

OUR BANKING SYSTEM

IT IS BASED ON CHEEK, NOT CAPITAL.

Bankers Couldn't Pay Clerk Hire If Compelled to Depend on Their Own Capital—It's the People Who "Pay the Freight"—Reform Notes.

Financial Absurdities. The fictitious character of our financial system and the absolute absence of any pretense at security offered by the banking institutions is startling when even an attempt is made to fathom it. Just think of it. The deposit in banks of the United States according to figures given at the bankers' club last Saturday night is \$2,500,000,000. Doesn't that indicate prosperity? An average of over fifty dollars each for every man, woman and child in the United States deposited in the banks.

Prosperity must hover around a people so blessed with money. Every man able to draw his check for at least fifty dollars cash on deposit in the bank. Is it any wonder that our country has the admiration of the whole world? Is it surprising that our prosperity should be the envy of the down-trodden people of all nations? As the report is published with pride and displayed to a thoughtless world its effect on the mind of each single unfortunate individual is that he, of all the world, is the one that is by fate decreed a failure.

To the thinking mind can anything be more infamous than a consideration of the actual facts? Talk about \$2,500,000,000 on deposit with the banks. It is 90 per cent. of it a fictitious pretense, real only so far as it draws interest and supports a banking aristocracy in pomp and splendor. Even the padded treasury statements which include every dollar coined or printed, regardless of losses by fire or otherwise, do not claim that there is half that much money. Yet the figures prove the facts to be just as stated.

How can it be, it will naturally be asked by many, that the deposits in the banks can exceed the actual money in the nation? Simplest thing in the world when explained, but how few people seek an explanation. Business is everywhere conducted on a credit basis. Ninety-four per cent. of all commercial transactions are represented by checks and drafts. Money is deposited, loaned out, re-deposited and re-loaned over and over again, until every actual dollar in existence is represented many times by the deposits and loans. The condition is startling. In fact almost past comprehension, and would not be believed were it not for statistics which prove it to be true.

Were a general statement to be attempted not five banks in the United States could meet the crisis. Depositors have furnished the money for them to use, and it has been loaned at heavy rates of interest. This interest has drawn steadily from productive industry, but it has not created large reserve funds of money. It has created more debt and increased the bankers' capacity for drawing interest.

There is a prevailing error in the minds of the people, and it is a fallacy that all should understand. It is believed that the bankers have plenty of money, that they have the money to loan and live in splendor on the interest. From childhood up we have all been taught to regard the bank as representing great wealth.

Here is the mistake. The bankers of the United States to-day if compelled to depend on their own capital loaned at 6 per cent. per annum could not pay rent and clerk hire for one year. It is the profit they make on deposits which the people are foolish enough to trust with them that enables them to ride in fine carriages with liveried coachmen, give magnificent dinners, provide royal banquets and enjoy life like princes, while the poor diaps who earn every dollar that is created have barely enough to live on, yet vote to continue a system that for absurdity doubly discounts any system of royalty ever known on earth.

The banking system of the United States is not based on capital but on cheek. It is conducted on the same rule that has prevailed in all ages, where one certain class collect tribute from the balance of the people.

It is not always a born aristocracy. In this case it is the result of organized greed and the combination of shrewd men who have devised schemes, more refined and more intricate in detail than the plan of the pirates on the high seas, yet more effective and more sure of results so long as the people submit blindly to the dictation of these financial magnates.—Chicago Express.

Where They Get the Money. The Republicans spent a big sum of money in their campaign in this State last fall. Where did they get it? It was charged that Pettigrew said he had \$50,000 and could get \$100,000 more if he needed it. Where did he get it? Judge Howe told the writer two weeks before election that he had been informed that the Democrats had been promised \$20,000 of this hoodie. Where did the money come from? The Republican State headquarters were at Redfield, the home of State Treasurer Taylor. The secretary of the Republican State Committee was a partner of Taylor in many of his business deals and one of his bondsmen. The campaign was virtually conducted from the State treasury. Has this anything to do with Taylor's big shortage? Charley Howard, one of Taylor's bondsmen, is now Speaker of the House, a good position from which to stifle all inquiry. Was the State treasury looted by the Republican party last fall to beat the Populists? These are questions which need answering and the gentlemen at Pierre need not hope by smothering in-

A HUMILIATING SPECTACLE.



