THE PEOPLE'S PILOT.

—PUBLISHED BY—

The Pilot Publishing Co.

OF

North Western Indiana.,

(Limited.)

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LESLIE CLARK, - Local Editor and Manager.

THE PEOPLE'S PILOT is the official organ of the Jasper and Newton County Alliances, and is published every Friday at

ONE DOLLAR PER ANNUM

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

Displayed Advertisements.....10c inch.
Local Notices.....5c line.

Entered as second class matter at the post office at Rensselaer, Ind.

RENSSELAER, FRIDAY, DEC. 2, 1892.

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Thos. McMurray, Remington.

The regular meetings of the County Alliance are on the first Saturday of each month. A full attendance is very much desired at each meeting.

The great Homestead strike has ended disastrously to the laboring men. It is very seldom that a strike is of any permanent benefit to labor. If the men could only learn to strike at the ballot-box they could and would have their interests looked after, but so long as they vote with and for the interests of capital, only capital's interests will be represented and millionaires and paupers will continue to multiply. But laboring men are thinking as never before, and they will get right by and by.—Tipton Dispatch.

Georgia is the first state, through her legislature, to demand of Democracy the carrying out of the state bank plank of its national platform. This is a wrong step in the right direction. It shows that the people are going to force the question of "more money." It is not through state banks we can expect any relief, but let the fight go on. The more this subject is discussed the less will the people like state banks and the greater will be the demand for a national paper currency issued direct by the government in sufficient quantities to do the business of the country. Georgians, you threw rotten eggs at Weaver, now throw this rotten state bank plank of your party's platform in its face. This will hurt your party worse than the eggs hurt Weaver, so let 'er fly.

Many who a few weeks ago were so loud and extravagant in their praise of protection now say "McKinleyism is protection run to seed." They say "the popular uprising of the people against our tariff laws is what caused our defeat." Wise old senators say "we tried to modify this bill, tried to make it more reasonable, but the house seemed set for it." These very men four weeks ago solemnly proclaimed that the wellfare of our people, the safety and perpetuity of our government depended upon the maintainance of the protective doctrine as set forth in the recent tariff legislation of the American congress. Now that they see the people understand it, they too have changed their minds somewhat and are beginning to think that even protection can be carried too far. What can we say of these men who have labored so hard to deceive us? From this may we not be led to think that other great questions are being mystified and falsified before the people simply to mislead them, simply to rob them?

The Republican gain in Jasper county over 1890 is 84. This may be charged to Republican members of the People's party leaving the Democratic membership of that organization to hold the bag. In Newton county the Republican gain was 54. In White county the Republican gain was 24. In Benton county the Republican gain was but 2. Of the four counties, Jasper Democrats sustain the heaviest loss.—Democratic Sentinel.

To sum the matter up, the increased Peoples' party vote in this county came about 230 from the Repbulicans, 100 from the Democrats, and 12 from th Prohibitionists.—Rensselaer Republican.

Will somebody please tell these poor simple souls "where they are at?" Gentlemen, we care not which one of you we have hurt the most. Here are a few state figures we will give you to meditate upon. The increased vote on governor, in 1892 over 1888 is 12,668. Democrats loss in four years 407. Republican loss in four years 8,989. People's party gain 19,224. Prohibition gain in four years 2,840. These figures tell a painful story to the old parties.

They tell that the two new parties are the only growing poltiical organizations in the state.

The cash in Uncle Sam's box, it is feared, will, the coming year, run short several millions. "It is a condition, not a theory that confronts us" and the plans to meet the difficulty are reductions of governmental expenses and an increase of national revenues. Some say cut off the sugar bounty and thereby save many millions. It is said, by some, that $500,000 could very properly be saved in the yearly appropriation made to state militias, and another $500,000, biennially appropriated to national supervisors of elections should be cut off and saved. A million a year is appropriated to agriculturial colleges, which is asked to be discontinued, besides the $2,000,000 annually appropriated to Indian schools could be greatly reduced, say some. By way of increase in revenues it is suggested that the tax on whisky could be raised 10 cents on the gallon and $10,000,000 thereby be added to our national treasury. Another source of increased revenue spoken of is an income tax. This is a form of taxation for which we calamity howlers are very clamorous. This is a tax that neither Democrat nor a Republican congress will ever give us. Wise men are they who manage down at Washington: they will find some way out of this financial embarrassment, but it will not be by enacting an income tax law. It will not be by exacting anything more from the classes, nor anything less from the masses.

