1879-1881:

Class—	Per cent of Population	Per cent of Wealth.
Nothing	69.00	.....
Under $1,000.....	9.12	1.08
$1,000 to $5,000....	12.76	8.21
$5,000 to $25,000...	6.80	18.73
$25,000 to $100,000.	1.74	21.33
$100,000 to $500,000	.50	26.48
Over $500,000.....	.08	24.17

If the same relation of change is maintained, Mr. Pomeroy estimates the distribution of wealth in Massachusetts in 1900 will be as follows:

Class—	Per cent of Population.	Per cent of Wealth.
Nothing	72.00	.....
Under $1,000.....	7.5	.75
$1,000 to $5,000 ...	11.5	6.00
$5,000 to $25,000...	6.5	15.00
$25,000 to $100,000.	1.85	20.25
$100,000 to $500,000	.50	27.00
Over $500,000.....	.15	31.00

The Maryland labor bureau has compiled the probate returns of Baltimore for the period of 1888-1893 with the following result:

Class—	Per cent of Population.	Per cent of Wealth.
Nothing	66.67	.....
Under $2,500.....	20.92	5.34
$2,500 to $25,000...	10.27	23.56
Over $25,000.....	2.34	71.10

Comparison between the Massachusetts tables for 1829-1831 and 1879-1881 show that in the former period persons worth over $25,000 were .70 per cent. of the population and owned 44.40 of the wealth, while in the latter period they were 2.32 per cent. of the population and owned 71.98 per cent. of the wealth. At the other extreme those worth less than $5,000 formed 94.62 per cent. of the population, with 25.02 per cent. of the wealth in the first period, while in the second period they were 90.88 per cent. of the population with 9.29 per cent. of the wealth. While it might reasonably be urged that the increase in the number and wealth of those at the head of the list is due to the increased development of the country and of the means of making larger fortunes, the fact remains that there is a disquieting growth in the number and decrease in the holdings of those at the wrong end of the list. It is a pity that the Massachusetts figures have not been carried down at least to the period 1889-1891, though the last is in part supplied by the table relating to Baltimore.—Rocky Mountain News.

Resumption of Business.

Just now the daily press teems with reports of various manufacturing plants resuming business, sometimes mentioning one plant several times to carry the impression that there is a very general resumption of business, and that the cause is the restoration of "confidence" since McKinley's election. The Nonconformist distinctly challenges the correctness of the inference to be drawn, even if it should develop that the resumption is general. The cause will be found hidden away in the monthly statements of the treasury department. Early last year we called attention to the fact that the currency was being contracted. Our words fell on unheeding ears, but there was the cause for the business depression of the past summer—a depression that carries a record of 142 more business failures in the first nine months of the year than in the same months of the panic year of 1893. In September an increase of currency was made, and again in October a further increase was made, amounting in the two months to over sixty million dollars.

Part of this money had been hoarded by the Secretary so the banks could not get at it for the purpose of raiding the treasury, and part is an increase in the issue of national bank notes. Altogether this large increase was made just at the time so its influence would not be felt in the channels of trade until after election. Seventy million people must do business or they will starve. Their money was contracted during the early part of the campaign and business done at a loss, then when the purpose was served for which the scarcity was made, the gates are opened and an increase is given, so that now the pressing necessities of the people, compelling business, assisted by easier monetary supply, both tend to start business with something of the appearance of a "boom," and a studied effort is made to show that it is because of "restored confidence" when there is not a word of truth in it. Above are the true reasons for the resumption of business, and the Nonconformist hopes it may prove permanent.—American Nonconformist.

Postal Savings Bank.

Gradually leading old party journals are coming to see justice in the principles of the People's party, the party they have heretofore denounced as anarchists, socialists, etc. The latest conversion to the Postal Savings Bank plank in the Populist platform is the Chicago Dispatch, one of the brightest and brainest dailies in that typical American city. In discussing this proposition it says:

"In Great Britain the postal savings bank system has proved an unalloyed success. It is a boon to the workingman of frugal habits, and, besides, creates a foundation upon which that "sure thing" dear to English hearts, the annuity, is built. Savings banks do not suspend in England, leaving depositors nothing to show for their years of thrift and self-denial. And the system is as simple as it is satisfactory.