Uncle Sam—This is about the most heartbreaking trip I ever made, and in time of peace, too!

vestigation to avert the wrath of a robbed and outraged people. The mills of the gods grind slow but they grind exceeding fine, and the rogues will not escape.—Dakota Ruralist.

Who Wants Gold? Not the merchant or the dealer who has goods to sell. For greenbacks or silver will answer as well. Not the cotton producer at 4 cents per pound. Who can scarce make both ends meet by tilling the ground. Not the wheat growers up in the cold frozen north. Whose products are less than production is worth. Not the stockmen who herd on the plains every day. Whose profits in business have all passed away. Not the farmer who produces a variety of crops. For gold robs production from field peas to hops. Not the laboring man in the factory or mine. Who first feels the sting of gold business dealings. Not the millions of idle men—tramps so they say. They need labor and money that will honest debts pay. Not the hogger, whom every one meets on the street. For pennies and nickels buy something to eat. Not one, who lives by the sweat of his face. Who is loyal, patriotic and a friend to his race. Wants anything better than Uncle Sam's name. In exchange for his energy, toil or his pain. But the gamblers in money, like the pirates of old, Will murder, destroy, barter heaven for gold.

The Crisis Is at Hand. Mr. Cleveland has taken sides with the gold gamblers. Where shall the American people be found in the contest? Are they going over big and baggage to the gold gamblers of Wall Street? Will the masses of the voters consent to be enslaved by the money power? Will the people follow such a false leader as Grover Cleveland, and calmly submit to bondage?

These questions come right home to every American citizen. There is no dodging the issue now. Every man must say whether he is for the masses of the people or for the classes of plutocracy, and stand forth. If you favor the Cleveland-Wall street gang, or favor bonding the country to procure gold for gold gambling only, show your colors. If you are on the side of the people and believe the government should be run in the interest of the masses, honestly, economically and in accordance with common sense, then gird on the armor of faith.

The crisis will be along sooner than most people think, and while there is time for calm reflection weigh matters and make your decision. The gold gamblers are determined to force the issue. They propose to place upon the people a yoke of bondage, and it is for the people to say whether they will wear it or not. There is no hope at present for any wisdom from Congress in devising ways and means to establish just conditions between the capitalists and the laborers and wealth producers. A little wisdom in high places would settle the differences and properly adjust matters, but there is no wisdom at court. The die is cast, and the money power has made its demands. If the people consent to this decree they are henceforth serfs and slaves. The critical moment is at hand. If you are favorable to justice and humanity, render now unto the people the loyalty that is due and champion the common weal.

Only Business Principles. The reformers want simply business, Populism is only a demand for common honesty. The People's party demand that the government be conducted on business principles. This is the sum and substance of the demands of the People's party as set forth in the Omaha platform. A business firm rarely fails if it does business on correct business principles. It is the firms that get off the business track that meet disaster. The government, to continue on a sure foundation, must do business in a business way, and with justice to all, regardless of their calling, wealth or position in the social world. The government is designed to "establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for

the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity." Now is the government doing this as at present administered? If there is a man in Texas who can lay his hand on his heart and say it is, he should be branded as the perjurer of the State.

All that Populism demands is that these declarations by the framers of the constitution be carried out. On them the constitution was based. They only mean justice, common sense and the equality of every man before the law and in sight of the government.

The Referendum. The adoption of the long-tried Swiss principle of popular government in this country would serve the very valuable purpose of giving the voters the vote upon legislation. The President and the Governors now have the vote in a certain way, making it a one-man power, which is always dangerous and out of harmony with our institutions. The referendum, after a bill was passed of an important class, prescribed in the constitution, would refer it back to the people for approval or rejection. This would destroy the power of wealth to corrupt legislators, and abolish the lobby. The lobbyist's occupation would be gone. The power of government by self-government, instead of government by representatives who might be led to betray them—would be restored to the people. Is there not great need of the referendum in these corrupt times in this country? It would apply to National, State, county and city government, in certain cases. It is one of the most urgent reforms of our times.

