

SYSTEM OF CREDIT.

Is it Being Abused in Utah so as to Bring Disaster?

CAUSES OF FINANCIAL FAILURE.

A Business Man's Talk.—Suit for a Miss-Honesty Entries—Mining and Other News.

The complaint of hard times is heard on all sides, and though it was thought the opening of spring would drive away the dulness of winter in financial circles, such has not been the case as yet. Whether there is prospect for an improvement in the financial future is interesting, in any case, as a matter for consideration.

"Business is generally in a very unsatisfactory condition," said a prominent merchant of the city today, in response to an inquiry regarding the present financial situation and outlook. "The comparison of tank clearings with those of last year indicates about the actual state of affairs. The tanks were all in the exchange last year and are this year, and the falling off is about 40 per cent. Some think the bottom of the financial depression is about reached, but I do not think so. I believe we will not get to the lowest point this year—not before the latter part of next year. The people have got to learn a lesson before there is any great change, though, because business is about to rise will be an upward movement which I believe will be steady."

"There are three general causes to which the present condition may be attributed. One is the silver question. Until that is decided favorably to the gold business will be hampered. I believe, however, that the outcome will be satisfactory to us in that regard, and that ultimately all the nations will accept silver as standard at least 50 per cent."

"But it will take considerable time to get rid of the reaction from the previous one."

"The second cause of trouble is extravagance. The people have too little judgment, and have lost money in a style. Now that times are hard they endeavor to keep up the same style, and that is the cause of their concern. This practice is much more extensive than is generally known. If the people could be induced to abandon the outward show of wealth, they would make many changes, for better and more comfortable, and we would not have to go far down to reach a turning point. It would be but few people in this community who like what they could not pay for. Not nearly everybody is in debt, but the money for payment yet to be earned."

"The third cause suggested is in measure the counterpart of the second. It is the over-expansion of itself. We talk a good deal about our home manufactures, while at the same time we are sending out for almost everything. In many lines we are less of producers than we were a few years ago. We import a great many vegetables, and meat that used to be a main feature of our market! There is a quantity of them, to be sure, but it is comparatively small. When you go to the market what do you find? Imported apples, pears, lettuce, onions, turnips, cauliflower, carrots, and many other things which ought to be supplied right here at home."

"Instead of raising these for ourselves, we are importing our food to the exclusion of all else. The people are getting deeper in debt every day, through the Territory, and see how almost the whole people run credit. These country stores are carrying a large amount of people who are running beyond their means. The stores are in turn being carried by the wholesale houses in Salt Lake principally. Many of these country stores have reached the limit of credit with the local banks, and have then turned and purchased more, getting in debt there also."

"In this connection there is an abuse of the credit system that is going to ruin the people. The facilities to obtain credit are more numerous than to those of houses, and these are not going to always stand that sort of business. For instance, one of these stores gets a bill of \$100 or \$90 from the bank, and then goes to another store, and so on. Credit, worth \$100, has been drawn up to the present, at the time of paying over \$200 of the notes."

"It is expected that the Mountain State at first will shut up next week with non-union labor. The wages of foremen are to be \$1.25, and the hands \$1.00, with new stores about 120 men. The stores are still holding out, with no immediate prospect of a compromise."

The unemployed workmen of San Francisco have sent out circulars warning workmen of all classes against the use of credit for employment. The paper says: "The city is filled with men, and thousands of us are tramping the streets. Hungry, hopeless and destitute. There are ten men here for every job now."

Mr. Green has received \$30,000 of the \$50,000 house for the copper mine, and is in touch with his family to California. He is still awaiting the arrival of documents concerning the land titles, and, as I said, may not put up with it continually, for there has been considerable gambling on that score already."

"It is not among country stores that the credit system is most abused, but among the city mercantile, or trade, houses. In both city and country whosoever is saving money, looks, but the most of them are running behind through the credit system. There are wholesale houses in the city that are doing a great deal for the payment of credit. In today would credit from one end of the Territory to the other a financial institution that would be terrible in its influence. And unless this credit system is righted, there will be a general collapse on the part of stockholders and people."

"The lesson the people of Utah will have to learn is that they would achieve financial success in some way, without necessarily being rich. They must be right to frequent the markets by honest and straightforward, but on a title it is unsafe to borrow money, and it is doubly unsafe in the presence of others. It is necessary to have a certain amount of credit to carry on business, but it is foolish to fall into the trap of being taken advantage of by the banker."

The National Mining Congress committee on transportation met with the committee on arbitration on April 26 yesterday afternoon, in McCarren's room, and was given a short time to make arrangements for the railroad to be the sole transportation for the Congress. The general committee discussed a form of circular to be sent out regarding the congress and its adjournment.

Sen. George L. Shoup of Idaho returned yesterday from Washington, dealing with the silver question, he says, which is the subject for the state metal associations to discuss. A gathering many leaders in the state, a strong effort is being made to effect a compromise between the gold bugs and the free silver men. Serious doubts are entertained, however, as to whether any satisfactory agreement can be reached in the near future.

SUIT FOR A MINE.

Matthew T. Olson has filed in the Third district court an action against Eugene Brainerd, guardian of the estate of George D. Brainerd, deceased person. The plaintiff alleged in October, 1882, a United States claim to certain mineral lands in Tooele county was issued to himself and Henry. Prior to this time the

plaintiff owned the entire mining claim, and needed money to develop it further. He sold the property to the defendant, who agreed to pay him \$100 a month, plus interest, and hold the patent as security. The plaintiff has never paid the amount due, nor has he ever had an account with the defendant, and the defendant has been unable to collect his claim. The plaintiff allowed to release the property, and bid the same may be converted to him free of incumbrances.

THE GOLDEN CHARIOT.

Silver City, Idaho, skirmishes among the mining properties. One of the miners who got in the Silver King, a rival mining company, in the Indian Chariot, is one of the greatest credit claims, which is only 600 feet in length, has a production record of \$10,000,000, and while opened in a narrow vein, has produced to a depth of 1,000 feet, which leaves the claim as a concession, having their bottom with fragments of rock, also cutting most of the high veins, and causing the value of the claim to be less than the cost of the mine.

The production of the mine is about \$100,000 a month, and the expenses of

the mine are about \$100,000 a month.

A disagreement arose, a year ago,

between the parties, and the

mines were closed.

The parties are now at odds again,

and the mine is closed.

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One of the executors for the copper bonanza subscription, was hardly a suitable representative when he appeared at a business man's door, and was rebuffed. The man, however, did not let the visitor leave without an explanation, and held the patent as security. The plaintiff has never paid the amount due, nor has he ever had an account with the defendant, and the defendant has been unable to collect his claim. The plaintiff allowed to release the property, and bid the same may be converted to him free of incumbrances.

J. H. Brown reported that an explosion of gunpowder, just below the surface of the ground, took place at the mine, and the mine was closed.

The explosion occurred at the mine, and the mine was closed.

The explosion

occurred

at the

mine

and

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