

IOWAS ON THE MOVE.

WOODBURY COUNTY FARMERS' ALLIANCE MEETING.

A splendid meeting—A District Alliance to be organized—Various Notes.

The county alliance of Woodbury county, Iowa, held its regular monthly meeting at Sergeant Bluffs, on Saturday, July 26. President Hart called the meeting to order promptly at 10 o'clock for the transaction of business pertaining to the county organization.

Secretary A. R. Wright read the minutes of the last meeting, which were approved.

The committee on picnic reported that a part of the locals had voted on location and recommended that the matter be postponed until immediately after dinner, which was done.

The report of the committee appointed at the Smithland meeting on constitution and by-laws for the county alliance, was then received and adopted as follows:

PREAMBLE.
Whereas, the general condition of our country imperatively demands unity of action on the part of the laboring classes, reformation in economy and dissemination of principles best calculated to encourage and foster agricultural pursuits, and the betterment of all forms of monopoly, we, the farmers of Woodbury county, hereby form ourselves into an alliance under the control and direction of the National Farmers' Alliance and the Alliance of the State of Iowa.

ART. I.—NAME.
The name of this alliance shall be the Woodbury County Farmers' Alliance.

ART. II.—OBJECTS.
The objects of this alliance shall be to promote the general interests of farmers, socially, financially, politically and educationally, and to co-operate through the State Alliance for the reforms designed to be secured by the State Alliance.

ART. III.—OFFICERS.
The officers of the alliance shall consist of a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, lecturer and an executive committee.

ART. IV.—TERM OF OFFICE.
The officers of this alliance shall hold their respective offices for the term of one year, or until their successors are duly elected, regular election to be held at the first regular meeting in January of each year.

ART. V.—DUTIES.
Sec. 1. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at all meetings of the alliance and to direct the order of business. He shall sign all warrants upon the treasury, call special meetings and perform such other duties as the alliance may require.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the vice president to perform the duties of the president in the absence of that officer, or when for any reason the office of president may become vacant.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the secretary to be present at all meetings of the alliance and to keep correct minutes of its proceedings, to keep a list of all members of the county, to collect all fees from sub-alliances that are ordered by vote of this alliance and to pay the same over to the treasurer; to countersign all warrants on the treasury, carry on all correspondence for the alliance and perform such other duties as the alliance may require.

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to hold all funds of the alliance, to disburse the same on order of the president and secretary, to perform the duties of secretary in the absence of that officer, and to report the financial condition of the alliance at the close of his term of office.

Sec. 5. It shall be the duty of the lecturer to prepare a program of literary exercises for each regular meeting of this alliance and under the direction of the secretary to act as temporary district committee to perfect arrangements and call said district alliance convention.

The recommendations of the committee were duly adopted by the alliance, and your alliance is hereby requested to send such delegate or delegates to meet with the district alliance at Cherokee, Iowa, Aug. 20th, at 9 a.m., to perfect the organization, and transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

By order of committee:
BENJ. HERRING, President.
A. WESTFALL, Secretary.
Sergeant Bluffs, Iowa, July 26, 1890.

The Knights of Labor were represented by several visiting delegates. They expressed their determination to give hearty support to an independent candidate for congress, and to enter into any co-operation whereby the interest of the two organizations, which are mutual, might be benefited.

C. D. Bagley, of Sioux City, made a telling speech of about ten minutes, followed by others.

The meeting throughout was a great success. Of course there were a few kickers present, men whose party collars have galled their necks so deep, as one speaker expressed it, that the sores could never be healed, but they were few and Chairman Hart promptly sat down on their efforts to create a disruption. Truly the work of reform is moving forward.

JAY GOULD'S PRAYER.
Cut it out and lay in your Bible beside the Lord's Prayer for a Weekly Commemoration.

Our Father who art in England, Rothschild be Thy name; Thy financial kingdom come to America, Thy will be done in the United States as it is in England. Give us this day our bonds in gold, but no silver; give us plenty of laboring men's lives to keep monopoly in power and our friends in office.

We know, our Father, we have done many things that were wrong; we have robbed the honest poor, and brought distress to many a door. We know it was wrong to refund the bonds and make them payable in coin; we know it was wrong to demonetize silver; we know it was wrong to water our railroad stock, but Thou knowest we made money by it.

Now, our Father, thou knowest we are above politics; it is the same to us whether Democrats or Republicans

in October the organization would be brought onto a political basis. He referred to the rail fence known as Mason and Dixon's line, to which a rail has been added every year, and through which the farmers have been glaring at each other as Democrats and Republicans. He hailed with delight the rapid and effective manner in which the farmers were disregarding party lines and knocking this fence to pieces and uniting for the promotion of their mutual interests. He said the alliance is now a non-political organization, but composed of American citizens who have the right and whose duty it is to act for themselves.