Among Our Exchanges. The true American college is the ballot box.—Wendell Phillips. Congress is again suffering from the ravages of gold bugs.—Chicago Dispatch. The real anarchist is the person who has no faith in anything but the almighty dollar.—Common Sense.

London is the capital of the United States and Rothschild is Secretary of the Treasury.—Pittsburg Kansas. The present Congress, Sam Jones says, can't pass anything not even a saloon.—Columbian (Ala.) Advocate.

The country is still going to the devil in a cyclone with an intrinsic value idiot at the helm.—Corsicana (Tex.) Truth. All the Democratic cuckoo have done to the old Republican cuckoo's nest is to make it a little dirtier.—Delta (Color.) Laborer.

If Grover Cleveland hasn't made a "stiff" of the Democratic party, then the snakes are still in Ireland.—Southern Mercury. The Haveneyers are in politics purely for business,—but of course the bankers are in it for the good of the people.—Wealth Maker.

With wheat going down 7 cents in two weeks, is it not time to study both politics and diversified farming?—North Dakota Independent. "Wheat closed firm but low." How long will the farmer listen in silence to this verdict from the gamblers?—Wilhamston (Pa.) Facts and Figures.

The devil takes care of his own. Cleveland was not on board of that steamer that went to the bottom of the sea.—Augusta (Ga.) Wool Hat. When the red flag of the auctioneer becomes too numerous, the red flag of the anarchist puts in an appearance.—Santa Cruz (Cal.) New Charter.

Modern "Jeffersonian simplicity" added thirty-two million dollars to the national debt in December, irrespective of bonds.—Albion (Neb.) Calliope. When you vote for a "good man" in a bad party, you in effect admit that it is not necessary for good men to come out of bad parties.—Delaware (O.) New Era.

Our country and our people have been sold to Wall street gamblers by the Cleveland administration, and now he is asking the American Congress to ratify the sale and let the goods be delivered at once.—Kirbyville (Mo.) Advocate. Every Democrat knows that Cleveland is carrying out the Republican program as he found it. Every Republican denounces Cleveland for doing it, while every true American wonders in his own mind who is the bigger rascal of the two.—Lebanon (Kan.) Journal.

WORKERS FAVOR IT.

MEASURES BEFORE CONGRESS FOR RELIEF OF LABOR.

Samuel Gompers and the Legislative Committee of the American Federation Want a Commission to Examine Into Relations of Capital and Labor.

In Labor's Interest. Three prominent labor leaders, Samuel Gompers, ex-president of the American Federation of Labor, and the legislative committee of that organization, A. Fernsath and A. Strasser, are at the National Capitol working for the measures which have been endorsed by the federation. One of their bills, framed by the Seamen's Union and endorsed by Representative Maguire, of California, has been signed by the President. Its effect is to abolish penal punishment of sailors for violating their civil contracts with shippers. The Seamen's Union has other bills upon which it hopes to secure favorable action, designed to abolish capital punishment on shipboard, to improve the standard of rations and quarters provided for sailors. It contends that the seamen of the American merchant marine are treated with less consideration by the laws of the United States than are those of any other civilized nation; that their food and quarters are poorer, punishments more severe and work harder, and that scurvy is more prevalent among them.

Mr. Gompers is working particularly for the bill to create a commission to investigate the conditions of labor and agriculture and their relations to capital, which was introduced by Representative Phillips, of Pennsylvania, and favorably reported to the House by the Committee on Labor. He is hopeful that it will become a law, but finds it unexpectedly difficult to arouse the interest of members to a point which will impel them to active work for the bill. The Federation of Labor has no special interest in the arbitration bill. Mr. Gompers says, because it applies to the railroad men only, but he hopes to see it enacted.

