

VIVID RECOLLECTIONS.  
Continued from page 7.

newed vigor and increased heat, and our faces took on their distressed frowns again. I saw the man who had figured on the profits of wheat raising glance sheepishly down at his estimated boot, and then cautiously, as though afraid of being seen, he lifted the other foot, and bringing the toe of his boot around, he rubbed the figures out. Just then our attention was attracted by the smell of fire, and glancing hurriedly around we saw a cloud of smoke rolling up from the south. The lightning had struck the ground and set the prairie on fire. For the remainder of that day and most of the night the whole neighborhood fought the prairie fire.

A week from that time I left the claim. For ten years I had clung to theories in opposition to hard, dry facts, but when the lightning set the prairie on fire and burned up sheds, stables, pasture, and puny wheat stacks for me on the second day of August my faith in the climate-changing theory received a shock from which it never recovered.

CON HEALY.

INDUSTRIAL ARMY BILL.

Introduced by Hon. John Davis on the Request of Annie L. Diggs.

A bill to provide for the enlistment and maintenance of an industrial army, for issuing and maintaining a sufficient and equitable volume of currency, and for other purposes.

Whereas the lack of employment for a vast number of workmen in this country, caused by a contraction of money and falling prices, is productive of untold distress and of manifold demoralization; and

Whereas the problem of the unemployed is not new, but has been steadily enlarging for many years, thus evidencing that the system of protection of American laborers even when in fullest operation has been inadequate; and

Whereas the prosperity of the wealth-producers of the nation has steadily declined, notwithstanding the marvelous increase of wealth and of progress in the methods of production; and

Whereas the political economy and the administration of government have neither kept pace with the development of the country nor secured just recompense for labor; and

Whereas this problem of the unemployed not only appeals to the sympathy and enlists the consideration of American citizens, but is also a menace to the peace, prosperity, and perpetuity of the republic; and

Whereas the wisdom of our forefathers in the preamble of the constitution of the United States made ample provision in the phrase "to promote the general welfare" for such enlarged governmental functions and progressive economic measures as the growing needs and the emergencies of the country might require; Therefore,

Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled, That the secretary of war be shall empowered and instructed, immediately upon the passage of this act, to enlist, as fast as practicable, five hundred thousand men in an industrial volunteer army to serve for the period of one year after enlistment.

Sec. 2. That this army shall be enlisted, clothed, fed, and paid under the same rules and regulations as to physical soundness, comfort, and military discipline required of recruits in the regular army.

Sec. 3. That, instead of drill at arms, as in the regular army, the industrial

army shall be employed on works of public improvements, such as canals, rivers, and harbors, irrigation works, public highways, and such other public improvements as congress, in its wisdom and patriotic determination (to legislate for the welfare of the people, for the creation of substantial wealth, and for the safety and perpetuity of the republic, shall provide.

Sec. 4. That in order to defray the expenses of the said industrial army, to restore and maintain an adequate and equitable volume of currency, and to encourage the employment of labor by private capital, through rising prices, the secretary of the treasury is hereby authorized and directed—

First—To issue 50 millions of dollars of legal tender United States notes to replace the estimated destruction, waste and losses of United States notes since the passage of the act of May 31, 1878, which provided that the volume of legal tender notes then outstanding should not be diminished.

Second—To issue 150 millions of dollars of legal tender United States notes to replace the national bank currency which has been retired below the maximum of such currency formerly outstanding. And it shall be the lawful duty of the secretary of the treasury to issue legal tender United States notes from time to time in sufficient volume to take the place of the circulating notes of national banks as the said bank currency may hereafter be retired.

Third—To issue 100 millions of legal tender United States notes annually hereafter in order to create and preserve an increasing and equitable volume of currency in accordance with the needs of the increasing population and volume of business of this country.

Sec. 5. That the United States notes herein authorized shall be executed in the usual high style of art on distinctive paper, in denominations of from \$1 to \$1,000, and said notes shall be lawful money of the United States, receivable in the revenues of the government, and legal tender for all debts and taxes, except in cases where it has been otherwise provided by positive contract prior to the passage of this act.

