

The Dakota Farmer's Leader.

A Faithful LEADER in the Cause of Economy and Reform, the Defender of Truth and Justice, the Foe of Fraud and Corruption.

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HARMONIOUS HAYMAKERS.

By United Action They Have Organized the House and Elected Their Speaker.

Wardall or Harden to Be the Senator— Pickler and Gifford Both Candidates Against Moody.

AT THE STATE CAPITAL. The news from Pierre up to the hour of going to press, is full of encouragement for the independents.

The legislature met at noon Tuesday, and the first vote taken was on the speaker of the house, which resulted in an independent victory. C. X. Seward, of Watertown, being the choice of the assembly by a vote of 63 to 61, cast for R. Buchanan, of Sioux Falls, Goddard, a democrat of Fall River and Reese, independent, Charles Mix county, voted with the Republicans on speaker.

C. W. Cone, of Brule county, who was chief clerk at the last session, was again chosen, principally on account of his superior qualifications. All the democrats, excepting the one from the Black Hills, voted with the independents, on speaker. Dell Coy, of Hughes county, was elected assistant clerk and J. C. Clark, democrat of Huron, was chosen second assistant clerk. Henry Spatz, of Yankton, was selected bill clerk, H. Barton, of Bon Homme, Sergeant at arms and H. T. Volkmar, of the Milbank Review, engraving clerk. The rest of the minor offices are distributed about equally among the democrats and independents.

In the senate the officers elected were secretary and assistant secretary; C. N. Cooper, of Huron being elected to the former place and J. R. Howell, of Walworth county, to the latter. Both are republicans and were elected by a party vote of 23 to 33.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE. After the organization of the two houses, they met in joint session in the hall of the house of representatives, to receive the governor's message, which was delivered by the governor in person.

The message is a lengthy document and handles all the various questions with minute detail.

Touching the financial condition of the state, the governor says:

"The first and most important subject for your consideration is the public finances. The state's financial condition could scarcely be more embarrassing, and her revenue system could scarcely be worse. No greater service could be rendered the state by this body than the adoption of a systematic, comprehensive and efficient code of revenue laws, and rigidly restricting current expenditures by adequate penalties to the revenues thus produced. Without such legislation financial disaster is sure to overtake the state to the irreparable injury of her credit, her institutions and her business interests.

"The amount now outstanding against the state is about \$46,000 in warrants endorsed by the treasurer. 'Not paid for want of funds,' and thence bearing 7 per cent. interest, which are already subject to a heavy discount in the market, and but for prompt measures on your part to prevent their amount will rapidly increase and their value decline correspondingly. This condition exists after a final resort to borrowing an additional \$100,000 during the past year and increasing the public indebtedness to the maximum limit under the constitution. It is impossible longer to dodge the issue; it is now retrenchment or disaster."

Space will not permit of a more extended review of the message this week, but arrangements are being made by which THE LEADER hopes to give the document in full in its next issue.

THE SENATORIAL CONTEST.

PIERRE, Jan. 5.—Special Correspondence: There is no material change in the senatorial situation this week. At this writing the indications point a little more favorably to the independents than they did a week ago for they are confident in gaining the co-operation of the democrats in the organization of the house tomorrow and if they do this, they will have things pretty much their own way in disposing of the election contest to be decided before the balloting for United States senator begins. If the independents are favored in the contested cases, they will have a working majority on joint ballot of at least 7 and probably 9, provided the democrats throw their support with the independents throughout.

While the republicans blow and bluster over alleged waywardness of the independents in their attitude toward

Senator Moody, there is no possibility of him securing a single vote. Your correspondent has a very accurate expression on the subject from all but two or three of the independents on this very subject and is therefore in a position to state definitely that the republicans will be a very blue crowd if they hope to boost their candidate into the senate by independent votes, and the truth is there is very little hope for them from the democrats. Every day points more and more to the probability that the independents and democrats will go into caucus together a few days before the battle begins, and that the independents will come off victorious in the final struggle. According to statutory provision, balloting for a senator will not commence until the 20, which gives ample time for campaigning and while it is hard telling what sort of a combination will be formed by that time, the prospects are now decidedly in favor of a pure-quill independent senator. Just who it will be is somewhat hard to predict. Wardall is decidedly in the lead among independents, Harden next and two or three other possibilities, third, Wardall has no friends among the democrats and this fact may defeat him if the contest is to be decided by a scheming process of some kind. Hardin being a former democrat may win on this account.