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We have used your Craft's Distemper and Cough Cure with perfect satisfaction, and consider it a great success in the treatment of Distemper and Coughs; in fact the only thing we have ever found that has done the work so quickly and perfectly. We therefore take great pleasure in recommending it to our friends. CROUCH & TRAVIS, Lafayette Stock Farm. Sold by F. B. Meyers.

Miss Mary Abell, daughter of the late A. S. Abell, founder of the Baltimore Sun, has taken the white veil at the chapel of the Academy of Visitation, in Wilmington. Del. The name that she chose was Sister Mary Joseph.

Headache is the direct result of indigestion and stomach disorders. Remedy by using DeWitt's Little Early Risers, and your headache disappears. The favorite little pills everywhere. A. F. LONG & Co.

ANOTHER VIEW OF TAXES.

The Classical Principles of Taxation Stated.

I. All persons should pay in proportion to their ability.
II. The tax to be paid by each person should be certain in amount.
III. The tax should be levied at time and place to suit tax payer.
IV. A tax should be so levied as to take out and keep out of pockets of people as little as possible above amount required for public expenditure.

In the previous discussions we have touched lightly upon the last three principles as stated above. It is our intention at this writing to look at a phase of the first principle. We will remark in passing that it is this principle above all others which has suffered such flagrant wrongs at the hands of imperfectly devised systems. Equality of sacrifice is a difficult thing to attain in this manifold life of ever changing condition.

The phase of the subject which we desire to discuss will be the relation of the farmer to the taxpaying community.

Our present system of taxation is known as the *property tax*. Let us see what the characteristics of this system may be. If we analyze it we shall discover that the "basis" of this system as an object of taxation is *frugality* or *saving*. As our system reaches, as it designs only wealth present, expressed in form of property. It does not stop here, but that prosperity which is reached is that which is *visible* and all property otherwise scarely ever reaches the lists of the tax assessor to anywhere its full value. So it results in this that those whose wealth is expressed in material form, such as houses, lands, stock, etc., are the persons upon whom the burdens of taxation must fall most heavily. Also it is true that those of large means are the class who most easily escape a full assessment. This is not always the result of dishonesty, but a variation of a few hundred dollars which would amount to some $50 in taxes can be made and not be noticed so readily as the variation of half so large a sum in the list of a man of small means. We have said that our present system reaches property which can be readily assessed. That part which never fails to receive its due amount of taxes is property in land. This the farmer is a large holder as a result of his business. In fact few farmers possess much which does not find expression in forms easily reached by the tax assessor. This can be so true of those who deal in securities and invisible property, but whose incomes are more certain and lucrative. Again it may be readily conceded that property is the expression of great personal sacrifice in industry and saving How els ecould it find its place. The spendthrift never had a bank account of his own nor a home. Then we can see that our system places a premium upon lavish living because he who accumulates must bear the burdens of taxation.

Let us compare this method further with the great body of men who earn great sums but never lay up to any great extent. We will take a typical farm. Say of 160 acres. The value of land can be reasonably estimated at $5,000 if the land is good quality. Now in order to properly cultivate that farm a capitalization of considerable amount is necesary in buildings, stock, implements, etc. A fair estimate of the same can not fall below $2,000 and we are inclined to judge this too little in amount. Yet it is true that many farms of that value are conducted witn less capital.