Interest is paid at the rate of 2½ per cent. When a depositor's total account exceeds £200, no more deposits can be made, but the depositor can reduce his account by buying consols through the postoffice, investing any sum from one shilling upward at the current price of the day. The postoffice will also sell stock obtained through it, charging a commission of ninepence for the purchase or sale of stock in amounts below £25. Thousands of working people thus become owners of government stock, while savings banks under private management do not endeavor to compete with the government banks. Life insurance can be obtained in amounts of from £5 to £100. The £5 insurance is for children bewteen the age of 8 and 14 years. The policies can be made payable at death, on the attainment of the age of 55, 60 or 65, and on the expiration of periods of 10, 15, and up to 40 years.

Sporadic attempts have been made from time to time to establish a similar system in this country, but they have failed through the powerful influence brought to bear by bankers, who borrow the people's money at a nominal rate of interest and loan it again at usury.

The advantage of postal savings banks is so apparent that it does not admit of dispute. It insures the depositor absolutely against loss, and at the same time gives every citizen that saves a direct interest in the perpetuation of his country and its institutions.

The Dispatch ventures the assertion that "within five years after the establishment of such depositories, practically all the small hoardings of America would be attracted to them, and the Federal Government could secure quite a revenue by becoming a money lender on a large scale to nations less favored than our own."

Not Settled.

A dollar which increases in purchasing power is an advantage to those who trade in money and to those who hold fixed investments, but it is an injury to those who owe money and must purchase it with the proceeds of toil. It must be evident, therefore, that the people familiarly known as financiers cannot be trusted to frame a financial policy for the whole people unless they are entirely free from the selfishness which is generally supposed to be a well nigh universal trait of mankind. Money loaners have never been known to advocate laws reducing the legal rate of interest. Why should they be expected to advocate a financial system which will stop the appreciation of money?

The advocates of free coinage have asserted that the gold standard is a conspiracy organized by the great financiers of the world to lessen the volume o fthe world's standard money, for the double purpose, first, of raising the purchasing power of a given quantity of money, and, second, of making it easier to corner the supply of standard money. The advocates of free coinage believed the charge when they made it, and they believe it still. Inspired by the conviction that they are laboring in behalf of a large majority of the people, not only here, but throughout the world, they will continue their fight, confident that four more years of experience will convince many who have thus far resisted argument.

Some of our opponents, rejoicing in victory, are attempting to cry down any further consideration of the money question. They complain that agitation disturbs business, and they accuse the advocates of free coinage of stirring up discontent. The violent epithets used by some of the worshipers of gold recall the story of the London fishwife who was remonstrated with for abusing an eel. She justified her language by saying that the eel would not keep still while she was skinning it. Those who suffer because of the gold standard can hardly be expected to keep quiet and look pleasant while the injury continues. Hard names do not relieve their sufferings. They, too, want confidence restored, but it must be a confidence that their condition will be improved, not that their lot will be made still harder.—William Jennings Bryan, in North American Review.

Continue the Fight.

The fight for the regeneration of the republic is just commenced, so to speak. It will be continued until the poor man shall have the same rights before the law as the rich. It will be continued until the farmer has the same rights accorded to him and his business as the money sharks of Wall street. It will be continued until prosperity shall settle among our great plain people, give them an opportunity for honest endeavor whereby they may earn their livelihood by honest work, whereby they may educate, nurture and protect their families the same as the rich. In other words, this republic must be a republic which is a blessing to all, and until this state of affairs shall be consummated the fight will be continued. It is an old fight, the fight of the oppressed against the oppressor and the fight of slave against the tyrant, the fight of poor, stricken humanity against its oppressors.—Kearney (Neb.) New Era.

Will Find the Right Way.

Evidently the money question is not settled in the councils of the Republican party, which has been given the contract to settle it for the nation.

But, after all, as Mr. Bryan puts it:

"There is only one prophecy which can be made with certainty of fulfillment, and that is that the American people will study a subject until they understand it and will then settle it. Changes of opinion will go on until the best solution of every question is found."

And so the real settlement of the money question will come through prolonged discussion, through agitation and debate. As it is the most vital question of national polity, that man and that party may be proud that shall achieve the honor of accomplishing it.—New York Journal.

Out of Joint.

Prosperity? Fiddlesticks! There can be no prosperity so long as the country is at the mercy of the money lenders. The social system is out of joint. We need a law against great fortunes. Men form combinations and put their hands into the pockets of the poor. They never take from those who have, but steal from those who have not. We need men willing to stand for equal rights, and we want men who howl for equal rights to take a hand at practicing equal rights. The public is being milked for the sake of the few, and the thing has got to stop before there can be any relief.—Gov. Pingree.

