

The Peoples Pilot.

F. D. Craig, Editor.

RENSSELAER, IND

Republican promises are not being realized and will prove a boomerang.

The police seem to be an organization for the protection of criminals that have a pull.

One man fighting for his home is worth four men fighting for their boarding houses.

No leader who has betrayed the people can be efficient again. It is not in the nature of things.

With direct legislation the people would now proceed to take charge of the Pacific railroads.

There is work for all to do, but not enough money to effect an exchange of the products of labor.

The regular annual meeting of the National Reform Press association convened at Memphis Feb. 22.

We may rest assured that the Morgan syndicate is not going to monkey with the Union Pacific railroad merely for its health.

If we are to have any bonds at all let them be non-interest bearing, for the sting of the bond is in its power to draw interest.

The Morgan syndicate will get the Union Pacific railroad and continue to rob the people. But the end will be reached some day.

If we had the imperative mandate in this country Grover would have been yanked out of the white house more than a year ago.

It is said that Wanamaker spent \$100,000 in his effort to be elected United States senator. That office comes pretty high nowadays.

The way to bring good times is for the government to issue money and pay it out for public improvements. This would put every idle man to work.

From every great city comes the cry of poverty and distress. Starvation stares thousands in the face, but still the mill of single gold standard contraction grinds on. When will the people learn?

An increase in the volume of currency does not amount to repudiation, but if it did that would be more honorable for a nation than to pursue a policy that is starving thousands of people to death.

There is a great deal of sport made of the farmer by his plutocratic cousins, yet if the farmer would stop raising only such things as he used himself and sell nothing there would go up from these cousins a most doleful cry.

Gold is not worth 100 cents because it can be worn or eaten, but because it can be exchanged for such things as contribute to life and comfort. That is all that any money can do and all it is required to do. Gold money is preferred by the miserly because it is safer and more convenient to hoard—withdraw from circulation. The most complete form of currency would be a receivable paper money issued by the government.

FIAT MONEY.

The Material on Which Money Is Stamped Is Not the Essential Thing.

The constant cry that fiat money is not good money is already refuted by the use of gold and silver as money. These metals, with fifty years of supply on hand would have very little value if they were not used as money in any part of the world. Law, or custom having the force of law, makes gold and silver money when stamped by the government for the purpose of designation. We contend that if a law were passed making paper or any material designated by the stamp of the government a full legal tender for all debts, public and private, it would be as good money for all purposes for which money is used as either gold or silver. We might cite many instances and make a long and elaborate argument in favor of our contention, but it would be ridiculed by all who do not understand the science of money. This question is of paramount importance and is certainly worth the experiment, which would cost the government nothing, except engraving and printing the paper.

If Congress should pass a law authorizing the secretary of the treasury to issue a small amount of strictly fiat paper without any promise of redemption, and make such paper money receivable for taxes and all government dues and a legal tender in the payment of all debts, it would be easy to determine whether the people would take it at par as money. If they should do so and it should be sought for in the same manner that gold coin is now sought for by persons who desired to use it to pay debts and government dues, it would demonstrate that the material upon which money is stamped for designation is not the essential thing. It would verify Aristotle's definition of money when he declared that "money is a creation of law." The verification of this definition would be of the utmost value to civilization, and this government can well afford to make the experiment.

POWER OF GENIUS.

INVENTION IS WORKING OUT NEW CONDITIONS.

A Grand and Peaceful Revolution If Not Blocked by Unnatural Obstacles—The Age of Machinery—Labor Should Control All New Inventions.

The following is condensed from an able paper by J. M. H. Frederick in the American Magazine of Civics:

Whether are we tending? What of the future? Will it be evolution or revolution; and if revolution, will it be peaceful or violent? These and a multitude of other kindred questions burst from the lips of representatives of all classes, who in wonder and amazement behold the marvelous transformations which are taking place in our industrial and social conditions. Of one thing nearly all seem to be agreed: Some great change is in store for us. What that change will be and how it will be wrought, however, are questions on which many differences of opinion are entertained.

Invention, the product of more of man's inspiration than of his laborious efforts and carefully weighed plans, is rapidly working out new conditions, the "logic" of which points to a revolution—a revolution whose grandeur and peaceful accomplishment will depend upon the ready acceptance and non-resistance by man of the fruits of the present evolution. Left to its own natural course, it will affect its own great changes peacefully; but obstructed and impeded by human resistance, who can say what destruction may not result! Congresses may regulate, general assemblies may legislate, courts may adjudicate, and individuals may agitate; but at the most, with all their effort they will only change the course of the river of progress; they are quite unable to prevent its final outlet to the sea.

Every new discovery has been hailed as a blessing to mankind. But has it been a blessing? John Stuart Mill said: "It is questionable if all the mechanical inventions yet made have lightened the day's toil of any human being." And John Ruskin has written in his melancholy strain: "Though England is deafened with spinning wheels, her people are not clothed; though she is black with the digging of coal, her people die with cold; though she has sold her soul for gain, they die of hunger."

