

answers read curiously. To the first question she had given the following almost prophetic answer: "If he fulfills the expectation of his best friends, Grover Cleveland is the American now living who will be most honored in 1993. Never were the problems confronting this Republic so great and so many as those which the next President of the United States must meet and answer. On these answers depends our salvation for many a year to come; hence the necessity of a great and enlightened patriot in the White House, and hence such a verdict as I predict should Grover Cleveland prove himself to be the George Washington and Abraham Lincoln of this generation."

The second question in its answer will find more universal acceptance with local readers:

"Where will be our greatest city?"

"In all probability Chicago. There will be wonderful cities in the West, none more beautiful and extensive than Salt Lake City; but unless all signs fail, Chicago will take precedence."

Logically, it would seem that if no city is to be more beautiful and extensive than Salt Lake City, this metropolis should come near being the greatest city. Omitting criticism of this apparent *lapsus*, however, Utah people generally will appreciate the compliment bestowed upon their capital, realizing, as they do, the absolute certainty that it is well-deserved.

#### OUTLOOK FOR WHEAT.

"An Idahoan," writing from Rexburg, a section where large quantities of grain are raised, contributes some interesting remarks on the wheat question. The NEWS is pleased to hear from him, and takes occasion a minute to say that the invitation to continue the discussion of this important subject is still open. "An Idahoan" says:

"The present outlook for wheat is very dull, and more especially does this apply to the wheat growers of the West, for from a geographical point we are at the back end of the world, or we may say, from a railroad view, worse than that.

"The first self-evident point is that we have a surplus of wheat in the West. This surplus will have its effect locally, in this way, that just what we could get for our surplus, if sold or possible to sell, will fix the price of the bulk of the product.

"And, looking the matter straight in the face, can our surplus be sold? If so, where and at what price? To all appearances, Europe is in no great need of our wheat, and if she was, our freight rates, our sea-board rates, and our limited freedom of exchange, stand in our way. As Mr. Webber says, Chicago is no point for western wheat. At any rate her supplies can be drawn from more advantageous points than ours.

"Looking at government statistics they tell us that New York and California are the two largest wheat exporting points, Chicago coming eighth on the list. Now the White Star and Cunard and other steamship companies are offering to carry, and are carrying, wheat to Europe for 2 cents per bushel from Boston and 3 cents from New

York. These are the points of competition with Utah and Idaho wheat, if sold as a surplus. Subsidized steamships and the largest exchange points in the country are opposed to us—two and three cents per bushel being only ballast prices.

"Our wheat must go to the west coast for export, as there is not the slightest chance for eastern markets. After loading, it must sail all around the North and South American coast before it comes on terms with Boston and New York wheat. So that, with Europe not being in need of anything more than the normal amount, we are really closed out of the market, with the further disadvantage of our inability to sell the surplus, depreciating our home sales.

"Unless some freak of nature takes place in our own western locality which will give one portion the chance to 'clinch another,' in trade parlance, prices will be low, and extremely low, I think. The theory of the survival of the fittest is becoming applicable to the wheat question, and unless famine or freedom of exchange comes along, dry farms will fill a great portion of our wheat markets, as this can be done to a profit when irrigation fails.

"Mr. Webber falls back on his home market, but the time when our agricultural products will be consumed at home is many moons distant.

"If we have to sell in the West, we must try and work for the one object of buying in the West. When I say West, it means west of the Rockies to California. We must work for the Nicaragua canal, to give us an outlet without sailing around the coast. We must work that freedom of exchange be had, that will induce cargo seekers to make the west coast an object, and, without any want of patriotism, conditions will compel us to buy where we have to sell."

#### THOSE RESOLUTIONS.

By a vote of 4 to 2 at the last meeting of the Chamber of Commerce directors, it was decided not to endorse the resolutions introduced at a former meeting, and directed against the Pacific railways' funding bill. Under the circumstances it would seem to be about the best course to pursue, when the directorate of the Chamber was to finally pass upon the matter. It was pointed out that the Chamber had no specific complaint against the Central Pacific, toward which the resolutions primarily were directed, and that it was favorable to the Union Pacific, which also would be affected by any opposition to the funding bill. Under this statement it appeared improper for the directors to unnecessarily strike a blow at either or both of the railways.

But the fact that the four directors did not want to engage in a fight which they regarded as none of theirs, and preferred a more conservative course, does not indicate that the Chamber of Commerce as a body looks with any degree of favor on the funding bill. Instead of this, the act of declining to submit the resolutions to a vote of all the members is an intimation that the bill would be antagonized by that body if it gave full expression to its views; and the

reason assigned for refusing to place the resolutions before the whole Chamber—that anything against the railroads would go through with a whoop—is an explicit declaration that if given an opportunity the Chamber would have adopted the resolutions by an overwhelming vote.

There is a great deal involved in the attitude suggested by the resolutions; and while in the first place it is a plain business proposition as to whether the government is to enforce an obligation against a great corporation as readily as it does where an individual with less money power is concerned, there are many incidental questions which should be studied before there is much of resolution-passing on the part of public bodies in our present condition. Although the proposition placed before the Chamber perhaps was untimely so far as committing that body to the ideas suggested is concerned, yet it has been thus brought to public attention. A continued agitation of the subject is likely to follow, in different ways, and the public will be thus more thoroughly informed on the issues involved, and be prepared, whenever the occasion shall arise, to declare themselves intelligently and emphatically upon them.

#### PENNSYLVANIA'S STRIKE RECORD.

Here is a small morsel of information that ought to be worthy a moment's study, especially by those who still believe in the efficacy of "sympathetic" strikes. It is drawn from the annual report of the bureau of statistics of Pennsylvania for the year 1893. The number of strikes in that state during that year was 53, twice as many as occurred in 1892. The causes of these strikes are thus defined: for increase of wages, 6; against a reduction of wages, 34; for recognition of labor associations, 3; for semi-monthly pay, 1; and miscellaneous causes, 8. Nine of the total number were among iron and steel workers. The estimated loss in wages is \$1,395,423; and in not one case was the strike successful.

Now, it is not to be doubted that in at least some of these instances the employees had just cause for complaint and were entitled to redress of grievances. In that view of the case, the friends of labor everywhere may regret that the workmen met each time with defeat. But inasmuch as their efforts to force compliance with their demands left them in every instance in a condition worse than they were before, is it not clear that some other plan will have to be tried? Is it not true, in the light of this record, that the man who pompously orders a general strike is the worst kind of an enemy to the cause he aims to befriended?

Of late it has become the fashion to counsel the workingman to effect his own deliverance by the proper use of the ballot. The advice is sound and good. And one of the first uses he ought to make of that most potent weapon is to oust and overthrow some of the reckless, hare-brained leaders whose plan of campaign has landed him in the mire and left him to get out as best he could.