We have here a farmer who is worth in round numbers $7,000. With his poll tax he will pay not far from $70 in taxes to the county treasurer. If we estimate the income of a farm of that size we will find that it will not be surprisingly large. I doubt if there are many farms in Jasper county which pay over 4 per cent. interest when used for farming purposes exclusively and the majority pay less. Now with our $7,000 farm yielding a four per cent. income we have a showing of $280 net income for the year's work. It is by these slow accumulations that he has his farm. This may not apply to the farmer as a class only, but equally as well to all persons whose incomes are the result of accumulated property. The rate of income will vary in every business, but the tax will reach the same basis in either case, that of saving or frugality.

We will turn our attention for a moment to another case which is equally as common to us all. I believe in the little town of Rensselaer there are a score of persons whose earnings throughout the year are considerable, yet the only tax which appears before them is the poll tax. We have reference to those persons who receive their income in day wages. In our larger cities this class is abnormally large, including workmen in all kinds of shops and factories, clerks in stores and offices. These foot up in the thousands. I believe that an average daily estimate of $2 per day would not be too high for this group. Then we have at least $600 as an income. This may be somewhat high for a number to be included in this list, but when we remember that a large number of the professional class are to be found in this class whose incomes or salaries range correspondingly high, this estimate can not be too high. As to their relation to taxation. It is a fact too true that this class are not as a rule accumulators of property. So if they pay taxes to any extent it must be upon a portion of their income. This class makes it a business to spend all, or nearly all, their earnings. Then we have a class whose yearly income is as large or larger than the farmer who would grade with him and scarcely, if any, taxes to pay. This is because of our pernicious way of levying the tax.

Our conclusions are based upon individual facts which are apparent to all and not to be denied. If this was the only objection to be raised it would be sufficient to solicit a speedy remedy so far as practicable. There should be another basis of estimation. Our basis to-day is actual property in sight or depending upon honesty of the owner to bring it in sight. Why should those persons who enjoy all the privileges any more than the frugal be allowed to escape unnoticed the payment of little more than a poll in taxes? What juctice is there in it! Why should a man be compelled to pay taxes because he is frugal while the one who spends escapes? Why should not both pay? Does not the man who spends enjoy as much privilege in the act as he who saves? Is not our system responsible for all this? These questions if properly answered will shed a flood of light upon what we have said.

* * *

Chase and the "Lower Classes."

Parson Chase thinks he knows exactly what caused the recent Republican Waterloo. In a recent interview he said:

"The Democrats went among the lower classes and told them that if the Republicans came into power they would deprive them of their suffrages."

What language is this to come from the governor of Indiana? Who are the "lower classes" pray? He should be more specific. Does he regard all working men and women of the lower classes? Such language as this might go in the despotisms of Europe but here in free America the supposition was that there were no divisions into higher, lower or middle classes. Chase. with the stupidity that characterized his whole campaign, let the Republican cat out of the bag. The party to which he belongs has held power so long that it had got to regarding itself as a superior class. It only contact with the "lower classes" was when it wanted to buy their votes or force them in other ways to do its bidding. The party had become so intolerably insolent. It boasted of having all the intelligence and virture in its own rank. All other parties were composed of the riffraff and "lower classes." In olden times it was the slaveholders who regarded themselves as the salt of the earth, and talked of "poor white trash" as the lower classes. Republicans more sensible then than now, contended that a man was a man "for a' that." They held that a man must be measured by his merit rather than his money and that his birthright was that of a freeman. In these degenerate days their lordly Depews ride through the west and address the "lower classes" from the rear end a palace car. Who can wonder that a party led by such aristocratic asses and pretentious humbugs should be swept from the face of the earth?—Non Conformist.

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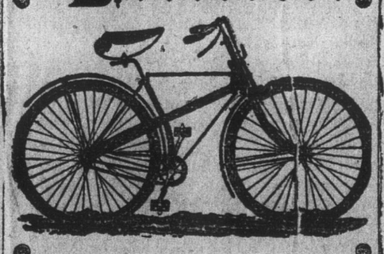

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