

COWBOYS TOURING COUNTRY.

Making a 20,000 Mile Trip and will Visit Every Capital in the Union.

Four typical cowboys, who are making a 20,000 mile trip on horseback through every state in the Union touching each capital, spent Sunday night here. They left Monday morning for Columbia. The Overland Westerners started from Olympia, Washington, May 1, 1912, and so far have reached fifteen state capitals. They expect to complete their journey by June 1, 1915, at San Francisco, Cal., during the Pan American exposition. The party was composed of O. C. Beck, G. W. Beck, J. B. Ramson and R. G. Rayne. They hope to write a book of their travels, taking pictures as they go, and realize considerable money from the sale of moving picture reels.—Lexington Dispatch.

SUCCEUMS TO PISTOL WOUNDS.

W. C. Mears, of Tarboro, S. C., Dies in Savannah Hospital.

Savannah, July 6.—W. C. Mears, of Tarboro, S. C., died in a local hospital this morning as the result of a pistol duel with William Barnhill, of Tillman, S. C., at Tillman, Saturday evening. The cause of the shooting is not known. Mears is survived by his wife and two sons. His body was sent to Tarboro to-night. Barnhill is in the Tillman jail under arrest.

SPEECH OF HON.

JOHN L. McLAURIN.

(Continued from page 3.)

right and wrong is so finely developed that no other law is needed. If you believe the Bible you are bound to believe that some day the code promulgated in one sentence by the greatest law giver of all times "Love ye one another" will be the one law in the land.

So far every effort has been in the extension of suffrage in the direction of the poor, the ignorant, and often the criminal classes; this has played its part in securing personal liberty. This accepted, the next great step in suffrage will be in the direction of intelligence, purity, and virtue. That is what this great woman suffrage movement means in England. Bad men and impure men could not be elected to office with the ballot in woman's hand. We give a ballot to the most idle vicious negro and the newly landed emigrant, and yet deny the privilege to the highest and finest creation of God, a good woman. The time will come when the ballot will be purified and the criminal and vicious denied; our voting places, where freemen express their will, made as clean and sacred as a temple God, where the gentlest, purest, and best may go without fear of contamination to exercise the highest function of citizenship. It is a shame and a disgrace to Anglo-Saxon manhood that we are forced to say, "No, the polling place is unsafe and unfit and politics so corrupt that it will degrade womanhood to take part." My friends, any business or pleasure that is unfit to share with your wife or your mother will corrupt your manhood and taint your purity.

Problems Yet to Meet.

We have to meet in the near future other great problems. A Democratic administration is now at work trying to undo and straighten out the tangle which comes to us as the financial results of the war. The greed and selfishness in human nature has found ample field for its exercise, and with the control of the volume of money through the national banking system has been developed great trusts; not content with destroying competition but also limiting production to the point of greatest possible profit. Instead of encouraging foreign trade to meet increased production, they raised the tariff duties so high that it has stifled trade. I believe firmly in a home market for home products, but when they raise the price of home articles so high as to enable a domestic manufacturer to go abroad and on the profit he makes here undersell a competitor in that competitor's home market, it is all wrong from the point of morals and business. New markets cannot be developed by such cut-throat methods, and we invite the enmity of all other nations, who will surely find some way to retaliate.

The great need of America, especially the South, is new markets, and these I do not believe will ever come except through reciprocal trade relations. This will mean the creation of new lines of employment, new industries, and channels of trade.

The Labor Question.

There can be no doubt that the immediate effect of this new tariff bill will be to precipitate a great struggle between labor and capital. There is bound to be a radical change in the status of labor. It might as well come now as later. All of the old theories of government treated labor as a commodity, without reference to the individual laborer. This will be changed, because the labor-

er has value and power lying in his ballot, and for the first time in the history of the country it is apparent that the organized labor vote holds the balance of power. The agricultural element is going to stand firm against monopoly, and in the last election these two were a unit. It is an axiom of politics that with two forces nearly evenly divided, a smaller force holding the balance of power can dictate terms.