SANTOR RESARTUS.

ANOTHER GRAND VICTORY.

The Independents Elect Their Man at the Special Election in Union County Last week.

ELK POINT, Jan. 1.—Special Correspondence: The special election held in this county yesterday to fill the vacancy in the state senate, created by the death of Louis Crill, was a warmly contested one. The republicans fought the independents every foot of the way using every means at their command, but the good judgment of our people has taught them not to compromise with the party of fraud and corruption any longer, and the result accordingly went for the independent candidate, who is elected by 463 majority.

THE INDIAN WAR.

Three Hundred Redskins Slain in a Conflict Near Pine Ridge.

At the time THE LEADER went to press last week, the information of a battle between Gen. Miles, troops and the Indians at Wounded Knee, near Pine Ridge Agency, had just been received and it was then too late to make mention of it. The following is the official telegram sent to the interior department at Washington concerning the fight and is doubtless correct:

"On Wounded Knee creek this morning while the soldiers were disarming Big Foot and his band, after a surrender, a fight took place which resulted in the killing of about 300 Indians and several soldiers, including Capt. Wallace, with a number wounded. Two Strikes and his party, who were camped on the White Clay creek, just below Red Cloud's house, opened fire on the agency from the hill top opposite the boarding school, wounding two soldiers. The police returned the fire, killing two of Two Strikes' Indians and wounding two others. Two Strikes and his band have retreated in a north-westerly direction from the agency, and it is supposed he is trying to make his way back to the bad lands. Thus far the Pine Ridge Indians have taken no part in the war, but Big Foot, Slow Bear, Kicking Bear and Two Strikes' bands have been active in the disturbances.

Gen. Miles adds: "These Indians under Big Foot were among the most desperate there were. They combined thirty-eight of the remainder of Sitting Bull's following that joined Big Foot on the Cheyenne river and thirty that broke away from Hump's following when he took his band and Sitting Bull's Indians to Fort Bennett, making in all nearly 100 warriors. Before leaving their camps on the Cheyenne river they cut up their harness and broke their wagons and started south for the bad lands, evidently not intending to return, but go to war. Troops were placed between them and the bad lands and they never succeeded in joining the hostiles. All their movements were anticipated, and their severe loss at the hands of the 7th cavalry may be a wholesome lesson to the other Sioux.

The surgeon-general received from Medical Director Bache, at Pine Ridge, a report of the casualties among the troops at yesterday's fight as follows:

"Captain Wallace, twenty-five men of the Seventh cavalry and one Indian scout were killed. Lieut. Hawthorne, of the Second artillery, and thirty-eight men were wounded. Many of the wounds are severe. Hospital Steward Pollock was killed. Have also about thirty wounded Indians—women, men and children."

Later information indicates that there are no probabilities of further engagements; the troops having full possession of the situation, and the Indian war is probably at an end.

THE FIFTY SECOND CONFERS.

The News From the National Capital as it Effects the Interests of the Western Farmer.

The Farwell Finance Scheme and the Elections Bill Will Probably Get a Black Eye.

A QUIET WEEK IN CONGRESS. WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—Special Correspondence: The Capital City has been unusually quiet the past week or two. Congressional work has been practically at a standstill, nearly all the members having left the city, spending the holidays and very little has been done in the legislative line beyond adjourning from day to day for want of a quorum. The attempt to keep business going during the holiday season, and thus breaking the usual custom of adjourning for a holiday recess, has not been a success. Both financially and otherwise, it is believed it would have been better had the customary course been carried out.

THE ELECTION BILL is still uppermost in the minds of statesmen and politicians, and the effort to dispose of it in some way at an early day, is unabated. Among the senators who spoke upon the bill this week were senators Hoar, of Massachusetts and Hiscock, of New York, both of whom relieved themselves upon it last Tuesday afternoon. In the course of his remarks Mr. Hoar said the struggle for the pending bill was the struggle for the last step toward establishing the doctrine to which the American people were pledged by this history, their constitution, their opinions and interests. They could not know in their citizenship, slaves, vassals, or inferior races. He replied with all the indignation which the calumny deserved, to the aspersion that the bill was a partisan measure, or that any man who supported it was actuated by partisan purposes. The committee that reported it had simply acted upon the advice of S. S. Cox and other leading democrats to extend the beneficial election system of New York to other parts of the country. The senators would put forth the whole military power of the government to defend settlers against Indians, though the latter had been provoked by a 100 years of wrongs. Would they not also protest against unprovoked outrages at the polls? The republican senators charged that through the election practices in operation in some of the states, the seats of at least 30 representatives had been illegally usurped; that the constitution of the United States had been so violated and overturned, that for 14 years the minority had controlled the national house of representatives, and for four years the presidency of the United States itself had been in the hands of the usurper. He said that the opposition to the bill was confined almost entirely to the democratic members, whose arguments in opposition had been nothing but railing and reviling the men who have charge of this bill.

