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**Half a Century****THE PEOPLE'S PILOT.**

BY F. D. CRAIG, (Lessee.)

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The Populist State Committee is called to meet at Austin, Tex., Feb. 18, 1897.

The vote in the Colorado legislature for Senator Teller stood 92 for and 61 against.

The legislature of South Dakota has seated three Republicans in places contested by Populists.

The Populist legislators are making things lively down in Oklahoma and are passing some good bills.

The question of bimetallism is being strongly agitated in Pennsylvania and silver clubs are being organized throughout the state.

Senator Peffer announces that he will, on the expiration of his term, return to Topeka, Kansas, and edit the "Advocate" on strictly "middle-of-the-road" lines.

W. J. Bryan's book has gone to the publishers and is expected to be for sale within ten days. It is dedicated to Richard Bland, Gen. James B. Weaver and Senator Teller.

The People's Party State Central Committee of Missouri met at Jefferson City, January 22, and formulated plans for the future. The extremists were badly worsted.

The "Arena" plant and good will was recently sold at auction for \$13,000. The financial troubles of this great reform periodical are due to the mechanizations of the goldbugs.

The first step toward Pacific Railroad foreclosure was granted January 21st by Judge Sanborn, at St. Louis. Permission to foreclose on that part of the road between Council Bluffs and Ogden was given.

Lyman Gage, the Chicago banker whom "Coin" Harvey made one of the pupils in his famous school, much to gentleman's disgust has offered the Treasury port in McKinley's cabinet.

The election of Harris of Kansas to the Senate is a vindication at state from the charge of malfeasance under which she so long suffered. Harris is a Confederate soldier and he would occupy the seat which the late John J. Crittenden, issued his historic "bloody" manifesto, is cause for national gratulation.

Such ill timed jubilation is extant over the acceptance of the Arbitration Treaty by England, but those of us who have a well grounded distrust of Albion rejoice to see in this acceptance anything for our rejoicing. The treaty covers five years; time enough for Uncle Sam to learn why the most selfish nation now on earth wanted to arbitrate. But many of the big wigs consider it a sign of the times in the best sense of that much abased phrase.

Senator Lee Mantle is responsible for the statement that there are as many different kinds of Republicans as there are Democrats. He also says that the Silver Republicans will at once begin to organize and will be prepared to put candidates in the field by the next election.

The question of whether to hold a constitutional convention or to amend the present constitution is agitating Kansas. The former will, it is estimated, cost the state \$700,000. Sixty-three bills were read in the legislature there in one day.

Gov. Pingree of Michigan persists in being both mayor and governor. He has, however, found time to offer a handsome prize to any student, male or female, who shall prepare the longest list on obsolete laws that have been enacted in the state.

The latest combine is a clothing trust. The annual output of the companies combining is \$350,000,000. They have announced that they intend only to protect themselves from "long credits and rank competition." Of course everybody believes them. (?)

Ex-Governor Altgeld affirms that the increased vote in Ohio since 1892 would indicate an increase in that state of nearly 1,000,000 inhabitants, while the vote in Illinois indicates an increase of 1,200,000 in the same time. The republican legislators of Illinois are planning to pass an anti-fusion bill.

The suffering of the poor in the cities beggars description. The mayor of Chicago has issued a proclamation calling for \$100,000 as the lowest amount that can avert the starvation of hundreds of people who have been in enforced idleness. Doctors are issuing burial certificates giving starvation as the cause of death.

When "Coin" Harvey attempted to speak to the workmen in the G. N. R. R. Co.'s shops during the campaign, a whistle was blown to silence him and then the men were put to work twenty minutes before regular time. The men were supposed to vote for McKinley. It is of interest to note that 200 of these men were recently dismissed owing to the hard times.

Before leaving for his monthly hunt the other day, Grover Cleveland hinted that he, as a lawyer, would look even more closely after the interests of the Sugar Trust than he had done as the chief executive. Another rumor is that the perfect harmony existing between the Gold Democrats and Republicans can only be expressed by Grover accepting a cabinet folio under McKinley.

**Nicaragua Canal.**

The votes already had in the Senate show that the Nicaragua Canal bill will have easy passage there. It ought not to be unnecessarily delayed in the House. Possibly some crankiness may bring a veto from President Cleveland. But it is a measure greatly needed to further develop the commerce with our Pacific coast and keep the continental railroads in check. These companies oppose it. Senator Morgan, of Alabama, has been its eloquent champion.

The canal bill provides for an issue of \$100,000,000 of Maritime Canal Company stock, of which the Secretary of the Treasury, on behalf of the United States, is to subscribe for \$70,000,000 worth of shares. The company is to issue bonds up to \$100,000,000, these to be guaranteed by the United States. The building and control of the canal are

given to American engineers, and a board of eleven directors, of whom five are to be appointed by the President. It is substantially the measure passed by the Senate in the last Congress.

**Deep Water To The Ocean.**  
The report of the deep waterways commission shows that it is feasible to have ocean steamships sail through from the Atlantic to Chicago. The commission consisted of President Angell, of Michigan University; John E. Russell and Lyman E. Cooley, able, conservative and scientific men, who could have no motive but the good of their country.

They were appointed under a resolution introduced in the Senate in 1895 for a preliminary inquiry as to the practicability of waterways between the ocean and the great lakes.