The Brooklyn Strike Leader. The leader of the great Brooklyn trolley strike, which called into active service 8,000 militiamen, is a quiet little mottoman who ran a Flushing avenue car in that city. His name is Martin Connelly, and he is master workman of District Assembly No. 75, Knights of Labor. He is about 35 years of age, and has been hard at work earning



since he was a child of 8 years. He was born in Ireland, and his parents died when he was but 7 years old. Friends took him to London where, young as he was, he secured employment in a cotton mill. At the age of 12 he ran away and went to sea, securing a berth on the National Line of steamers plying between Liverpool and New York. He spent three years at sea and then secured a position as a pressman's helper in a New York printing office.

Since then he has worked in brick-yards, sugar refineries and machine shops and has piloted street cars and trolley cars through Brooklyn streets. His pay of \$2 a day and his long hours as mottoman did not give him much spare money when his wife and the three little Connellys were provided for, or much time for labor politics when his long day's work was done, but years of service as a Knight of Labor and marked talent as a leader of men at last placed him in the important office of master workman of District Assembly No. 75, which has jurisdiction over all railroad employes in Brooklyn who are Knights of Labor.

Connelly enjoys the thorough respect of all Brooklyn Knights. He is a quiet, thoughtful man, is thoroughly informed on the news of the world and never speaks until he has carefully weighed a subject in his mind. He is not a finished orator, because he has never had time to do much studying, but when he talks he goes straight to the root of the matter. "He doesn't put on any frills," one of his admirers recently remarked, "but every word he utters counts." He is a man of exemplary habits and is devoted to his wife and children. In politics he has always been a Republican. A little notorious, which he does not crave, is about all he will get out of the great strike. He expects that all Brooklyn trolley lines will be blacklisted him hereafter, and that he will be compelled to seek some other means of earning a living.

Label Legislation. The International Typographical Union has bills or amendments to existing laws intended to protect trades-union labels from counterfeits pending in the following States:

- Minnesota, Tennessee, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan.

Every union and every member in the above States are requested to exert their influence to secure the passage of these laws. It is important that they be adopted now, as every year witnesses an increase of the corrupt forces that will be arrayed against us. It is indicative of the label's potency that counterfeiters are arising on every hand. The outlook for the passage of these bills is bright, and success is awaiting us if our unions in the above States will but appoint committees to secure the support of other organiza-

tions for the measures. Members should also by personal interview and correspondence induce their Representatives and Senators to work and vote for our protection. A law for the protection of labels is just and equitable, so none need be ashamed to advocate its enactment.—Typographical Journal.

How to Prevent Strikes. Judge Gary, of Chicago, was once consulted by a small manufacturer who had trouble with his employes. He was a close-fisted fellow in all his business dealings, and especially in his dealings with his employes, and they had gone out on a strike just at a time when he had secured a contract to do certain work. The strike would force him to throw up the contract at considerable financial loss. "That doesn't seem right," he said at last. "No, it doesn't," acquiesced the Judge. "Some one ought to be responsible for such losses." "Yes, some one ought to be," admitted the Judge. "And there ought to be some way of preventing them." Again the Judge acquiesced, and the man went on: "Now you're posted on the law; what would you advise me to do?" "Pay living wages," replied the Judge.

Many Don't Own Homes. The census office has issued a bulletin showing the principal results of the investigation of farm and home proprietors and indebtedness. The investigation showed that there are 12,600,152 families in the United States, and of these families 52.20 per cent. hire their farms or homes and 47.80 per cent. own them, while 27.95 per cent. of the owning families own subject to incumbrance, 72.03 per cent. own free of incumbrance. That is to say only 20 per cent. possess homes free from mortgage. A very bad showing in a country which has so immense aggregate and average of wealth, that 9,572,000 families which occupy houses do not own outright. There is a deal of inference to be drawn from these figures on the subject of a rich and a poor class of population.

Industrial Notes. Put a prison label on prison goods. Shield yourself in union organization. It is not charity the workman wants, but justice.

Economic and industrial equality is what we must contend for. The capitalist press is opposed to "inspectors" of any description.