THE CONTRACT LABOR LAWS. The committee on immigration of the house has prepared a number of amendments to the present contract labor laws which are expected to meet the approval of labor people when they are reported to the house. For the present they hang fire in the committee owing to the absence of Mr. Lehlback, who is on the Pacific coast investigating the manner by which Chinese are smuggled into the United States, and he has left orders to do nothing on this subject during his absence. It is believed that he will oppose the propositions when he returns. He is pronounced against any congressional action that will place a barrier to complete freedom of immigration into the United States.

THE IDAHO SENATORS. The senate on Tuesday received two new recruits, being the newly elected senators from the state of Idaho, Gov. Shoup and McConnell. There is a little trouble over the matter of admitting McConnell because it is thought that the junior state has acted the porker in the senatorial business and elected three instead of two senators. The reason for this is that the legislature of that state will not again meet in regular session before another senator must be elected, and in order to save the expense of an extra session when the time comes, it elected him now, and the trouble arises out of the question of the legality of the action of the legislature in electing three senators. It is a matter of some doubt as to how the thing will finally terminate, and the matter has been referred to the election committee of the senate. Pending their report and the future action of the senate, Idaho will be half represented in the United States senate.

THE FINANCIAL BILL. The republican caucus financial bill, which was introduced by Senator Farwell, of Illinois, a week or two ago, came

up in the senate this week and Tuesday, Senator Stewart, of Nevada, expressed himself on the bill pretty freely in a speech in the senate. Stewart is a strong silver man and he does not like anything that means more bonds and national bank notes and less silver. In his speech last Tuesday he said the purpose of the new bill was to purchase 12,000,000 ounces of silver now held by speculators and to issue \$200,000,000 bonds to be held as a basis for national banking circulation. The simple truth was, he said, the provisions were for the relief of gamblers, silver speculators, and national banks. Such a purchase of silver would temporarily increase its price, and thereby to some extent, benefit the constants. But they preferred to wait the time at which there were enough silver votes in congress to enact into law the free and unlimited coinage of silver. Senator Reagan, of Texas, also spoke vigorously in opposition to the new finance scheme, which he said was the most dangerous proposition that could be enacted into law at this time.

There is a strong probability that both this and the elections bill will be laid on the shelf.

PAUL HARPER.

STATE AND INTER-STATE.

The city of Pierre looms up with improvements made during the year, amounting to over \$600,000. This is reasonably considered as a good showing for a town that is as nearly bankrupt as it had been represented to be.

Fire at Ree Hights, recently destroyed the principal part of the business portion of the town. Loss estimated at \$50,000.

The male portion of a Sioux Falls family of Wilsons is in a sad plight. Last winter the oldest son of the family was sent to the reform school for stealing and soon thereafter the father of the young man was arrested for running a hole in the wall after being forbidden to do so by the court, and he is now in jail. To cap the climax, a few days ago the youngest and only male member of the family, was arrested for robbing a fruit store. The whole outfit are now in jail and all that is left of the family is the sorrow-stricken wife and mother who is nearly heartbroken over the action of her recalcitrant husband and sons.

The Huron National bank, which suspended a few weeks ago, is about to be reopened by Joe Bailey and H. L. Greene of Sioux Falls. An examination has disclosed that the affairs of the institution were in good condition and had its correspondents been advised of the need of money, plenty would have been forwarded to meet all demands.

The Scandinavian Republican League, of South Dakota, which held its regular meeting in Sioux Falls last week, had a very slim attendance. The league recommended B. H. Lien, of Brookings, for commissioner of immigration and K. C. Stabeck, of Canton, for consul of the United States at Christiania, Norway.

J. A. Marvin, of Vermillion, who was crippled in the war so as to lose the use of both legs, has been granted a pension of \$75 per month.