Formerly the introduction of new machines opened up new fields for labor, in some instances creating a demand for labor in excess of the labor saved. Hardships to the laborer frequently resulted from the adoption of a new machine, but these were generally regarded as only temporary defects, which time would rectify. Today the new mechanical devices create a very small demand for labor compared with that dispensed with.

Formerly the introduction of new machines was a blessing to mankind. But has it been a blessing? John Stuart Mill said: "It is questionable if all the mechanical inventions yet made have lightened the day's toil of any human being."

That Theodore A. Havemeyer says the price of sugar is lower now than it ever was.

That the refineries company has for years paid a dividend of 12 per cent on its \$37,500,000 of common stock and 7 per cent on the same amount of preferred stock.

That Theodore A. Havemeyer would not go into any business that did not pay a profit of 15 or 16 per cent, at least.

That there is that much profit in the coffee business, and that is why he is going into that business.

That his brother Henry, fixes the price of sugar.

That Theodore attends solely to the refining, and that, on all other topics, refers his questions to his brother, Henry, or to "Mr. Searles."

That John E. Searles was declared in contempt of the investigating committee, because he did not respect its subpoenae and appear before it.

That as the investigating committee must report to the legislature on March 1, and is to sit on only two days in each week, it has only seven more hearings in which to learn all about the trusts in this state.—N. Y. Journal.

THE SUGAR TRUST.

Elected at the First Hearing of the Lexow Investigating Committee.

That the American sugar refineries company succeeded the sugar trust by purchasing the stock of the fifteen companies in the trust.

That Henry O. Havemeyer, president of the refineries company, once declared, under oath, that the principal object of the refineries company was to control the output and price of sugar. That he now says, under oath, such was not its object.

That he admits that a man who controls 80 per cent of the output of sugar can control the price.

That he concludes, therefore, that he controls the price of sugar.

That he says the price of sugar to the consumer is less than it was before the formation of the trust.

That, in his opinion, he would not have a monopoly of the sugar even if he controlled 99 per cent of the whole output.

That the refineries company will probably go into the coffee business, as it is immensely profitable; more so than sugar.

That since his firm has been in the coffee business the profit on each pound sold has been reduced from 3 cents to 1 cent, thus benefiting the consumer.

That he says Arbuckle Bros. were not threatened that if they went into the business of sugar refining the refineries company would embark in the coffee trade.

That Mr. Arbuckle and his partner aver they were so threatened.

That the refineries company was organized in New Jersey because, as Mr. Havemeyer says, there is "less scrutiny, examination and investigation of corporate acts" there than in this state.

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Model Political Boss.

The political boss confirms the doctrine of evolution. His origin was humble and despised. The primeval habitat of the original specimen was in the back room of a third rate side street saloon, and his jurisdiction comprehended only the impetuous customers of the gin mill. He evolved by slow gradation to places more pretentious, and the area of his authority was proportionately extended. In time the boundaries of the ward, and all the booze shops within the same became the province of the "heeler" and his deputies. Then whole towns and cities were acquired, and the "boss" had evolved to a figure of political dignity and importance. The process finally developed into the state dictator, and from that to the Hanna stage of national political boss evolution.

In the earlier periods the antetypes of the species were retiring in disposition, presumably because of their fewness in number, and the absence of popular enthusiasm which attached to either their presence or calling. Social lines were drawn against them, and their garb and breath obnoxious to the higher grades of society. The "sins of war" were also minimized, and almost altogether liquid in character, and deadly as the lightning in execution.

That the loss is estimated at \$150,000.

In the beginning was the lightning in execution. The beginning was marked by the bribe stealthily offered in the shadows of the night from the flask of bug juice, and is in striking contrast to the million dollar slush fund, and open negotiation for train loads of voters which characterized the operations of Mark Aurelius in the late campaign.—Leader Democrat.

Don't Trust One Man.

Do not chance the cause of reform on the honesty, backbone and sound judgment of any man. You may be fooled in him. You have been fooled and are liable to be again. Consider your own judgment as good as anybody's as to the best principles and the best policies. Don't hesitate to disagree with the man at the top—he is there merely because some one must be there. Of course, we all feel like expressing our approval of any one who has shown staying qualities in times of trial, but don't worship such—they have at most but done their duty, as thousands and thousands of the rank and file have done. Under other circumstances those we would worship now might go back on us. Pin your faith to principles, they'll never go back on you. Man may err, his temper may throw him off the right track, his personal ambition may cloud his judgment; even his very eagerness for the success of right may induce him to try to cut across the swamps to victory.—Missouri World.

Gold is not our only enemy nor silver our only friend.

WORK OF CONGRESS.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS AT WASHINGTON.

Closing Hours of the House and Senate
Marked by the Usual Rush of Work—
Many Bills Meet with "Pocket Veto."
—Some of the Measures That Passed.