Every cent that a man pays into his trades-union comes back an hundred fold. Think of this.

Do you know anything about self-preservation? Strengthen all trades-union organizations.

What better evidence of perfect freedom than for a man to be the owner of that which he creates?

Trades-unions are schools of economy in which the workman can learn to accomplish his own salvation.

Moderation is one of the teachings of trades-unionism. There is nothing in its tenets that does not advocate obedience to law.

Men of all classes, sects and religions throughout the civilized world are discussing the social problem. Are you doing your part?

A workman to do his duty properly should perform co-operative service as afforded opportunity only in a union of his trade.

The new street cleaning commission of New York, Col. Waring, has made up his mind to reduce the workmen as low as he can. He stated a short time ago that he could get as good men for \$45 a month as he now gets for \$60. Yes, he could get them for \$1 a day, but that's a nice business for the city to be in, isn't it? That is the kind of reform the poor man gets.

The uses to which paper is put are constantly increasing. Corbels, pencils and crickets, moshes, boats, carpets, mattresses, and even coffins and telegraph poles are among the articles now manufactured out of paper; and inventors, it is said, are hoping to find a preparation of compressed paper that will serve as a coating for the armor of war vessels, and not only protect it from corrosion, but even add to its power of resistance.

Mines and Miners. At Breeze, Ill., about one-third time is the rule.

Anthracite is reported found in Sa-guache County, Colorado.

The Massillon (Ohio) district is working about half time.

Cameron Coal Company, of Denver, Col., has been incorporated.

There is the prospect of a strike among Southern Iowa miners.

The H. M. Leavitt Coal Company has been organized at Lincoln, Neb.

Coal from Roslyn, Wash., is offered at \$5 per ton in Pendleton, Ore.

A settlement has been reached at the Rutland coal mines, near Wenona, Ill.

The Kansas Coal Company will begin operations at an early date at Cincinnati, Iowa.

The Adit Coal Company has been organized at Atchison, Kan., to work the local coal field.

A bill has been introduced in the Illinois Legislature providing for certified mine bosses.

In the Colorado Legislature a bill has been introduced that employes must be paid at least once a month in lawful money.

Men of the Jasper County Coal Company, at Newton, Iowa, sent the product of one day's digging to the Nebraska sufferers.

The miners and operators of the fifth and sixth districts of Illinois met at Belleville and agreed to the basis of last July as a wage scale.

At Lehigh, Iowa, the men have accepted a reduction of 25 cents per ton in order to keep at work. This makes the rate for mining 75 cents.

INDIANA LEGISLATURE.

The House, Tuesday, passed the Nicholson temperance bill under the previous question, by a vote of 75 yeas to 20 nays. Other bills passed as follows: To relieve a citizen of Greenacres from double taxation; providing that where a public highway has been of a certain width for twenty years, it shall not be widened; to appropriate \$500 for two years for the publication of Indiana Academy of science reports.

The House passed a bill to provide for the election of county superintendents of instruction in September instead of June as under the present law.

The following bills were introduced in the Senate: To fix the salaries of county commissioners; to amend the law concerning proceedings in criminal cases; to amend the law concerning public offenses; concerning commercial paper maturing on legal holidays; authorizing the sale of bonds to pay the State debt relating to partition cases; to repeal an act on the subject of railroad crossings at grade; to regulate the sale of concrete-made goods; concerning the incorporation and government of cities having less than 25,000 and less than 10,000 population. The bill refers to Fort Wayne should to promote the science of medicine and to provide for subjects for dissection; to provide for repairs on highways; to regulate the practice of dentistry.

The Senate passed the Winward-New-house legislative apportionment bill Wednesday after nearly four hours of haranguing. The bill now awaits the action of the Governor, having passed both branches of the legislature.

The following bills were also passed: Abolishing the 80 per cent. clause in insurance policies and providing for the full payment of a loss where the insurance covers it; legalizing deeds issued under illegal tax sales; providing for attorneys' fees where an employe has to sue for wages; to create a State Board of Regents to succeed the State Board of Monument Commissioners; limiting the time of service of County Assessors; providing for the relocation of county seats in counties having an area of over 500 square miles; for the protection of owners and keepers of hotels, restaurants, etc.; regulating the powers and duties of township trustees.