Dan'l Campbell, of Blencoe, Monona county, was next introduced and in his speech of ten minutes cited facts, and propounded truths that kept the audience showering round after round of applause upon him. Mr. Campbell is a hard working, life long farmer, well read in political economy and his sledge hammer way of telling things is seldom equalled. He is one of the people's unfaltering friends, always just what he appears.

The regular work of the meeting was then resumed by taking up the consideration of organizing a district alliance and calling a congressional convention. A large number of letters were read from different parts of the district, which had been received by Secretary Westfall in response to his request for replies in case delegates could not be sent. While one or two favored working with the candidates of the old parties, nearly all favored an independent nomination, and all favored the organization of a district alliance. A motion was made to appoint a committee to draft a call for a congressional convention but after an extended discussion it was changed to make it a call for the organization of a district alliance with a view to the consideration of the matter when the whole district should be represented. The following was the report of the committee in the form of a circular letter to be sent out to the 203 local alliances of the district:

DISTRICT ALLIANCE CONVENTION.

DEAR SIR:—At a meeting of the Woodbury Co. Farmers' Alliance held at Sergeant Bluffs, July 26th, at which delegates from several counties of the Eleventh congressional district were present, it was moved and unanimously carried to organize a district alliance for the Eleventh congressional district of Iowa, and a committee of five was appointed to prepare a basis of representation to call a meeting for such alliance. The committee appointed were Benj. Herring, Pres. Monona Alliance; Hon. Dan. Campbell, of Monona; A. Hemphill, of Dickinson Co.; C. W. Leekley, of Plymouth Co., and A. Westfall, of Woodbury Co.

The committee recommended as a basis for such representation, two delegates from each county organization, and one delegate from each subordinate alliance, except in the case of Osceola county which has but two societies, and Lyon county which is unorganized. It was recommended that Osceola county be given ten delegates, and Lyon county five delegates. It was also further advised by this committee that the first meeting of the district be held at Cherokee on the 20th day of August, and that the names of the county secretaries of Cherokee, Sac, Ida, and Buena Vista, and that of Geo. Capstick, of Clay Co., be added to the committee, and that such committee be instructed to act as temporary district committee to perfect arrangements and call said district alliance convention.

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Now, our Father, thou knowest we are above politics; it is the same to us whether Democrats or Republicans

rule, for Thou knowest we are able to sway all political jobs in our favor.

Lead us not into the way of the strikers, and deliver us from the insane Knights of Labor and Miners' Trades Council.

Thus shall we have the kingdom, interest, bonds, silver and gold until the republic shall end. Amen.

The Farmer's Opportunity.

The congressional elections this fall are of the utmost importance to the farmers as well as to all other citizens. The present congress has practically demonetized silver, thus adding more than 20 per cent. to the already enormous debts of a country already nearly suffocated by the ever tightening coils of the serpent, usury, whose first hold was fixed upon the people by preceding congress. Upon one pretext or another they have steadily refused to modify in any degree the excessive tariff, originally levied in time of war when wages and the farm products of the country were upon a scale rendered high by reason of the war and a plentiful issue of money. They are passing the most enormous appropriations ever passed by any American congress except during the time of the civil war. For one purpose or another, good or bad as the case may be, the appropriations have piled up until now the best authorities estimate that with what are already passed and what must necessarily yet be passed, the grand total of \$500,000,000 will be the lowest possible footing, while the amount may reach \$200,000,000 beyond that, that is, the tax-payers may be called upon to furnish seven hundred millions of dollars to defray the expenses of the government for the period of one year. This insures that there will certainly be an increase of not less than \$200,000,000, which may extend to \$400,000,000 a year, over the ordinary yearly expenses since the close of the civil war. This vast expenditure will, in the future, call for increased taxation in some form to the extent of more than \$100,000,000 a year, which may be \$300,000,000, and all this despite the fact that by the destruction of present silver money more than 20 per cent has been added to the taxes already collectable. To secure themselves in this headlong career of wild extravagance the house of representatives, hitherto termed the people's house, have, through a partisan majority, abrogated many of the powers with which the constitution, custom and the laws governing all well regulated parliamentary bodies have invested them, in favor of the speaker, and what they have not voluntarily surrendered the speaker has boldly usurped with only a dissenting murmur from the majority party. And the same speaker, through a drunken subordinate, boldly boasts that by using the census bureau as a tool he will be able to count out before election many of the opposition party, and by means of the somewhat complicated machinery of a new and unconstitutional election law he hopes to still further lessen their numbers after election. If all is accomplished according to program, in the face of what has been already done, what hope has the farmer left of securing relief even in the slightest degree?