Samuel Gompers and John Mitchell are very able men but will probably go to their graves unrewarded, because it will take at least a half century to understand what they have done to add to the dignity and importance of labor. They completely exploded the theory that you can treat labor as inseparable from the personality of the laborer. Under the doctrine of equal justice to all they contend that it is the duty of the government to protect labor in its employment, as capital is protected in its employment.

The interest of the laborer and his employer, they contend are reciprocal. Both are interested to bring about one result, the profitable employment of labor to the good of both capital and labor. At any rate, for the first time, chiefly through the efforts of these great leaders of men, labor has a direct representative in the that the time is near at hand when legal arbitration will determine all questions arising between capital and labor, on a basis that is fair to both.

This is the practical beginning of a system of government which will make man a moral as well as intellectual unit; securing freedom and justice by giving to each individual exactly what his brains, energies, and resources entitle him to; making him ashamed to ask for more or give less.

The Farmer.

What I have said about labor applies with even greater force to the farmer. A nation ever draws its truest wisdom from the deep wells of a contented agriculture. Like the laborer, the farmer is delving into the root of things, asking himself the question; "What is the advantage of a government guaranteeing me the possession of my property, when combinations of capital can deprive me of the just profits arising from the use of that property?" The government permits a trust to exist, and in the fall curtail all credit by refusing extensions in order to force my cotton on the market to draw gold from Europe. Is this not conferring upon one class the power, by increasing or decreasing the volume of credit and gold, to fix the price of the product of my labor without regard to the law of supply and demand? This question is pressing for solution in every agricultural state in this Union. The first bill on the subject was from the wheat growers of Minnesota, then our cotton warehouse bill in South Carolina, and a bill more comprehensive and far-reaching in Wisconsin, creating a commission to handle all farm products. When such men as Clarence Poe, of the Progressive Farmer, is devoting his masterly mind and energies of a vigorous manhood to this work something is bound to happen.

Next to God, the farmer stands the only Creator. He takes the elements and makes something here before was nothing. Others grow rich and live in luxury by merely changing the form of what is created by these hard handed sons of toil.

Our cotton crop constitutes a national asset that has been used to make the United States the mistress of the financial world, and yet we who grow it remain comparatively poor. Food products are distributed over the entire world, but the South has a practical monopoly in clothing material. Once we make intelligent use of this power, we will become the richest and most cultured people in the world. It is lying right there awaiting us. I for one do not believe that we can ever secure the unity of action demanded by so large an undertaking except by invoking the powers and functions of government.

The Grange, Alliance and Farmer's Union are movements telling the story of wasted effort in individual co-operation. Is there not necessity? Take 1911 as an example: in October I sold cotton as low as 6½ cents, which I was forced to do in order to meet the expense of making the crop. The balance of my crop I put into a warehouse and the next June sold it at 12½ cents. Now, a pound of cotton in June would make as much cloth as a pound in October. The price of cloth was the same, so there was \$30.00 per bale that somebody made out of my cotton between October and June. There must have been 800,000 bales of cotton sacrificed in that way in South Carolina. Think of it, twenty million dollars clear loss for the farmers of this state. They bore it all, the fertilizer, factory, doctor, lawyer, preacher, and merchant were paid in full.

Take a table of prices for ten years, you will find the average difference between October and May runs about \$15.00 per bale. The losses on any

one of these crops would establish a warehouse system for South Carolina which would render us independent. The warehouse receipts would be a collateral eagerly sought in Europe when the price of our cotton is fixed. All of the money of this country for practical purposes is drained each year into reserve banks of New York. The advance funds for making the crops, and all of the obligations are made to come due in the fall. New York must have our cotton to draw European gold to maintain her supremacy. If the farmers on a large scale undertake to hold, the New York banks call the local bank, it calls the merchant, and he calls the farmer, who can only pay by sacrificing his cotton. This means a twelve months supply thrown on the market in three months, with the price steadily falling. It enables domestic mills to stock up with a supply of cheap cotton and the cotton merchants take the surplus at lowest prices, and in late years with an almost total absence of competitive buying between the domestic and foreign merchants. The lower they can force the price in the fall the more room there is for an advance in that held on storage by these great cotton merchants. When you consider that the funds used in large part for this is money sent by the country banks to New York, as a reserve fund, its full enormity is comprehended. Two-thirds of the reserve funds of the entire country are deposited in New York; it is used as "call money" and loaned to cotton and stock speculators to gamble with. They can create a stringency at any time they please by calling these banks. What everybody should want is stable prices. It is not a question of supply and demand for cotton, but of supply and demand of money, and this is absolutely in the hands of a few men in New York City controlling the Clearing House Association. Cotton is the corner stone of the great structure which they have built up, because it is the one crop that draws gold from Europe. I would like to know why, if we produce the crop, and own the lands and Europe is to be drained of her gold reserves, that there is not sufficient financial wisdom in Congress from the South to utilize a God-given monopoly for the benefit of our own section? Why should all of the bank reserves of the country be concentrated in New York?