Bank Failures.

It is a fact that bank failures cause direct loss to depositors of money in banks of many millions of dollars in the United States every year.

These numerous failures cause financial panics, which result in the shutting down of business, throwing great multitudes of people into idleness and compelling the sale of property at great sacrifice.

These immense losses to the common people, by bank failures, cause such distrust of banks as to induce the people generally to hide their money, thus withdrawing it from circulation, which results in scarcity of money, excessively high interest and the suppression of business.

The hiding of money on the person and about the home, through distrust of banks, makes continual temptation to footpads and robbers, and hence the era of crime in which no property or life is safe.

All this crime, impoverishment and great distress comes from losses through bank failures and consequent loss of confidence in monetary conditions. Would it not be wise to take some action to relieve the worthy banks of suspicion. Why not require the bankers to give bond that people shall not lose the money which they deposit in banks.

They Are Quiet.

If the industrial stagnation were less intense rather than growing worse, you would meet Republicans on every corner, with chests puffed out, shouting, "See what McKinley's election has done!" Up to the present writing they have kept very quiet.—Cleveland Citizen.

Bicycle Games.

The Badminton Magazine has a suggestive article on bicycle sports for a time when, in a country-house visit, "yawns are infectious and bosom friends a bore.' The first general directions are to the point:

1. Ladies only on the board of directors. Men may be used as fags, and if anything goes wrong the blame can, of course, be laid on them.

2. Give a small brother a post on the committee. He will be an efficient lieutenant, and can always be snubbed, if necessary.

In a needle-and-thread race the humor lies in the contortions which result from the male effort to thread a needle quickly. The man easily wins the riding part of the race, but when he begins to fumble about with the needle and thread, he at once puts on a pained look, smothers a yell and tumbles over his bicycle. By the time he has done all this, the lady is triumphantly holding up her needle threaded; so, like a wise man, he congratulates her, and turns away to suck his lacerated thumb.

Dressing a scarecrow is excellent fooling. A series of the most inconvenient garments available should be arranged on a line of sticks, and the object is to get them all on, somehow. Necessarily wild attempts to do this without wrapping the dressing-gown round the back wheel and putting out one's eyes with the sunshade will not only elicit roars of laughter, but furnish the rider with an excellent chance to keep his temper.

The "musical ride" may be arranged by practicing a series of dancing figures to music. The very simplest will do, but one caution is to be remembered. In rehearsing for this, the discreet bicycler will not allow himself to be photographed; for his mouth is almost sure to be open.

To the Point.

"I once heard a shout that sounded as if it came from the very heart of the nation," said a lady a few days ago. "It was at the close of one of General Grant's public speeches."

"Did you hear the speech?"

"Every word."

"Do you remember any of it?"

"I can repeat it from beginning to end. It was at Springfield, Mass. Grant and his party were on their way to Boston to be present at the laying of the corner stone of the new postoffice building, I think, and stopped at the Massasoit House for a lunch.

"There was a crowd of people hoping to get a glimpse of the great man, and in response to repeated calls he came out upon the little balcony and said:

"'I am glad to see you, my friends, but as the time belongs to the railroad company, and not to me, I shall have to bid you good afternoon.'

"Then the shout went up as if from one throat in response to the simple presence of the man who had done something to prove himself worthy the love of the people and of the highest position in their gift."

Such a demonstration would have been impossible for a man who had not won his way by his own acts.

"It is a startling fact that, almost without exception, the adulterated teas are dangerous to health. Some of them are actually poisonous."
—*N. Y. Herald.*

Yes; some—not all. But that isn't the point. You drink tea because you like it—not because it is good for you.

The wholesome tea is also the best-tasting: *Schilling's Best*—at grocers' in packages.

A. Schilling & Company
San Francisco 497

Determined women have invaded another educational citadel. The university of Edinburgh has granted the degree of M. A. to Misses Geddes and MacGregor.

THE MEANING OF IT.

Very often we give the wrong meaning to a word and thereby make serious mistakes. For instance, the true and literal meaning of the word rheumatism is "aches or pains of the muscles, bones and joints of the human body." It is general and not specific. Amiable word relief does not mean cure. Relief may be but a short cessation of pain, but when we say St. Jacobs Oil cures rheumatism promptly and permanently, we mean it conquers pain quickly with no return of it, unless the sufferer gives cause for a new attack, and then it will cure again. It matters not whether it is chronic, acute or inflammatory, it will cure. That is sure, be sure of it.