Sec. 6. That the amounts of lawful money herein authorized shall be covered into the United States treasury, and shall be paid out by the treasurer of the United States in the necessary and authorized disbursements of the government.

From the Empire State.

EDITOR ADVOCATE:—The ADVOCATE gets better if possible every week, and I wish we had as good a paper in every state in the union. The struggle in that case would be a brief one. It is amusing to see you give it to the editor of the Capital. What a short memory Brother Hudson as well as the editor of the Atchison Champion must have to print such stuff as you quote from their papers, regarding the condition of labor under republican administrations. They forget that four states were under martial law at one time in 1892, man and master each having the other by the throat, and the state militia was called out to protect property from the mob which always follows such conditions. Few but the bankers themselves know what Harrison's administration did for the relief of the banks and gamblers, by the purchase of bonds, while they refused to do a single thing for the relief of the industrial people. They talk loudly about the protection of labor. What one of them, even the editor of the Capital, will advocate the plan of putting a duty on labor as well as the

products of labor. They say that would not do at all from the fact that the laboringmen of this country, through their unions, would put the price of wages so high that there would not be any profits for the manufacturer.

Well, suppose they would. We have been trusting to the manufacturer to divide the benefits of protection with his men for thirty years; now let us take the chances of laboringmen being more just and fair in the division in the future than the manufacturer has been in the past.

I am a protectionist of the most pronounced type but I will never vote for an alleged protective party again which does not put direct protection to labor first in its platform and in the law. The practice of talking during a whole campaign about the wonderful benefits of protection to the laboring man, and when elected refusing to put any protection whatever in the law (except incidental protection, which must come through the tender mercies of the employer and tempered by his ability to buy his labor in the cheapest markets of the world.) I am thoroughly disgusted with it as are the great majority of workingmen who have been educated by the venerable Peter Cooper, Henry Cary Baird, and Ben Butler. I prefer an out and out free trader to such continued hypocrisy.

But I did not intend to inflict a letter upon you. I started out to commend the ADVOCATE, and your masterful manner of answering these would-be teachers. Yours to the end in the middle of the road. I. E. DEAN.  
Honoye Falls, N. Y.

Labette County Resolutions.

EDITOR ADVOCATE:—A meeting of the citizens of Fairview and vicinity was held at Fairview schoolhouse on the evening of May 5 for the purpose of discussing the conditions confronting us as a people to the end that we, as neighbors and friends, and as true American citizens, might come to an understanding of our duty as patriotic and loyal citizens. After organizing by electing a president and secretary, the following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, The army of the commonwealth is now in Washington for the declared purpose of personally petitioning congress for relief and for redress of their grievances; and

WHEREAS, The majority of the members of the senate and house of representatives have (as reported by the Associated press) seemed to deny them that right; therefore, be it

Resolved, By the citizens of Fairview and vicinity, that we, as citizens of the United States, would like to know when we surrendered our right as guaranteed by the constitution to peacefully assemble anywhere within the jurisdiction of the United States, and to petition congress for relief.

Resolved, That the conditions of this country at this time warrant and demand the assembling together of just such bodies of citizens as the army of the commonwealth.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting that the tariff is a secondary matter, and that the financial conditions of the country are of the first and greatest importance.

Resolved, That we hereby call upon the members of congress from the state of Kansas to demand that our servants at Washington shall give to General Corey and the army of the commonwealth an honest and respectful hearing, and that they shall then immediately proceed to pass such financial means as will relieve the present stringent condition; and be it

Resolved, further, That we never have and never will surrender to a few plutocrats of the money power the right to peacefully assemble and petition congress for the redress of our grievances.

Resolved, That the secretary be and is hereby instructed to forward one copy of the above resolutions to the Topeka Advocate, and one to our county papers, with the request that they be published.

A. E. MILLER, Secretary.

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