

The Semi-Weekly Tribune.

IRA L. BARE, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

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NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA. is centrally situated in the triangular figure bounded by lines drawn from Omaha to Cheyenne, thence to Denver, from there to starting point.

For information regarding THE GREAT IRRIGATION BELT OF LINCOLN COUNTY, address The Lincoln County Immigration Association, North Platte, Nebraska.

A NUMBER of New York bankers have given it as their opinion that these United States, with the large withdrawals of gold from the treasury, will soon be upon a silver monetary basis, and that this result will be reached without any shock to the business interests.

DESPITE chesapeake Morton's attempts at economy and the dispute by which practice he has brought the American hog the bill reported by the house committee for the next fiscal year for the Agricultural department, carries an increased appropriation of \$8,000,000 over that for the current year.

THERE are several bills in the house providing that when a scholar lives more than two and one-half miles from the school house in his own district and a half mile nearer the school house in another district by the nearest road, he may attend in the latter district, and shall be counted as belonging to that district in making up the school apportionment.

LAST Friday night the bill pledging the faith of the United States, to the extent of \$100,000,000, to the construction of the Nicaragua canal passed the senate. This is the most important measure for the future prosperity of our country which has been before congress for many years and it should be speedily adopted by the lower house and become a law.

Now that the county treasurer has been placed in possession of the funds that were formerly in the Brady Island bank the commissioners are in a quandary as to what to do with them.

The strike in Brooklyn will soon be history. And what are the results? The city and county have been put an expense of \$15,000 a day for the maintenance of the militia; the strikers have spent all the money in their treasury and a great deal that was in the treasury of other labor organizations; the court proceedings now begun will give them no relief that they might not have secured without this upheaval; the companies have been put to a heavy expense in the loss of business and destruction of property.

The tax agent of the U. P. Ry has issued an injunction restraining the treasurer of Deuel county from collecting of the railroad the judgment and relief fund levies made last year, on the ground that they are in excess of the constitutional levy.

Shoes for the feet of North Platte; easy to wear, easy to buy—at The Fair.

LEGISLATIVE LACONICS.

The judicial apportionment bill has been introduced in the senate and no change has been made in the formation of the Thirteenth judicial district.

A bill has been introduced in the senate contemplating county ownership and control of irrigation, navigation and water power canals. Its provisions are manifold, and the bill seems to have been especially drawn in the interests of Douglas county.

Senator McKeey introduced five anti-monopoly measures Friday. One was a telephone bill fixing the rental at \$2 per month in small cities and \$2.50 in cities of over 40,000.

The senate, after considerable debate, cut the amount of the relief bill from \$100,000 to \$50,000. In this shape the bill passed.

The communications received from all over the union seem to indicate that the supplies on the way and being solicited will amount to much more than the proposed appropriation by the legislature.

Senator Akers of the irrigation committee has introduced a bill dealing with priority of water.

There shall be a state board of irrigation consisting of the attorney-general and commissioner of public lands and buildings who shall employ a secretary who shall receive \$2,000 a year and other assistants at an expense not to exceed \$500 a year.

There shall be an under-secretary for such water divisions who shall receive \$5 per day. It is the duty of the under-secretaries to enforce the priority of rights.

The state board shall determine all questions of priority shall date from the time of filing with the state board. An appeal may be taken to the district court in which the applicant resides.

Water in streams not heretofore appropriated is declared to be the property of the people and is dedicated to the use of the people, subject to appropriation as provided in the bill.

The commissioners of Dawson county have awarded the county publishing to the Cozad Tribune, that paper having in the lowest bid. There were four bidders.

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THE TREASURY CRISIS.

President Sends a Message to Congress on the Financial Question.

MUST PROTECT THE RESERVE.

Urges Prompt and Decisive Action on the Part of Congress—Suggestions as to a New Bond Issue—The Silver Question Discussed.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The president today sent to congress the following message on the financial question: To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In my last annual message I commended to the serious consideration of congress the condition of our national finances and in connection with the subject endorsed the plan of currency legislation which at that time seemed to furnish protection against impending danger.

