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THE DESERET NEWS

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The Grange in Maine.

The state grange of Maine recently met at Lewiston. Worthy Lecturer Dr. G. M. Twitchell made a report which showed considerable progress during the past year. Among other things he said:

In no state in all the Union is the order upon the substantial foundation found in the old Pine Tree state. "Dirigo" our motto in the grange field as elsewhere. In no other state do we find the monuments of prosperity, those grange halls, rising in so many sections, testifying to the zeal of the patrons, their love of the organization, and the power of combined effort. Whether east or west, north or south, go where you will, and grange halls stand at the four corners, telling to the world of noble purposes and commendable effort. Out of 270 subordinate granges in Maine, 44 meetings gather in their own homes. In the eastern portion of Washington, in the northern sections of Aroostook, among the hills of Oxford and down the valleys of York, the traveler meets these evidences of permanency, away from town or village, where neighborhoods gather for social and intellectual improvement.

Brothers and sisters, the past year has brought a revelation to me of the worth and power of our organization, and also of the grand future which awaits us if we are loyal to our obligations. Never was the harvest so fruitful, never were the laborers so earnest, never were the opportunities so grand for the order of Patrons of Husbandry as today. Free from all political alliances the order is coming to be intensely political, and patrons are arousing themselves to specific and determined action within their own party lines which will surely secure results. The order has been grappling some of the intricate problems, and will this winter make its power felt in the halls of legislation. Loyal patrons of all political parties will three faithfully and fearlessly represent our true interests, and your duty and mine is to stand shoulder to shoulder with and behind them until results are secured.

Another Financial Scheme.

It is with great interest that I read the communication in your paper on finance, for it is one of the most vital questions of the day. When mankind was content to be slaves it mattered little to them, for they were content if they had coarse food and clothes. But men who want to be free aspire to something higher and nobler. As a solution to this question I submit the following, and to make it plain I will give an illustration:

Harrison county, Tex., issued $50,000 in bonds to build a court house, said bonds run for thirty years, at 6 per cent., which is $3,000 per year; thirty years' interest would be $90,000, we pay, and still owe the principal, $50,000. Individuals bought these bonds at par. Of course they considered the investment good.

Now suppose the law was so we could have deposited those bonds with the United States treasurer, and receive greenbacks for them at 2 per cent. interest, which would be $1,000 per year, in thirty years, $30,000—a difference of $60,000. So it is plainly to be seen that if 2 of the 6 per cent. went for interest and 4 per cent. for a sinking fund we could pay the principal and interest in thirty years, and have $10,000 to pay expenses with. This plan looks to me like a wheel within a wheel, and the government would need no other source of revenue forever.

Incorporated cities and counties in the United States could carry their credit, and this plan would greatly reduce the tax of city and county. It is a secure plan, for it is based upon the property of the country.—J. E. H. in Journal of Agriculture.

Good Work of the Alliance.

A dispatch from Eldorado, Kan., says: The effects of the Alliance movement in Kansas are already beginning to be felt. Two years ago the Kansas state senate appointed a committee to revise certain portions of existing state laws.

The report abolishes a dozen useless boards, reconstructs half a dozen other boards, revises the laws regarding the control of the State Normal and State Agricultural colleges, Humboldt reformatory, decapitates ex-Governor Crawford, the state agent at Washington, cuts down the number of judicial district judges about one-fourth, cuts legal advertising, sheriffs' sales, county and state printing of all kinds 50 per cent., provides for the Australian system of voting and the election of the state board of railway commissioners, provides that the state furnish school books at a uniform text-book, overhauls the system of taxation and assessment and puts it on a bona fide basis, cuts down the fees and salaries of all county officers, except coroners and commissioners, and affects considerable other justice of the peace fees. The report, if adopted and enacted into law, will save the people of Kansas $250,000 in taxes annually.

In the cattle pens at Chicago and elsewhere during the month one fact stood out prominent: Prime fat cattle were in good demand, went off briskly and brought good prices, while poor cattle glutted the market and could hardly be worked off at any price at times. It is a fact for the beef eaters to ponder. There is no reason why America should not produce as prime beef and mutton as Great Britain does. We have not done so as yet, except in a few isolated cases. But care and breeding will work miracles and make American beef equal to any. Care and breeding are the words.

An Interest Association.

Husband—What have you been doing all day?

Wife—Shopping.

Husband—Oh! Only shopping. I was afraid you'd been buying.—Good News.

UNITED STATES SENATORS.

Interesting Information Brought Out Through the Alliance Propositions.

One of the demands of the Farmers' Alliance is for the election of senators directly by the people. The adoption of such a change in our system would at least have the great effect of doing away with the scandals—whether true or not—of wealthy men purchasing their seats in the upper house.