There is a house in Paris occupied by over fifty tenants who for twenty years have never paid any rent, the landlord being unknown.

TO GET OUT OF THE WAY

When trouble is coming, it obviously the part of common sense. An obstruction of the bowels is a serious obstacle to health. To get this out of the way is an easy matter with the thorough laxative, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which, although it affords relief, never gripes and convulses like a drastic purgative. Dyspepsia, malaria, kidney and rheumatic ailments and nervousness yield to this genial family medicine.

A German has been granted a patent on a sewing needle made with the center and eye end flat, the rest of the needle being round.

I shall recommend Piso's Cure for Consumption far and wide.—Mrs. Mulligan, Plumstead, Kent, England, Nov. 8, 1895.

There are more than 200,000 volumes in the National Library of Mexico, and additions are being made by every steamer from New York and Europe.

The asparagus served at the Elysee banquet in honor of the czar cost three francs a stalk, or 96 cents a bundle, and there were 200 guests.

America has over five thousand islands round its coast.

Gladness Comes

With a better understanding of the transient nature of the many physical ills, which vanish before proper efforts—gentle efforts—pleasant efforts—rightly directed. There is comfort in the knowledge, that so many forms of sickness are not due to any actual disease, but simply to a constipated condition of the system, which the pleasant family laxative, Syrup of Figs, promptly removes. That is why it is the only remedy with millions of families, and is everywhere esteemed so highly by all who value good health. Its beneficial effects are due to the fact, that it is the one remedy which promotes internal cleanliness without debilitating the organs on which it acts. It is therefore all important, in order to get its beneficial effects, to note when you purchase, that you have the genuine article, which is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only and sold by all reputable druggists.

If in the enjoyment of good health, and the system is regular, laxatives or other remedies are then not needed. If afflicted with any actual disease, one may be commended to the most skillful physicians, but if in need of a laxative, one should have the best, and with the well-informed everywhere, Syrup of Figs stands highest and is most largely used and gives most general satisfaction.

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WEEKLY MARKET LETTER

Downing, Hopkins & Company's Review of Trade.

The wheat markets during the week just closed have been under the control of short sellers. Prominent operators have taken a hand in the deal, and the result has been very heavy unloading of long wheat and a drop in the price of May at Chicago on Friday to 73c, with, however, a reaction before the close on Saturday to 76c; a subsequent decline of half a cent from this latter price with final closing figures at 75½c, a loss for the week of 4 5-8c. The market at the beginning of the week had settled itself into a scalping affair with the tendency lower, on the selling out of long lines and the pressing of sales by people who favor that side under any and all circumstances. Dullness begets sagging markets, and the disappearance of an outside interest in the market is, in part, responsible for the break this week. The public has been loaded up, waiting to get out more advantageously, or else sellers have been overdoing the thing to the extent that when anything does come favorable for a rise there will be some tall hustling to cover. The fact remains, however, that the seller has been greatly favored in the news and by the considerations mentioned. Fluctuations have been more frequent and the oft-repeated stories of cash business at the different markets would give one an impression that holders were resorting to desperate means in order to bolster up an already lost cause. There is a cash demand for wheat all the time, of course, but it is not up to sensational proportions or of such an amount as to result in the buying of futures by the speculative public, and herein lies the weakness of the position assumed by the investor in wheat.

On the surface, the foregin crop advices are just as they were when May wheat in Chicago was selling 10c per bushel higher than at present, but still, and strange to say, Liverpool cables have been coming lower each day since the week commenced.

Market Quotations.

Portland, Or., Feb. 2, 1897.

Flour—Portland, Salem, Cascadia and Dayton, $4.40; Benton county and White Lily, $4.40; graham, $4.00; superfine, $2.80 per barrel.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 81@82c; Valley, 84@85c per bushel.

Oats—Choice white, 39@40c per bushel; choice gray, 38@40c.

Hay—Timothy, $13@14.00 per ton; clover, $9.00@10.00; wheat and oat, $8.00@10 per ton.

Barley—Feed barley, $18.00 per ton; brewing, $20.

Millstuffs—Bran, $15.50; shorts, $16.50; middlings, $26.

Butter—Creamery, 40@45c; Tillamook, 40c; dairy, 22½@30c.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 70@80c; Early Rose, 70@80c per sack; California river Burbanks, 55c per cental; sweets, $2.00@2.25 per cental for Merced; Jersey Red, $2.50.