The time, the only time when justice can be had is before that program is finished. The program will have been carried through before two congressional elections are held, unless such an overwhelming majority is returned against it at this fall's elections as to kill it outright. In view of these facts it is hot the duty of every patriotic citizen to fling to the winds all selfish ambition and devote himself to the task of defeating, at all hazard, this bold attack upon his liberties? And the farmer especially, whose only hopes lie in its defeat, can he hesitate as to what efforts he will make?

But this is a fight of details. Instead of marshalling their clans for one great battle where they know their own defeat is inevitable, the enemies of American institutions prefer to divide into smaller bands and make every congressional district in the land a battle ground on which the fight will be waged more quietly but none the less fiercely, on their part at least, hoping in this way, by having their own plans well laid, to divide their enemies beyond a possibility of their making a successful fight.—*Sioux City Liberty Bell.*

LOOK back over the past ten years and tell me when in the history of our country it has advanced more in all the elements of wealth and prosperity, even with that paper currency which some senators on this floor are so anxious to get clear of, and which they now denounce as "failed paper," "irredeemable currency," "a lie upon its face," &c. The difference between it and gold, although occasionally changing fortunes between the pockets of the bulls and bears of Wall Street, has not checked the onward march of improvement in the nation; and despite all the tilts against it by the knights of the exchange the farmers of the west have been expanding their fields and replacing their log-cabins with tasteful cottages and comfortable farm-houses.—*Hon. John A. Logan in the United States Senate, January 19th, 1874.*

WHY WE CELEBRATE.

LIBERTIES GAINED MUST BE RECLAIMED.

Extracts from the Oration of Q. A. Wooster at the Battle Creek, Iowa, Alliance Celebration.

Fellow citizens: This is the Fourth of July. And what is the Fourth of July? What is it for, and why are we gathered here today? Compared with all time it has been only a few years since there was such a day. Then why do we get out the flags, the bands, the gunpowder and cannons? It has been said that "the United States is the only nation of the world that knows a birth day; that all the rest begun, they know not when and grew, they know not how." This is that birth day. Perhaps any other day would answer the same purpose, but it so chanced that on July 4th, 1776, the Declaration of Independence declaring that all are created equal, endowed by nature with rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, was adopted, and the old liberty bell rang out the glad tidings "WE ARE FREE!" But that declaration did not make us free. It took seven long years to enforce that declaration. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." We farmers, better than others, realize this, for we know by experience that eternal vigilance is the price of a corn crop. Do we often stop to think of the risk these noble patriots incurred by that declaration? Do we remember that by the law of all nations they were rebels and traitors to a legal government? That it meant death and the gibbet to each and every one if not successful? We love their memory, not because they were rebels but because they were right. And thus was created the 4th of July, a day we delight to observe, a day on which, of all others, the heart of every liberty loving person the wide world over, beats and throbs with patriotic devotion, not for the day but for the deeds of that day 114 years ago.

I need not recount to you the valor and courage of the heroes who laid all upon their country's altar that this grand declaration of principles may be in force. The legacy is priceless as it comes down to us. There is often but one step from sublime to fun, and this step is well illustrated by the young spread eagle who in a 4th of July oration, with great force exclaimed thus: "I would apply" said he, "the key of wisdom to the standard of intelligence. I would tighten the main spring of knowledge. I would start the wheels of independence. I would move the hands of liberty on the dial of time and mark the progress of mankind. But do they move? Why, I ask, why won't they move?" A street muffin cried out in answer, "sold again young duffer, you're winding a Waterbury!" We may well ask ourselves if the American people are not too much after the Waterbury watch style, that they should require so much winding in order to keep the hands of liberty moving. I need not weary you with repeating history today or take your time by further recalling the deeds of devotion by those now passed to the great beyond. The pilots and crew of vessels sailing seas see the danger signals. They know some brave ones have been before and while no track is left, these beacons have been left that those following might not be wrecked. History serves us the same purpose. Longfellow, the poet, beautifully expresses in these words:

Sail on, O ship of State!
Sail on, O Union strong and great!
Humility with all its fears,
With all the wealth of future years,
Is hanging breathless on thy fate.

