

learned a great lesson in point from the manner in which France met the first installment of the German indemnity, this apropos of our national situation with the money-changers abroad calling in their loans from here. France was more crippled than it is possible for this nation in the ordinary course of things ever to be, yet the crushing burden—or what was intended to be such—was promptly met and successfully borne. It was thought a marvel of financiering skill, but it has been shown that it was merely the result of the people coming to the aid of their country with their savings. What a patriotic picture and what a noble lesson throughout!

THE IOWA DEMOCRATS

A short time since the NEWS announced its belief that Iowa would go Republican this fall for the reasons that it is naturally a Republican state and that the refusal of Governor Boies to run again had deprived the Democracy of the man through whose great popularity it won the last two elections. We will now have to revise that opinion some little, at least so far as one of the above reasons is concerned; for the governor has revised his own announcement and concluded to do as the party wants him to. He was unanimously renominated yesterday and has accepted the nomination.

While his leadership makes the fight a little more uncertain as to the outcome than it would have been if he were out of it, we still hesitate to predict with a hope of correctness that he can win. The party in power is always held responsible for depressed conditions in the country, whether justly or not; and it is the extent to which this will militate on the one hand against the governor's personal strength on the other, that will likely determine the result. It will be a very interesting contest, quite as much so as that in Ohio.

NO SIGN OF SILVER LINING, BUT—

The culminating point of the great struggle in Congress is close at hand, but one working day more being left to the combatants. A glance over the field is not reassuring to the friends of silver; indeed, many who have hung on and by their words and examples contributed toward bolstering up the cause, have now abandoned hope and are willing to concede that the gold champions as usual are masters of the situation. And truly that is the way the NEWS is constrained to view the case. Certainly no one will accuse us of having been uncertain of tone or wavering in purpose in advocacy of the right as we have been able to see the right in this matter; and while it may not yet be said that the game is lost—since while there is life there is hope—it is as well not to seek to buoy ourselves above the breakers by means of what we are forced to regard as a delusion. All the signs now point to a majority for unconditional repeal of 25 to 50 in the House and half as much in the Senate. That it is a pity is a circumstance which of itself does

not alter the other one, that it seems to be true.

The West has made a gallant fight and made it almost single-handed. The South, which was expected to come to the rescue with a spontaneity amounting to practical unanimity, presents us with a very small majority if any at all; and there have been so many other defections in unexpected places that it is now seen that what was looked upon as an even combat on level ground has all along been a struggle against odds, with the odds at the top of a very steep hill. Perhaps it would not have mattered very much if this had been known at the outset, as it is a clear case that those who have marched under the silver banner have received no extraneous consideration for their work, unless the consciousness of having done their full duty as they understand it can be so considered.

With the downfall of the last great bulwark between the sturdy toilers of the West and the interest-gatherers of the East, what then? Silver production has already ceased except in a few places where work is still to a reduced extent going on in hopeful anticipation of favorable congressional action, and these will probably thereafter shut down. An industry by means of which a grand army of more than 100,000 men has been employed at remunerative rates, and through its labor twice as many more in other fields of employment have been kept busy, will be principally idleness until other places open to them—and what other places are there at present? There is general stagnation and cutting down everywhere which even the demonetizers do not claim the adoption of their plan will alleviate; so that it looks very much like, for a time at least, adding new recruits to the vast horde of tramps and giving to crime and vice a fresh incentive everywhere. Of course men cannot be paid in order that they may refrain from lawlessness, nor is it proper that the government consider the privations of a few when a great national purpose must be accomplished; but it does seem as though we ought to refrain from removing incentives to virtue and from placing stumbling-blocks in the way of those who are seeking the straight and narrow path.

With silver reduced to merchandise, business for a while may be duller than ever because of so many having nothing to buy with. Others who depend more or less upon such purchases will have to close up or curtail their transactions, throwing a corresponding number of people out of employment. Things are apt to narrow down and converge to a point rapidly, which point, when reached, will be the crisis. After that, by some means, the tension will relax and to some extent at least we shall retrace our steps and eventually may be as prosperous and strong as we ever were. Striking down silver does not by any means destroy us who live in Utah; it only cripples for a season. We have too much of everything that is necessary to man's sustenance and welfare to be hopelessly prostrated even if gold as well as silver were emasculated and denuded

of its imperial function. We have what many nations and some parts of this nation have not—plenty of food of all kinds; in the mountains which overshadow us morning and evening are other metals in demand by commerce, science and art, as well as wood and coal enough to supply all the fuel needed for generations to come; we have cattle upon a thousand hills, an abundance of water, a matchless climate, a dozen natural sanitariums, and a hardy, thrifty, intelligent and peace-loving population. Can the mere incident of striking out one item of our vast resources—albeit a great and important one—utterly prostrate or even overcome us for any great length of time? Hardly. We, or a great many of us, have gone through conditions so much worse than anything that can befall us now at the hand of man that we ought to feel to rejoice that our situation is so pleasant by comparison, so desirable by contrast, with that of so many of our fellow men, while there is nothing that threatens life, liberty or the pursuit of happiness in the immediate future.

CONTENDING WITH CONTAGION.

Anything relating to diphtheria, whether as to its origin or pathology, possesses an absorbing interest for this community where its ravages have been as severe and widespread as in any other part of the country. No absolute specific for the scourge has yet been discovered, or at least made generally known, which does but make discussion of the subject the more important. We are advised that Dr. H. M. Biggs, chief of the bureau of bacteriology of New York, has lately made an interesting report to the president of the health board regarding true and false diphtheria. He applied the latest test for the detection of the true disease and found that 130 cases out of 431 reported to the board as true were not diphtheria at all, but one or other of several diseases of the throat and its membranes which closely resemble it. Dr. Biggs properly points out that whereas the death rate in true diphtheria is very high, in the false it is very low. Moreover, while true diphtheria is very infectious, the false is not at all so, or at most so slightly infectious that this aspect of it may be disregarded.

It may be frankly admitted, says the *Sun* commenting on the above, that the most skillful physicians may be mistaken in their diagnosis of diphtheria. Until the bacteriological test was discovered and made effective as a means of verifying the disease, authorities differed in their classification of the symptoms, or set of symptoms, which constitute true diphtheria. A young physician need therefore not feel ashamed of having termed a membranous disease of the throat diphtheria, when, in fact, it may have been something else; it is always better to err on the side of caution, especially as the true disease is so infectious and so fatal.

It does not follow, however, that this liability to mistake false for true diphtheria should be urged as an excuse for not recognizing diphtheria in a vast majority of cases without the