Wednesday, March 3.

The house ordered the Indian bill sent back to conference. The immigration bill was passed over the President's veto by a vote of 193 to 37. The senate amendment to reduce the price of armor plate to \$300 was accepted by a vote of 131 to 52. The conference report on the sundry civil bill was reported to the house. The principal change made in conference was a reduction of 12½ per cent on appropriations for rivers and harbors. A provision under which the action of the president setting aside lands in western states as forest reserves may be reversed was also one of the important changes. The conference report was agreed to, and the house took a recess for one hour.

In the senate a further conference on the sundry civil bill was ordered. A message from the house reported the passage of the immigration bill over the president's veto. The veto message was read, and without comment, was referred to the committee on immigration.

Thursday, March 4.

The closing hours in the house were uneventful. The statesmen worked all night to get the sundry civil, Indian and agricultural bills to the President, only to have them pocket vetoed, while the general deficiency failed of passage because the house refused to subscribe to the half million of Bowman claims which the senate insisted upon. The only feature of the closing throb of life was the enthusiastic reception accorded Speaker Reed, and the unanimous standing vote of thanks tendered him. After this the house adjourned without day.

The senate of the LVth congress met in extra session, with Vice-President Hobart presiding, in pursuance to a call of the retiring President. Proceedings were confined largely to the valedictory of the retiring Vice-President, Mr. Stevenson, the opening address of the new Vice-President, Mr. Hobart, and the swearing into office of the new senators.

HEAVY FLOODS FEARED.

Mountains of Snow Cover the Entire Northwest.

The states of Minnesota and North and South Dakota are in a nervous condition over the prospects of the next few days. It has snowed every day this month, Sunday's storm being the greatest in weeks. There are literally mountains of snow all over this section. Railroad trains are in a hopeless tangle.

The people are beginning to realize that if the snow should go off with a rush or accompanied with a downpour of rain, as is likely at this season of the year, the biggest flood would result ever known in the Northwest. It would cause incalculable damage along the Mississippi and tributary streams, and overflow the Red river valley to such a depth that it would prevent the seeding of thousands of acres.

New York Village Fire Swept.

A big fire raged in the business section of Rome, N. Y., Thursday. The conflagration started in the rear of Bingham's six-story building about midnight. The blaze spread rapidly through the entire building, which is occupied by the Bingham Harness company and Willoughby carriage and sleigh works. Paul Finster's harness shop also was consumed. The loss is estimated at \$400,000, but no statement of insurance can be given.

Peoria Elevator Is Burned.

Thursday night fire destroyed the Union elevator at Peoria, Ill. The elevator was the property of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad company. It had a capacity of 1,000,000 bushels, and as nearly as can be ascertained contained about 900,000 bushels of grain. The loss is estimated at \$400,000, but no statement of insurance can be given.

Millions of Damage.

While the flood of last Friday is over, the effects of it will be felt in northern Kentucky, southern Ohio and southern Indiana for weeks. The damages here and within a radius of 100 miles of this city, are now estimated in the millions.

Editor Wilson Goes to Prison.

James B. Wilson, editor of the Indianapolis People, was on Tuesday sent to the northern prison for a term of two years for sending copies of his paper, containing obscene matter, through the mails.

Wages Go Down 10 Per Cent.

The Bethlehem, Pa., iron company has announced a general reduction of ten per cent in the wages of steel workers, laborers and furnace men. The reduction goes into effect on March 1.

Big Fire at Indianapolis.

The Park theater, the popular-prize playhouse of Indianapolis, Ind., was burned between 8 and 9 o'clock Sunday night. The loss is estimated at \$100,000. The insurance amounts to \$30,000.

Dunkards Going to North Dakota.

Dunkards of three Indiana counties have completed organization of a colony of 100 men to go to North Dakota this year. They will leave on the 30th. On the 31st they will join colonies from all over the country in Chicago.

NOMINATIONS CONFIRMED.

Senate Endorses the President's Cabinet Selections.

The senate was in session only about two hours Friday, and the greater part of the time was spent in executive session in confirming Mr. McKinley's cabinet appointments. The following were the nominations:

Secretary of State—John Sherman of Ohio.

Secretary of the Treasury—Lyman J. Gage of Illinois.

Secretary of War—Russell A. Alger of Michigan.

Postmaster-General—James A. Gary of Maryland.

Secretary of the Navy—John D. Long of Massachusetts.

Secretary of the Interior—Cornelius N. Bliss of New York.

Secretary of Agriculture—James Wilcox of Iowa.

Ran Into a Landslide.

Missouri Pacific passenger train No. 4 ran into a landslide about one and one-half miles west of Staubert, Mo., at 7 o'clock Friday night. The engine, tender and mail car were telescoped, setting fire to the mail car, which in turn set fire to the baggage car, and both were entirely consumed. One man was killed and his body cremated, another was fatally burned, and a third badly injured.

GREECE MAKES REPLY.