The House legalized the fee and salary act of 1901, as it was before a false sheet was inserted in the body of the act by some designing person.

For the first time of the session a Democrat was allowed to act as Speaker for a while, Mr. Adams showing this courtesy to Mr. Bobilya of Allen County.

The second reading of bills was made the order of business of the day and a large number went to engrossment.

The House Thursday, settled down to the appropriation of money, the direct tax bill for the support of the State educational institutions was passed under suspension of rules. This bill gives Indiana State University at Bloomington a tax of one-twentieth of a mill on every \$100 and one-thirtieth each to Purdue University at Lafayette and the State normal at Terre Haute.

The House in committee of the whole passed the appropriation of \$231,000 for the Central Hospital for the insane in Indianapolis. The Northern Hospital for the insane at Logansport was given \$90,000 for maintenance.

The House passed the fee and salary bill only two Republicans, Davidson and Hunt, voting against it. Like action was taken with the bill ousting custodian Griffin of the State House, and wiping out the 12 per cent. grad of the Attorney General.

As a committee of the whole the House agreed on the appropriation bill, making few changes over the original bill.

The senate passed the military bill providing for an appropriation of \$75,000 for the state militia, an increase of \$20,000. The senate also passed the bill abolishing the 12 per cent. clause in the fee and salary bill as a compensation to the attorney general for the collection of the surplus school funds held by township trustees and school trustees.

The bills concerning drainage and the repairs of ditches and supplemental to existing laws for the drainage of swamp lands were passed.

The House in committee of the whole, Friday, decided upon the following salaries for State officers: Governor, \$5,000 salary; \$800 house rent, \$1,000 for private secretary; Auditor, \$7,500; his deputy, \$2,000; Treasurer, \$6,000; deputy, \$2,000; Superintendent, \$2,500; State Librarian, \$1,500; Reporter of the Supreme Court, \$4,000; State Statistician, \$2,000; Geologist, \$2,500.

The House passed the bill amending the election law so as to require four booths, and to provide a penalty for failure to enclose booths with curtains. The bill appropriating \$40,000 for marking the position of Indiana troops on the Chickasaw battle field was passed.

The Senate passed the anti-winter racing bill and the bill giving blacklisted employes the right to recover for actual and exemplary damages.

The Senate defeated the bill to make Lincoln's birthday a legal holiday.

The bill requiring the teaching of the effects of alcoholic drinks and narcotics on the human system in the public schools, was passed.

Whereas the census bill to reorganize the penal institutions of the State, was presented in the Senate, Saturday, Senator Crumacker called a session by calling attention to some suspicious errors in the printed copies. It was decided to act on the original bill, which was passed. Later in the day it came up in the House, and was passed after the Democrats had filibustered for an hour.

Senator Shively's metropolitan police bill was passed; also, a bill by Senator Vail to permit cities and towns to restrict wards and precincts every two years for the purpose of electing ward officers.

Senator Schenck's bill restricting the sale and providing that convict-made goods shall be marked, passed.

Senator Sells's anti-winter racing bill, which passed the Senate Friday, went through the House with a whirl.

The House passed the bill fixing the State levy, also Mr. Barber's bill to appropriate a sum equivalent to about \$75,000 for the purpose of placing flags in each schoolhouse in the State.

As well spread a sumptuous banquet and invite no guests as to open a fine store and not advertise it.

Black Silk Reviver. Boil wood in water half an hour, then simmer the silk half an hour, take it out and put into the dye a little blue vitrol, or green copperas; cool it and simmer the silk for half an hour. Or, boil a handful of fig leaves in two quarts of water until it is reduced to one pint; squeeze the leaves, and bottle the liquor for use. When wanted sponge the silk with it.

CHATTERBOX WAS UNDOUBTEDLY INSANE WHEN HE TOOK HIS OWN LIFE.