Under Wilson's new currency scheme there will be regional reserve banks, and the money from the South Carolina crop will be kept at home. At present in the United States the right to issue money is based upon United States bonds. I understand that this relic of barbarism and heritage of the war, by means of which they have made us pay a heavier war debt than France paid Germany, is to be changed, and that the right to issue money will be based upon the assets of the banks, as it is in Canada, cotton warehouse certificates, under State management. We could finance our cotton with these certificates and pay all of our domestic debts. Then demand from the consumers of cotton a price that would forever put the man with land beyond the reach of the usurer and money shark, both great and small. Land itself is unwieldy and not a good bankable asset, but put the product of that land into a paper that passes from hand to hand as readily as money itself, and you give the land a value hard to estimate. This is nothing more than what other nations are doing. It is to nationalize a great monopoly, as Germany has done the potash industry, and Sweden its iron and steel industries. It is based upon the fundamental principles of justice, and is in accord with the trend of events and the spirit of the times. Minnesota has applied it to wheat, and the governor of Wisconsin is backing a similar bill for all farm products.

The South produces two-thirds of the clothing material of the world; they must have our cotton or go half clothed. Furthermore, the cotton of the South is absolutely necessary to this nation in maintaining its supremacy in finance. Take it away and the balance of trade is against us.

Thirty years ago our railroads and manufacturing industries were practically owned abroad. Since then these securities have been bought and are owned largely by the "Napoleons of Finance" in New York, Boston, and Philadelphia. How have they done it? When silver was demonetized and the balance of trade payable in gold, an annual average of five hundred million dollars was bought in by the cotton crop of the South; through our national banking system this vast sum was controlled in New York. They advanced us paper money, promises to pay, and demanded gold from Europe for cotton. In other words, we made cotton on a paper basis and for thirty years have sold it on a gold basis. That the cotton planter is not bankrupt is only because of the wonderful country in which he lives, his rigid economy and self-denial.

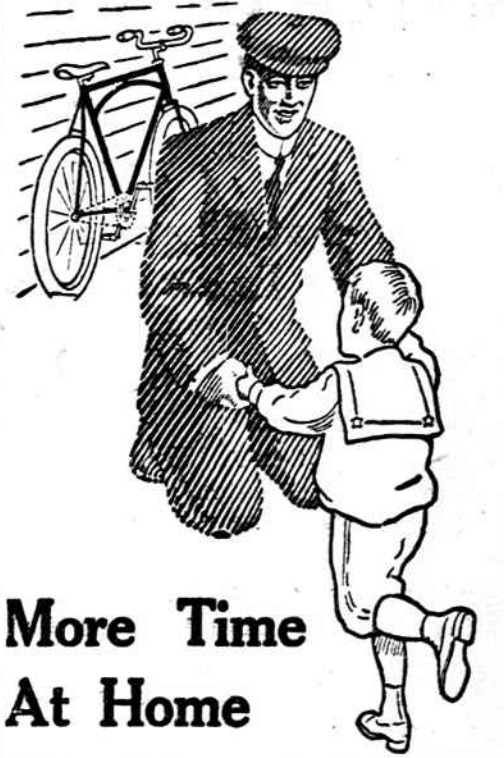
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Scholarships and Entrance Examinations will be held by the County Superintendent of Education on July 11th, at 9 a. m.

NEXT SESSION OPENS SEPTEMBER 10, 1913

Write at Once to W. M. RIGGS, President

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