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QUESTIONS.

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On Thursday,
ARBOR DAY ISSUE. April 11th, 1901,
THE CONSERVATIVE will issue a number devoted to
arboriculture and forestry.

Arbor day comes this year on Monday,
April 22nd, and it is intended to fill THE
CONSERVATIVE of the 11th with instructive
and interesting matter for its commemoration
and practical observance.

Superintendents of schools and teachers
in all the counties and school districts of
the state should become readers of THE
CONSERVATIVE because it is the only periodical
in Nebraska making a specialty of tree-planting
and forest conservation.

MORE DIABOLISM OF PLUTOCRACY.

Since the paralyzing atrocity by which that demon
of sordid greed, Andrew Carnegie, established a pension
fund for disabled workmen, he has shocked Bryanarchy
again by the promised bestowal of ten to twenty-five
millions of dollars for a school of technology at
Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. Think of this demoralizing
example and think, too, of the fact that the man who
is thus slinging millions around the country for
libraries, pensions for aged or disabled, indigent
workmen, and scattering endowments for schools, began
life, a Scotch lad of the common people with no capital
but health, brains, brawn and persistent industry.
How shall such accumulative genius and such wise
generosity be stamped out? How long shall men like
Mr. Carnegie, who have worked up from the humbler
walks of life onto the very summits of mental, moral
and financial success, be permitted to flaunt their
sordid examples before American youth? How long
shall the ambition, courage and industry of the
acquisitive and in-

tellectual citizen remain unrepressed by legislation? Where are the populist leaders of legislation and the moulders of sixteen-to-oneism that nothing in the way of preventive laws against possible Carnegies in Nebraska is being formulated? Why is Lincoln, the capital of Nebraska, permitted to accept a seventy-five thousand dollar library building from this "dollar-above-the-man" incarnation of plutocracy? How shall the common people prevent further capitalistic outrages by this abnormally discreet distributor of his own wealth? Why not make it a penal offense to be industrious, frugal, temperate and accumulative? Would that be anything more or less than embodying the teachings of Bryanarchy in law? Already Mr. Carnegie has given away for educational and charitable institutions nearly seventeen millions of dollars, and shall such extravagance of wise benevolence be permitted to continue in the land of the Star Spangled Banner and the Fourth of July?

PUTRID PROPHECIES.

In 1896 there appeared a very pert and quite pre-possessing prophet among the people of the United States. His most positive predictions were relative to finance. He proclaimed to his followers that the gold standard had slaughtered millions of human beings and that an army to lay waste the country, to destroy homes by torch and flame, and to decree desolation everywhere was a mild affair compared to the establishment of the gold standard for this republic. But the journeyman prophet was not credible or credited by a majority of his countrymen and so he disappeared from the oracle business—though he continued oratory—until 1900 when he broke out again as a forecaster of finance, and from Kansas City to New York, and intermittently, in nearly every state, deplored the fact that there was not enough gold in the whole world to do the business of the United States alone and that the above-named precious metal would soon become unreachable to "the common people," in fact scarcer than sound logic in a populist speech or common sense in the political action of a Bryanarchist.

On March 14th, 1901, in the treasury of the United States, however, there was of GOLD four hundred and eighty-two millions, nine hundred and thirteen thousand dollars.

That is the largest auriferous sum ever at one time in the strong box of Uncle Sam. It is an increase for the year of sixty-six millions.

How could a prophecy be more moribund? And if a prophecy can putrify, where is one more putrid? If orations become rotten and smell badly what a terrible odor there must be about the committee rooms of the late fusion party in Nebraska and elsewhere?

VETOES.

Spring work has begun at Lincoln. Governor Dietrich has broken up a large area which certain legislators had plotted off for personal pasturage. The vetoes of Governor Dietrich are righteous and strong. They drive away from him all the herds of tax-eaters as the whistle of a locomotive scares mules off the railroad track. The governor can count taxpayers, of all political complexions, in all parts of Nebraska, his endorsers. He can put down all tax-eaters, his hungry enemies and angered antagonists. A good governor stops all legislative larceny. We hope that Dietrich will prove a very good governor.

HOW PAID?

Laborers are paid wages for working in starch factories, cereal mills, packing houses and other western industries out of the prices of the commodities which those plants put on the market. Now, the prices of pork, starch, corn grits and oat meal depend entirely upon the relation of the supply of those goods to the demand for those goods. No law, no edict or decree can repeal or mitigate the inexorable economic law of Demand and Supply which fixes the prices of these and all other saleable things. Then, by what equity or right should the attempt be made to legislate fixed wages for the workmen and the workwomen who are engaged in bringing exchangeable commodities upon the market when those wages are to be paid out of prices which rise or decline as the relation of Supply to Demand changes? And are not wages, legitimately, logically and justly, governed by the same law of Demand and Supply? If there were three times as many women and men seeking to earn wages in the United States as there are now, and the demand for labor was no more than it is today would there not be a terrible decline in wages? Wages are the compensation of labor, and profits are the rewards for capital which labor leaves. Labor gets its wages after a railroad is in the hands of a receiver but the capital that built it gets no profits.