The report of Hon. L. G. Pinkham, state superintendent of schools, shows that there were 78,043 pupils enrolled in the public schools of the state during 1890, out of a possible 86,000, and that the total value of permanent school property is \$2,585,248, against \$2,219,620 for the previous year. The expenditures for school purposes for the year amount to \$1,235,208, and the receipts for such purposes, \$1,439,531. The average salary paid for male teachers was \$40 and for female teachers \$37 per month.

The regular annual meeting of the South Dakota Educational association was held in Sioux Falls last week. Over 150 teachers, superintendents and college professors were in attendance. Among the most prominent educators in attendance were State Superintendent Pinkham, Prof. Hood of Aberdeen, Prof. Kratz of the State University, Prof. Tuve of Augustana College, Canton, Dr. Kyie of the State Agricultural College, Prof. A. T. Free of Yankton, Prof. Frazee of Lead City, and Prof. Beadle of the State Normal school at Madison. The session was very successful. Outside of Minnehaha, Lincoln county, sent the largest delegation.

Diphtheria is raging seriously at Madison. The health authorities have taken steps to prevent the spread of the disease.

The recent failure of the Faulk county bank involves the county to the extent of \$13,000, and the failure of the Sanborn county bank at Woonsocket will let that county down for about \$8,000. Of the amount lost in the Faulk county bank, \$7,500 belonged to the seed wheat fund.

Menor & Jacobson are making a liberal offer on winter goods in their advertisement in another column. Don't fail to see what they offer if you need anything in their line.

BEAUMONT'S POWERFUL SPEECH.

Continuation of the Address Delivered by Ralph Beaumont at Canton, October 18, 1890.

A Detailed Explanation of Some of the Principles of the Knights of Labor Organisation.

NUMBER VIII.

Plank 14, of our platform advocates the establishment of a national monetary system, in which a circulating medium in necessary quantity shall issue direct to the people without the intervention of banks; that all the national issue shall be full legal tender in payment of all debts public and private and that the government shall not guarantee or recognize any private banks, nor create any banking corporation.

15. That interest bearing bonds, bills of credit shall never be issued by the government, but that when need arises the emergency shall be met by issue of legal tender non-interest-bearing money.

These two planks, in connection with the land plank, are the most important that are in the platform.

Different kinds of material have been used money by different nations at different periods of the world's history. For instance Lycurgus compelled the Grecians to use iron as money; the Romans and Carthaginians used leather as money; in the early history of Virginia, tobacco was a legal tender in the payment of debt; in the days of Davy Crockett in Tennessee, coon skins were a legal tender in the payment of debt, and in the early days of the colony of Massachusetts Bay, codfish were a legal tender in the payment of debt. Now, just imagine for a moment the predicament that a dude of this period would be in going to church on Sunday morning with a codfish in his vest pocket to place in the contribution box!

In this day and age of ours there are two systems of money advocated. One is known as the hard money or specie basis; and has been termed in the debates during the present session of congress "The Silver or Gold Standard." The other is what is termed the "Government Legal Tender System," where the money is based upon the whole wealth of the nation. We Knights of Labor belong to the legal tender crowd. The mother of the specie basis system is the bank of England, and when she can get our government to adopt that system she can tell the farmer of Dakota how much she shall have for corn, wheat or pork. She, being a buyer nation of these products, by controlling the coin, contracts the volume and reduces the prices when she wants to buy, and inflates the volume and enhances the prices when she wants to sell.

THE SPECIE-BASIS SYSTEM.

The specie basis system of finance has enabled the financiers and money lenders of the country precipitate a panic about once in ten years, that has cost the people millions in bankruptcy. The system is as follows: Suppose ten men in this city possess \$100,000; they could under the law, start a bank and loan this money out under the law at 8 per cent to business men who employ labor. This would bring them in \$8,000 per annum. This would not be making money fast enough to suit them, so, one of them, who is more foxy than the rest says: "I will tell you what to do. Let us get an act of incorporation from the state legislature. This act shall read as follows: That we, the members of the bank, shall take this \$100,000 and put it in a strong box called a safe. That for every dollar in gold we put in our safe we shall have the privilege of loaning out to the employer of labor three paper dollars, and we will charge these employers of labor six per cent per annum on each of those dollars." That would amount to \$18,000, which would be better than the \$8,000 which they would have received had they loaned out the gold, and in the second instance, they would at all times have their own money in their box, while in the former instance it would have been loaned out to the people, besides, it would rob labor five times as fast at compound interest in a period of ten years.

THE PANIC OF 1857.