Onions—$1.10@1.35 per sack.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, $3.00@3.25; geese, $6.00; turkeys, live, 12½c; ducks, $4@4.50 per dozen.

Eggs—Oregon, 20 per dozen.

Cheese — Oregon, 12½c; Young America, 13½c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 10c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 6@8c.

Hops—9@10c per pound.

Beef—Gross, top steers, $2.75@3.00; cows, $2.25@2.50; dressed beef, 4@5½c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, $3.00@3.25; dressed mutton, 5½@6c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice, heavy, $3.25@3.50; light and feeders, $2.50@3.00; dressed, $4.00@4.50 per cwt.

Veal—Large, 5@5½c; small, 6@6½c per pound.

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 2, 1897.

Wheat—Chicken feed, $27 per ton.

Oats—Choice, $23@24 per ton.

Barley—Rolled or ground, $22 per ton.

Corn—Whole, $21 per ton; cracked, $20; feed meal, $23.

Flour—(Jobbing)—Patent excellent, $5.25; Novelty A, $4.75; California brands, $5.60; Dakota, $5.50; patent, $6.25.

Millstuffs—Bran, $15.00 per ton; shorts, $19.

Feed—Chopped feed, $17.25 per ton; middlings, $22; oilcake meal, $29.

Hay—Puget sound, per ton, $9.00@10.00; Eastern Washington, $14.

Butter — Fancy native creamery, brick, 24c; select, 23c; tubs, 22c; ranch, 18c.

Cheese—Native Washington, 12½c.

Vegetables—Potatoes, per ton, $18@20; parsnips, per sack, 75c; beets, per sack, 60c; turnips, per sack, 60c; rutabagas, per sack, 75c; carrots, per sack, 35@45c; cabbage, per 100 lbs, $1.50; onions, per 100 lbs, $1@1.25.

Sweet potatoes—Per 100 lbs, $3.00.

Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, hens, 8c; dressed, 9@10c; ducks, $2.00@3.50; dressed turkeys, 15.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, 23c; Eastern, 19c per dozen.

Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 6c; cows, 5½c; mutton, sheep, 7½c per pound; lamb, 5c; pork, 5c per pound; veal, small, 6c.

Fresh Fish—Halibut, 5@6; salmon, 5@6; salmon trout, 7@10; flounders and soles, 3@4c.

Provisions—Hams, large, 11c; hams, small, 11½c; breakfast bacon, 10c; dry salt sides, 5¾c per pound.

San Francisco, Feb. 2, 1897.

Potatoes — Salinas Burbanks, 75@90c; Early Rose, 75@85c; River Burbanks, 50@75c; sweets, $1.00@1.25 per cental.

Onions—$1.25@1.60 per cental.

Eggs—Store, 16@17c; ranch, 17@19.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 20@21c; do seconds, 17@19c; fancy dairy, 15c; seconds, 12@13c.

Cheese — Fancy mild, new, 10c; fair to good, 7@9c; Young America, 11c; Eastern, 12@14c.

Wool—Choice mountain, 6@7c; poor do, 4@5c; San Joaquin plains, 3@5c; do foothill, 6@8c per pound.

Hay—Wheat, $8.00@11; wheat and oat, $7@10; oat, $6.00@8.00; barley, 5.00@6.50; alfalfa, $6.00@7.50; clover, $6.00@8.00; stock, $5.00@6.00 per ton.

Tropical Fruit—Bananas, $1.00@2.00 per bunch; pineapples, $2@4.

Citrus Fruit—Oranges, naval, $1.50@2.50; seedlings, do, 75c@1.25; common lemons, $1.00@1.25; good to choice, $1.50@2.00; fancy, $2.25@2.50 per box.

Apples—Common, 50@75c per box; Eastern, $2.00@3.00 per barrel.

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Mr. Henry Roth, of 1848 South 9th Street, St. Louis, was given the usual mercurial treatment for contagious blood poison. He was twice pronounced cured, but the disease returned each time; he was seized with rheumatic pains, and red lumps and sores covered his body. "I was in a horrible fix" he says, "and the more treatment I received, the worse I seemed to get. A New York specialist said he could cure me, but his treatment did me no good whatever. I was stiff and full of pains, my left arm was useless so that I was unable to do even the lightest work. This was my condition when I began to take S. S. S., and a few bottles convinced me that I was being benefitted. I continued the medicine, and one dozen bottles cured me sound and well. My system was under the effects of mercury, and I would soon have been a complete wreck but for S. S. S."

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