The ship of state is now in our hands. On us depends her safety. It is a grand old vessel, built on the plan of equal rights and universal liberty. Every plank, except that admitting slavery, was strong and sound. To remove this mistake cost us three years time of 2,320,272 men, \$6,000,000, and the lives of over one million men. We have for our banner the beautiful stars and stripes, and we feel proud as we point to our ship of state as the only one engaged in the trade of carrying universal freedom and liberty to all mankind. We, the people, choose the men who act as officers and we are supposed to select the crew. Upon a wise selection of officers and crew depends safety. Our republic is the ship, the people and their liberties the cargo. Let us today think much and well of our individual responsibility.

The strongest ship that floats the ocean can be wrecked by mismanagement. The strongest government can fall, even as Rome fell after a proud life of 1329 years. Why did Rome fall? By the inattention of the people, or dishonesty or inability of officials our republic will fall. We cannot evade the responsibility. We must suffer the result of our own acts. This, of all days, is the one most proper upon which to take observation of the progress we, as a republic, have made and to locate our position. Have we advanced nearer the port of universal liberty, or have we drifted back toward the harbor of monarchy, the home and strong hold of the millionaire, where wealth stands for virtue and might makes right?

"We hold these truths to be self evident: that all men are created

equal; that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these rights are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." So said the founders of our republic. To secure these rights they instituted this government, and declared that whenever any form of government become destructive of these ends it shall be reorganized so as to effect the safety and happiness of the people. It was not for wealth but to secure liberty and the pursuit of happiness they threw off the yoke of Great Britain and pledged to each other life, fortune and sacred honor. They gave us liberty, gave us a country, gave us a 4th of July. It was proclaimed to the world that here was to be found the home for the oppressed of every nation and every clime. They came. In 1790 the population of the United States was 3,929,214. Ninety years later we had increased to 50,155,783. It is estimated the census now being taken will show a population of over 66 millions. In extent of territory we now reach from ocean to ocean across the American continent, and from Lake Superior to the Gulf of Mexico. Yes, we are great in area, great in population, great in aggregated wealth—but how about liberty, safety, and the pursuit of happiness? Poet Goldsmith truly spoke when he said:

"Ill fares the land to hastening ills a prey,
When wealth accumulates, and men decay.
Princes and lords may flourish and may fade,
A breath can make them as a breath has made,
But an honest peasantry—a country's pride,
When once destroyed, can never be supplied."

"I charge you with this fact," said one of the world's statesmen, "that you cannot create and maintain a free country unless you have the homes for the people. These homes," said he, "must be free, and occupied by free citizens, who love the home as the dearest spot on earth. With these you need no standing army, without these all the armies of the world combined cannot secure security or stability." If this be true, (and who can gainsay it) whatever strikes at the home strikes at the country, for, as the home rests on the family, so the nation rests on the home. Wipe out the homes of the people, crush the love of home out of the hearts of father, mother and children, and you have made a short cut to destruction.

Now let us see what is being done. This is an age noted for its many inventions, but of all machines possessing capacity of neatness and dispatch the "wealth harvester" beats the world. Other machines are used for some particular branches of business but this wealth gatherer is king of all. Into its ponderous arms must come the earnings of all others, the products of the farm, the mines, the widow's mite, the children's wages. It reaches down into both the cradle and coffin. It takes in the home, be it cot or hotel. It builds the palaces for the rich with the earnings of the poor. It makes the rich richer and poor poorer. Yea, more! it reaches out into the countless years to come and has placed a first lien on every hour's labor for generations hence. Under its rule and operation the home has no right, the elector no free choice, labor no just reward, patriotism and love of country are put in the back ground. It has no soul, yet it has immortality. Mammon is its God, millionaires and tramps its products. Arranged along its sides are slides called "dividends," from which is spouted some of the profits of its work. The strings of these slides are held firmly in the hands of monarchy, aristocracy and monopoly are its defenders. The press and the pulpit obey its commands. Its method is rule or ruin. This machine has run into our noble ship of state, it has to some extent at least captured our officials and sworn them into its service. It has enthroned itself in the county seats, the state capitals, and is lord of all it surveys at Washington. It holds the keys of the treasury vaults, it levies and collects tolls and taxes off labor in every way its ablest brains can devise. Its name is CORPORATION. One branch of this machine alone has appropriated to itself over 215 million acres of the people's land, being in extent almost as large as all the 13 original states, more than six times as large as Pennsylvania, New York, Illinois, Missouri or Iowa. Its agents, acting as our representatives have given to six railroad companies over 119 million dollars cash of the people's earnings, drawn from the producer by taxation. It has solved the problem of how to live and get rich on what one owes, and judging from results we have to admit "it is the best banking system the world ever saw" for that purpose. The two great engines propelling this machine are called "party" Voters are used for fuel and water. They usually get up a good deal of steam just before election; the balance of the year is spent in watering their stock and declaring dividends. Just now this wealth gatherer is a little uneasy because the laborers of the country are restless, and fearing the people will rise and assert their rights by sending men to congress who are not machine men it is intended to pass what is known as the Federal election law thus giving the machine full power to legalize all past acts and perpetuate its power forever.