The report is long and does not attempt to give the exact figures but is unequivocal as to the project being desirable and feasible. The commission served without pay and did not exhaust all the appropriation made for expenses. One thing they favor is an appropriation to begin at once the surveys and the investigation as to controlling the level of Lake Erie and of the Niagara river. The Niagara ship canal is a part, and perhaps a principal part, of the scheme.

The commission believes that certain parts of the work can be accomplished with advantage for the time being and so distribute the cost through a series of years. But they distinctly oppose beginning on any circumscribed plan as to the entire work. It should be laid out at the largest, to accommodate ships of largest, draught, and whatever is done look towards the largest possible benefits in the end.

Besides the passage through the St. Lawrence which would be international, the commission recommends two exits from Lake Ontario, one by the St. Lawrence and Lake Champlain, and thence to the Hudson river, and the other by way of the Oswego-Oneida-Mohawk Valley and Hudson river.

President Cleveland recommends an "economical provision for further prosecution" of the work marked out, at least so far as to obtain all needed information.

Waterways are the proper check on the railroads. Our people will certainly demand that this great project be at some time carried into effect.

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**Good Roads For Kansas.**

It would be well for every state to set its convicts to work in making good roads. This would remove their competition with other labor and other manufacturers, and, of even more importance, it would result in permanent improvement of the roads. No class of people are so much interested in this result as are the farmers. To them it means money saved, money earned and added comfort to their families with all the civilizing influences which come from ease in meeting together socially at all periods, all seasons and in all kinds of weather; ease and comfort in reaching the school house and the church. In fact, the blessings of good roads are simply the blessings of a higher civilization.

Among the new bills credited to the Populists in the Kansas legislature are a number relating to convicts—all of which are commendable.

A bill to mark convict-made articles has been introduced and will be followed by others providing that inmates of the penitentiary be divided into lots, a large number to be taken to western Kansas to dig irrigation ditches, others to be assigned to eastern Kansas to build roads; others to raise farm products for the state institutions, and the vicious ones to break rock in the penitentiary, to be used in building state macadamized roads. These bills were prepared by advocates of union labor and representatives of the unions will attempt to secure their passage.

John Gould, at the Salem County (N. J.) Farmers, Institute the other day said: "The cow is the only animal in Ohio that is enhanced in value, while we notice a depreciation in the value of other animals. We can not understand, nor will man ever understand, how milk is generated, and probably it's a good thing for the cow, for if we did some designer would endeavor to cheat the cow out of her business by securing some patent right."

A cablegram from Rome states that a young Italian doctor who has himself recovered from the disease in Rio Janeiro, has discovered the yellow fever germ and has given the details of his discovery under seal to the Rome Academy of Medicine. It will be a great boon to humanity if this proves reliable. Some antitoxin will soon be found to kill the germ and bring the yellow-jacket under the same control as for smallpox and diphtheria.—Ex.

Chicago is the largest distributing point for fruits and vegetables in this country, and the striking feature of its markets is excessive abundance. The various products of the vast, flat plains in the midst of which it is located; the great variety of semi-tropical fruits of the Pacific coast; the early and late vegetables and fruits of the southern states, South America and the islands come pouring into Chicago daily. Strawberries are received here from Seattle and shipped to Montreal, and the express trains which deliver and take away various perishable commodities run on the same schedule time as limited passenger trains. Half the bananas grown on this side of the sea are brought to Chicago. In the language of dealers, Chicago has one of the "closest markets" in this country. In other words, it is possible to buy almost all products of the soil for less money in Chicago than in any other great commercial center in America.—Ex.

There is to be a "universal postal convention" of different countries next May. There ought to be a push for postal savings banks at that time as for other great reforms. The governments of Egypt, Venezuela, Switzerland and Mexico, with France and Russia, have signed to this government their intention to be represented.

**Two Silver Champions.**

Do doubtless many of our readers, who appreciate the importance of the restoration of the bimetallic standard, would like to subscribe for and support a farm paper which while unsurpassed in its agricultural, household and other departments, at the same time has been the leading exponent of the bimetallic principle of finance. With a view to supplying this want, we have made a liberal clubbing arrangement with the Farm, Field and Fireside of Chicago. For many years this great paper has been pointing out to the farmers that low prices were the result of a contraction of standard money to the gold basis and urging them as a patriotic duty of self defense to vote for the restoration of silver.

So effective has been its work, especially during the late campaign, that Chairman Jones acknowledged to Wm. J. Bryan that it had done more towards the restoration of bimetallism than any other single agency.

As will be seen by our combination offer on another page, we can give this paper in combination with the People's Pilot, both one year, for the low price of \$1.60. This offer also includes twenty packets of the best seed in the market from the Farm, Field and Fireside's free seed distribution, where 10 cents extra is paid for postage and packing. The Farm, Field and Fireside and the People's Pilot are two papers which Mark Hanna's boddle could not influence in the late campaign.

**Bucklin's Aronica Salve.**  
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**NEW UNDERTAKING.**

**W. E. Overton** wishes to announce that he has opened a new Undertaking establishment in the Nowels house Block. A NEW HEARSE and first class funeral furnishings have been provided, and special pains will be taken to merit a share of the public's favors.

Mr. OVERTON has carefully fitted himself for this work, having been for some time under the instruction of one of the best practitioners in Chicago.

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