In 1857 we had a panic in this country. How many of you gray-haired old men in the audience remember the panic of 1857? I remember it well. In the summer of that year I made shoes in Massachusetts for \$13 a case. After the panic struck me I made a better article during the winter, drew them two and a half miles on a hand-sled, and took my pay in white beans and dried apples. The boss told me that the last shoes I made had to trade to the farmers for white beans, that the banks had suspended specie payments and their notes were not worth anything; and if I made any more shoes I would have to take my pay in the same kind of stuff as he had.

Now my young friends, let me tell you what brought on the panic of 1857. England had just come out of the Crimean

War, and in carrying on that war she had expended all the specie that was in the bank of England, and when the war was over the bankers got to gether just as they did after our last war, and said that the government ought to "reserve specie payments." These bankers are always insisting that our money should be of specie in times of peace, but in times of war when we want money they hoard the gold and won't let us have it unless we pay them dearly for it. One of them asked "How shall we do it?" One of their number by the name of Ricardo, replied, "Get the specie from America. America is a specie-basis country." Another asked, "How?" Ricardo, replied, "England's 'consols' are now at a premium of three per cent. Raise them up to seven." No sooner said than done. The moment that the honest bankers in this country, who are always willing to hold the "basis," while we poor people hold the evidence of debt (notes), heard this, they said, "Now, there is a chance to speculate." And they unlocked their boxes and took the specie out, shipped it to England, and invested it in English consols. Then the bank of England chucked it down into her big box. All at once Jack happened to be reading one of these notes, and on its face it contained this inscription: "This note will be redeemed at its face value in gold on its presentation at the bank." Jack says to himself, I think, that I will have my "shiner," and he went over to the bank and handed in his note, and as they happened to have one gold piece left they gave it to him. Going down the street he meets Bill and says, "Bill, I have got my 'shiner.'" "Where did you get it?" ask Bill. "Why, don't you know that all of these notes are redeemable in these gold dollars?" "Oh yes," he replies, "but I had forgotten all about it. I think I will have mine." And he starts for the bank to get it. But the cashier has heard of the conversation that has been going on, and having instincts like a fox he comes out and sticks a notice on the door, that reads as follows: "Suspended Specie Payments." Ain't doing that any more! Why? Because they have put out three paper dollars and have only one in gold to redeem them.

The bank of Chepachet, in Rhode Island, was organized on this basis, and in the panic of 1837 it closed its doors. The book examiner went there to examine that bank to see if they were living up to the law. He found, upon examining the books of the institution, that they had put in circulation \$602,000. They were compelled by law to have in their safe, over 200,000 in coin. When he came to open the safe, how much do you think he found?

Well, my friends, he found twelve and one half cents in the form of a silver sixpence.

Now Mr. hard money advocate, you can put out their paper dollars to every one of gold, but you can not take them in dollar for dollar. Never has been done, never can be done. Is just as much of an impossibility as it is to have two hills without a hollow between them.

Financial statistics say that England, by that little trick, took just \$36,500,000 of specie out of this country, and it lost the American people \$290,000,000 in bankruptcies in the short period of ten months; and that panic continued for four years.

That was the condition of the country's finances when the war broke out. I enlisted in the northern army—7th regiment Rhode Island volunteers. It was in the 1st brigade, 2d division, of the 9th corps, known as Burnside's corps. It was nine months before I got a dollar in pay. Why did the government use this way, fellow soldiers? It was because there was a law which said that nothing but gold should be money, and the brokers in Wall Street owned every cent of it there was in the country. And when the government advertised to borrow money to pay the soldiers with, what rate of interest do you suppose was asked by Wall Street for money in these trying hours of need? It ran from twelve to thirty-six per cent per annum. The government could not afford to pay that exorbitant rate of interest. Something else had to be done. Mr. Chase, of Ohio, was secretary of the treasury, and he was nearly crazed by the situation. He summoned that grand old commoner from Pennsylvania, Thaddeus Stevens, and said to him: "Mr. Stevens, you are chairman of the house committee on ways and means. It is the duty of your committee to furnish means to carry on this war. The boys have not been paid in seven and nine months, and their families are actually suffering." The old man straightened himself up and said, "Mr. Secretary, take the credit of the government, cut it up into one dollar pieces, and let the boys have it." What do you suppose he did, fellow soldier? Why, he called his committee on ways and means together and they drew up what has since passed into our financial history as the "Legal Ten-

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