Less than 400 years ago Columbus discovered North America. The tide of immigration has been flowing westward until on the west Pacific shore in these United States we meet the Chinaman coming east. He is a workman seeking for a land in which to better his condition but we cast him out. This boasted asylum of the oppressed refuses to let him land because 'tis said he is so very hard up that he eats mice. It is a false issue raised for the purpose of arraigning the workmen one against the other. It is one of the many devices to deceive and attract attention away from real issues. Aggregated wealth gleaned from labor, controlled by those who have no love for free institutions, represented by the great corporations which the people through their misrepresentatives have endowed with more than human life, is arrayed against this government. This is the conflict. It is irrepressible. The great world's battle ground is here in our loved country, where the east has met the west. Ranged against us, as ever has been, is the assumed right of kings to rule. The monarchial side is well skilled in the art of directing human action. There are only two methods of settlement, one of peace at the ballot box, the other by force of arms. The farmers of the country must decide which way it shall come.

The wage workers of the corporations as a rule now have no permanent homes, for it has been a studied purpose to break up all homes and home associations. A farmer cannot build or keep a home on 15c. corn and 4c. butter. You may cover the walls with mottoes of "God Bless our Home," but no home can be blessed from which a mortgage is drawing the results of the constant toil of its inmates. Usury and taxes are fast making tenants of us all. The tramp (who twenty-five years ago was unknown) has come from all classes and occupations. He is one lost to all hope. Like the pumice of cane from which all the sweet has been extracted so the tramp represents manhood run through the mill of monopoly. "O, liberty! liberty! how many crimes are committed in thy name." The noble Lincoln, with almost prophetic wisdom, over 25 years ago saw the effects of concentrated wealth and spoke of it as more dangerous to our liberties than had been the war then just closed. He said: "I see in the near future a crisis arising that unnerves me and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country. As a result of the war corporations have been enthroned and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all wealth is aggregated in a few hands and the Republic is destroyed. I feel, at this point, more anxiety for the safety of my country than ever before, even in the midst of the war." Less than five years after this man of the people had given up his life to freedom's cause a millionaire, Sharon by name, holding the office of U. S. senator said: "We need a stronger government. The wealth of the country demands it. Without capital and capitalists our government would not be worth a fig. The capital of the country demands protection. Its rights are sacred as the rights of the paupers who are continually prating of the encroachment of capital and against centralization. To avert a fearful bloodshed a strong central government should be established as soon as possible." The consummation of this sentiment is now being carried out in the halls of congress by what is known as the Federal election bill, and yet the people are sleeping on, even as the man sleeps on the mast top.

Here before me today are fathers, the mothers, the sons and daughters. You all love your country, you all want to see freedom reign. Mothers, you want to see that son you love grow up into noble manhood; you want he should have a fair and equal chance in life's battle; you do not wish to have him become a millionaire, because no one can honestly earn that amount; you don't want him a serf; you cannot bear the thought that he should be wandering up and down the world a tramp. No, we all would wish to see our sons and daughters honorable and upright, equal before the laws of man as our Declaration of Independence says they are before the laws of Nature's God. Then I say to you—you have a duty to perform. To the young men and woman we must look for the salvation of this our country. We of the present generation have not much of which to boast, and it is perhaps well that we soon pass away, leaving the charge of affairs in the hands of those who have not the useless and foolish prejudices of race, creed and party, which has caused us to commit so many errors. But I for one want to live to see the day when the great universal law of equal rights and brotherhood of all mankind shall be recognized; when the simple code of law that one's rights stop just where another's rights begin shall be the universal code. I want to see my own loved country have the honor of being in the first front rank. To accomplish this the laborers of the country must be united, they must lay aside the false education which has been so instilled that we, like Ireland, fight all others' battles except our own. I want to live to see the day when,

"Truth crushed to earth shall rise again:
The eternal years of God are hers;
But error, wounded, writhes in pain,
And dies among her worshippers."

So let all our errie die with us, that in Lincoln's words: "This nation under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not vanish from the earth." Remember this, "He who would be free himself must strike the blow."

No man owes support to a party. He who thinks otherwise is a slave to a vicious custom that has ground out hundreds of millionaires and millions of tramps.