The main obstacle in the way of such a change is that it requires a constitutional amendment, and there are few things in our political life harder to bring about than amendments to the organic law, either state or national. In the cases of state constitutions it is notorious that people will go in indefinitely bearing real evils, rather than adopt constitutional amendments which will cure the evils. Any proposition to change the organic law seems to awaken all the conservatism in people's natures, and great numbers will vote against any proposition simply because they would rather endure the ills they have long run any risk of opening the door to "tinkering with the constitution."

It may be interesting to say something as to how the senate came to have its present form. There was no senate in the continental congress. There was but one house, and each state had a single vote in it. The constitutional convention of 1787, following the model of the British government, then the best form known, was in favor of two houses, but sorely puzzled how to constitute an upper house which would be different from the lower one and act as a check upon it. It was a long while before the idea of a senate was conceived, and it really grew out of the jealousy of the smaller states of the larger ones. But eleven states took part in the earlier proceedings of the convention. Two of the four delegates from New Hampshire came in later, and no delegates were appointed by Rhode Island. The "small states"—five in number—were Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland. The "large states" were Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Virginia, North and South Carolina and Georgia.

The "small states" feared that they would be overwhelmed by the large ones, and so they hung out stubbornly for equal votes in congress. Several of the "plans" suggested did not contemplate an upper house, but the Virginia plan, which was eventually made the basis of congress, did. It, however, gave no name to the upper house, but proposed that its members should be chosen by the house of representatives out of a number of persons nominated by the legislatures of the several states. Three ways in all were suggested to constitute the membership:

1. Appointment by the chief executive from nominations by the legislatures.
2. Election by the people.
3. Election by the legislatures.

Alexander Hamilton urged as an amendment that the members should be chosen by electors chosen by the people of the states, and that they should serve during good behavior. Pinckney proposed a term of three years. The committee of the whole digested these propositions, and reported in favor of a "second branch," the members of which were to be elected by the legislatures for seven years, and to be ineligible to any office for a year after the expiration of their term, and the number was to be in proportion to the population.

This was the shape in which it appears in the first draft of the constitution. June 21-29, 1787, the convention adopted the report of the committee, except that the term was changed from seven to six years, and the ineligibility clause was stricken out. The convention then entered upon a protracted struggle as to the representation of each state, and various propositions were urged. One scheme gave Rhode Island and Delaware each one and Virginia five, with the other states proportionate between these. Dr. Franklin proposed that each state have an equal representation, with a vote on money bills proportionate to its share of the taxes. Delaware threatened to form a league with the confederation if the small states were not given an equal representation, and finally, after the debate had gone on for six weeks, the plan of giving each state two members was adopted, and the small states concentrated their efforts upon giving the "second branch" the sinews power and importance. Aug. 6 the name "senate" was formally given the "second branch." Sept. 4 the office of vice president was agreed upon, and he was made the presiding officer of the senate in order to give him something to do. The constitution was finally adopted Sept. 17.

The Farmers' Alliance platform confines itself to a mere demand for the election of senators by the people, and does not specify how this is to be done. Here is opportunity for a wide diversity of opinion. Shall it be by the whole vote of a state, as a governor is elected, or shall each state be divided into two senatorial districts? Shall the present rule of two senators for each state—large or small—continue, or shall each state have a vote in the senate in proportion to its population?

Before any change can be made it will be necessary to get section 3, article 1, of the constitution amended. This reads:

"The senate of the United States shall be composed of two senators from each state, chosen by the legislature thereof, for six years, and each senator shall have one vote."

To secure this amendment it will be necessary to have it proposed by two-thirds of the members of both houses of congress, and it must then be ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the states. That is, assuming that the house will consist of 356 representatives, it will have to receive the votes of 237 representatives and 56 senators, and be ratified by the legislatures of 38 states.—National Tribune.

Belva Lockwood, in a recent interview with a Kansas City Times reporter, said: "I expect to see an Alliance president of the United States some of these days."

More good resolutions for the new year: Resolved, That I will pay my way as I go and not run in debt also. That I won't expectorate upon the floor of any car or public conveyance, or upon the floor, steps or stairs of any house, public or private. Then when I go to Europe next summer vacation the natives will not know at a glance that I am an American and a spitter from Wayback.

FARMERS TO MAKE LAWS.

Measures Which Reports Say the Alliance Will Support in North Carolina.

A recent Capitol from Raleigh, N. C., to The New York Times contains the following:

There are 117 members of the legislature who are also members of the Farmers' Alliance, and these men are all determined on the passage of a bill establishing a railroad commission, with power to fix passenger fares and freight rates. Bills of this character have been defeated in every legislature during the past eight years. The demand of the Alliance is for an honest commission to regulate and fix passenger fares and freight rates, and the strong probability is that such an act will be passed.