An adequate gold reserve is in all circumstances absolutely essential to the upholding of our public credit and to the maintenance of our high national character. Our gold reserve has again reached such a stage of diminution as to require speedy reinforcement.

It will hardly do to say that a simple increase of revenue will cure our troubles. The apprehension now existing and constantly increasing as to our financial ability does not rest upon calculation of our revenue. The time has passed when the eyes of the investors abroad and our people at home were fixed upon the revenue of this government.

It cannot be that the differences of opinion concerning the extent of which silver ought to be coined or used in our currency should interfere with the councils of those whose duty it is to rectify evils now apparent in our financial situation.

It is hardly disputed that this present condition of our treasury, which is one in a degree responsible for the making and execution of our laws should fail to see a patriotic duty in honestly and sincerely attempting to relieve the situation.

The real trouble which confronts us is not in a lack of confidence widespread and constantly increasing in the government to pay its obligations in gold. This lack of confidence grows to an extent out of the palpable and studied embarrassments attending the government under existing law to procure gold and to a greater extent out of the impossibility of either keeping it in the treasury or cancelling obligations by its expenditure after it is obtained.

The only way left open to the government for procuring gold is by the issue and sale of bonds. The only bonds that can be issued were authorized nearly 25 years ago and are not well calculated to meet our present needs.

While I am not unfriendly to silver, and while I desire to see it recognized to such an extent as is consistent with financial safety and the preservation of national honor and credit, I am not willing to see gold entirely banished from our currency and finance.

In my opinion the secretary of the treasury should be authorized to issue bonds of the government for the purpose of procuring and maintaining a sufficient reserve and the redemption and cancellation of the United States legal tender notes and the treasury notes issued for the purchase of silver under the law of July 14, 1890.

These bonds under existing laws could be deposited by national banks as security for circulation and such banks should be allowed to issue circulation up to the face value of these or any other bonds so deposited, except bonds outstanding bearing only 2 per cent interest and which sell in the market at less than par.

As a constant means for the maintenance of a reasonable supply of gold in the treasury our duty on imports should be paid in gold, allowing all other dues to the government to be paid in any other form of money.

I believe all the provisions I have suggested should be embodied in our laws if we are to enjoy a complete reinstatement of a sound financial condition. They need not interfere with any currency scheme providing for the increase of the circulating medium through the agency of national or state banks, since they can easily be adjusted to such a scheme.

While the cancellation of these notes would not relieve us from the obligations already incurred on their account, these figures are given by way of suggesting that their existence has not been a free from interest charges and that the longer they are outstanding, judging from the experience of the last year, the more expensive they will become.

In conclusion, I desire to frankly confess my reluctance to issuing more bonds in present circumstances and with no better results than have lately followed that course. I cannot, however, refrain from adding the assurance of my anxiety to co-operate with the present congress in any reasonable measure of relief, an expression of my determination to leave nothing undone which furnishes a hope for improving the situation or checking a suspicion of our disinclination or inability to meet with the strictest honor every national obligation.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—There was the largest attendance of senators today since the session began. The president's secretary was announced very soon and all knew he had the special message on the financial question. There was the utmost quiet in the senate chamber while the message was being read and senators on both sides gave it the closest attention.

At the close of the reading, Mr. Sherman (Rep., O.) suggested that the message be referred to the finance committee. There was some objection on the part of several senators, including Messrs. Stewart and Harris, who desired that the message should lie on the table, so that if senators desired they might submit some remarks upon it.

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It cannot be that the differences of opinion concerning the extent of which silver ought to be coined or used in our currency should interfere with the councils of those whose duty it is to rectify evils now apparent in our financial situation.

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The only way left open to the government for procuring gold is by the issue and sale of bonds. The only bonds that can be issued were authorized nearly 25 years ago and are not well calculated to meet our present needs.

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I believe all the provisions I have suggested should be embodied in our laws if we are to enjoy a complete reinstatement of a sound financial condition. They need not interfere with any currency scheme providing for the increase of the circulating medium through the agency of national or state banks, since they can easily be adjusted to such a scheme.

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