The legislature will be called upon to deal now subjects of taxation to raise $150,000, which has been withdrawn from the state treasury by decisions of the United States circuit court declaring the tax on commercial drummers and on the sale of pianos to be unconstitutional. The games tax went to the support of the agricultural department and the agricultural and mechanical school. This school is in the nature of a manual training college, and is very popular among the people of the state, and there is a universal desire that the money be provided to continue the school.

In order to raise the money needed it is proposed to levy a tax of $1 on every ton of guano sold in this state either by principal or agent, which would bring in $150,000, and thus supply the deficit.

There is a general demand for more money for the free public schools. These schools are not now kept open more than two months in the year, and no teacher receives more than $40 per month as salary. As the law now stands, the school fund is divided pro rata according to the number of school children.

The penitentiary system is becoming a heavy burden to the taxpayers. There are now $1,300 convicts in the penitentiary near the city—1,000 negroes and 300 whites. The expense, all told, to keep up this system is $100,000 per year. The people of the state are opposed to the penitentiary because they believe it does not decrease crime and because it is a heavy expense. In its place they are in favor of the old Roman punishment of stocks, county jails, well laid on the lace backs of all offenders who are not to be imprisoned for life.

One of the demands of the Farmers' Alliance is that there is largely increased criminal jurisdiction for the justices of the peace, so that one-half of the cases which now number the dockets of the superior courts would be triable before the justices of the peace, with the right of appeal to the superior court. The Alliance members ought to be able to get such a bill through at the next session, but they will meet with strong opposition from the lawyers. The enactment of such a law would reduce the criminal expenses of the superior courts at least one-half, the laws would be just as well administered, and there would be no more crime than there is now. There is a strong feeling for the amendment of the civil jurisdiction of the justices, so as to give them the right to hear and determine all civil matters where the sum sued for does not exceed $500. The limit is now $200.

The Alliance people are also bitterly opposed to the law which permits farmers to execute a lien on the crop to be made. This law makes the farmer or renter, as the case may be, both lazy and extravagant—lazy because he goes to town and buys guano instead of drawing on the product of the farm, and extravagant because, having credit by virtue of his lien, he buys many things that he does not need, and would not purchase if he were obliged to pay cash. The interest he pays for this indulgence ranges from 33 to 100 per cent. As a matter of course this enormous charge, coupled with several successive years of bad crops, brought almost every farmer in debt to the merchants and factors. It is believed by the Alliance people that the repeal of this law, to take effect Jan. 1, 1891, would prove of great benefit to the mass who labor for the land by forcing them to pay cash. The repeal of the lien law would also open the way for the investment of the capital of the merchants now used in the commission and lien business in other channels, such as cotton factories and similar manufacturing establishments.

There is also a strong feeling against the law of contributory negligence on the part of the employes of railroad and other corporations which prevents the recovery of damages for any injury received by the employe while in the employ of the corporation if it be his act to contributed thereto. An effort will be made to repeal this law and make the injury itself prima facie evidence that the employe is entitled to recover, leaving only the question of the amount of damages to be found by the jury. Of course the innovation will be fought by the various corporations, but the opinion is expressed that the opposition will not avail to prevent the enactment of the law as stated.

An Interesting Question.

It will be noticed that the Farmers' Alliance is not agitating at present the question of the building of the government finances of more importance than any other national issue. Here we simply correspond to Ireland. While "finance" is apparently good, that is to say, trading is pretty enough, there is a shortage in what we call "ready money." We find many people with property who want to raise a little money because of shortage in the "medium of exchange." They might secure cash by selling some of their property, but the cash price they would be for below their estimate of its value. There is, therefore, a well settled belief in the minds of the people that the volume of cash is so small that the banks and money lenders have a great advantage over those who must pay their debts in cash or what has been derived from lender. How far are they right? Yours, is one of the most interesting questions of the day.—Rural New Yorker.

All parties indebted to us will please note that we are temporarily located with Spencer Clawson & Co., Boston Block. Prompt settlements are requested. CLOUGH FURNITURE CO.

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Catarrh

Is a constitutional and not a local disease, and therefore it cannot be cured by local applications. It results from a condition of the blood, which causes the mucous membrane, which, when healthy, protects the tissues, to become diseased, and secrete a corrosive mucus. Catarrh is a disease of the blood, and only a blood medicine can be expected to cure it. Hood's Sarsaparilla, which, by its wonderful cures, has proved itself the most powerful blood purifier, is daily effecting cures of Catarrh, even in its most aggravated form. The thousands of people who have been cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla are a ready and powerful testimony to its efficacy in this disease. Catarrh is a disease of the blood, and Hood's Sarsaparilla is a blood medicine. Hood's Sarsaparilla is a powerful blood purifier, and cures Catarrh