

The Norfolk News

It appears that the western coast is also "the enemy's country."

Fusionists would be delighted to say that prosperity has gone wrong and have the people believe them.

John R. Hays, republican nominee for congress in the Third district, is gaining in acquaintance and strength each day.

Oregon has been classed as a doubtful state by democratic statisticians. It is doubtful if they will have the presumption to so class it again.

It is a pity democratic editors don't give their readers that news from Oregon. It would relieve that tired feeling with which they have so long been afflicted by the said editors' writings.

The Ainsworth Star Journal says: "Gov. Poynter's pardon of the Brown county murderer July 14th, of last year, an inhuman fiend who should have been hung instead has not been forgotten. It was worse than his cattle thief pardons."

Bryan lately pleaded with the people of Oregon to do the right thing and they did it—by showing the largest republican gain for years. Mr. Bryan's fatality of having places where he speaks show large republican gains will probably pursue him to his political grave.

People of some cities decline to be interviewed by the census enumerator. They are likely, however, to be interviewed by other of Uncle Sam's officers and made to divulge what they know. The man with impertinent questions has the law behind him and it is not wise to say him nay.

Editor Rosewater has decided not to apologize to the Nebraska supreme court. He don't believe in saying he was wrong in his "contempt" deductions when the proceedings of that court support his view. It would appear rather ridiculous, for a fact, but not more so than for the court to enforce its fine of \$500 against the Bee. The court and its attorney general seem to be heartily sorry that they cited a buzz saw for contempt.

At last the state house gang have succeeded in sidetracking Edgar Howard in his ambition to be the fusion candidate for auditor of state, and have thrown him the poor consolation of the nomination for congressman from the First district. Howard is a strong, manly fellow, even if he is a popocrat, and it does seem a sin to put him up for slaughter against Dave Mercer, who is as sure to be elected as the sun is to rise tomorrow morning.

Chaplain Mailey, who went to the Philippines with the First Nebraska regiment and on his return incurred the enmity of the fusionists because he dared support his country on the stump, is again causing them deep distress by appearing with a pro-American lecture illustrated with stereoscopic views. The chaplain is not easily squelched and believes in speaking out his convictions even though they be not to the satisfaction of fusionists who argue from a distance.

The first steps looking to the organization of a national negro party have been taken in Philadelphia and it is probable that another national ticket will be placed in the field. There are now four or five national tickets on the list and perhaps four or five yet to be named. It would seem that the desire of J. Sterling Morton for enough parties from time to choose will this year be realized and the time may come when there will be a party to represent each man's individual opinion, even though he may be the only member.

By the way, what has become of Coin Harvey? This old and valuable democratic sign post of 1896 should not be thrust into innocuous desuetude so far that it cannot be seen. For the sake of old times and the renewing of old memories Mr. Harvey should be allowed to peep out just a little. It is unfair to the people who staked their all on "Coin" in 1896 to have him so completely obliterated from the face of the political map. He was deemed of great value then but his stock has declined, several thousand per cent since.

The farmers in Kansas are offering \$3 a day for hands to help them harvest their grain, and some of the railroads have opened employment bureaus in an effort to secure the men needed—another trick of Mark Hanna's. He made the men so scarce that farmers could not harvest all the grain and may lose a portion of it, thus raising the price. This is saying nothing about his meanness in squeezing \$3 per day out of the poor farmer to pay a man for his labor. The machinations of that man are awful—they are positively sickening!

There are shrewd and daring swindlers in New York but the Italian bunco man who sold a fellow countryman, just arrived, the New York end of the Brooklyn bridge for \$500 is entitled to the bakery. He told his new found acquaintance that Mayor Van Wyck owned the other end and between them they would harvest a fortune. Another use of similar character was where an

Italian sold a third interest in the zoological gardens for \$500. This same fellow sold a countryman some of the furniture in the court house telling him it was a hotel and appointing him chief for a consideration.

An Aguinaldoite or some other foreigner or foreign sympathizer got in front of a Memorial Day procession at Salix, Iowa, and shouted "To hell with America!" The man with a traitorous tongue, who is a station agent for the Sioux City and Pacific railway, was caught later, led to a public square, made to apologize and kiss the stars and stripes, a course of treatment that was heartily in accordance with the wishes of those taking part in the exercises. The fellow has to learn that like sentiment as expressed in congress may be endured but the people will not submit to it at home, especially on an occasion like Memorial Day.

The Omaha Daily News says: "The spectacle of Dick Croker, Dave Hill and Bill Bryan reciting in concert, 'I am a democrat,' is worth the price of admission." And if anything more be needed to make the situation ludicrous Charlie Towne, the only genuine Abraham Lincoln republican, might be added. The supreme effort of democracy this year seems to be to represent all factions, parties and people and the consequence will be it will represent none. If people want a nondescript conglomerate of nothing to tie to they can find it in the democratic party as it is now organizing. Those who can deny that office greed is the one and only controlling feature are deserving of a leather medal for their reckless ignoring of facts.

Under flaming headlines the fusion papers announce that such and such a state is "for Bryan" with as much display of enthusiasm as though it were a complete surprise when it has been conceded for months that he would be the nominee of the Kansas City convention. But, after all, the statements in the headlines should be qualified. When the dispatches announced that a certain state is "for Bryan" they mean that the democratic convention of that particular state has declared for him; and it is in no wise speaking for the people of that state, who will say in November how they stand regarding the "free silver apostle" who has been compelled to hide his free silver principle in order to secure the acquiescence of eastern gold democrats.

The State Journal turns neatly on the fusion press when it states that Neely, Rathbone and Thomas probably felt it incumbent upon them to feather their nests out of the Cuban postal funds inasmuch as such papers had repeatedly asserted that the "pro council" system of the time of Rome was to prevail in this nation's conduct toward its dependencies and they may have believed that they would be considered little less than fools if they didn't improve their opportunities, as from reading these sheets, the people evidently expected they should. They have discovered, in spite of fusion assertions, that Cuba is not to be conducted in the "pro council" system by the party in power and may feel justly aggrieved by the assertions made that this was their glittering opportunity.

The fusionists claim that Bryan is a man of pronounced convictions which he expresses fearlessly. Either the one statement or the other must be untrue. The Sioux Falls convention recently took action that vitally concerned Mr. Bryan's political welfare, but either he had no convictions regarding the action taken or he was afraid to express himself. Few will believe that he formed no opinion, but many will believe that he feared to state them because he might lose some support and he desired the assurance of the Kansas City nomination before committing himself in regard to the action of the populists at Sioux Falls. If Mr. Bryan is entirely fearless he should have stated his opinion on this question as readily as he has on others, even though it lost him a nomination and election.

Mr. Bryan is certainly up against it for a campaign issue. The east wants him to ring off on his free silver issue; the west and south want none of his anti expansion arguments; the laborers haven't time to listen to any "cross of gold, crown of thorns" argument; farmers place no faith in the parity of wheat and silver; it makes capitalists very tired of being called usurers and extortioners when their rates of interest have declined 25 or 50 per cent and the people at large are not ready to pass up what they know to be a good thing for a promise that stands 99 chances to one of proving a chimera. Perhaps Mr. Bryan might pick up an appreciative audience among Aguinaldo's followers if he can find them, but the experiment might be dangerous, owing to the fact that they have many and savage enemies among their own countrymen who do not hesitate to kill.

It is admitted that republicans made something of a mistake in claiming a few years ago that under populist rule the people of Nebraska could enjoy no prosperity. It is enjoying prosperity and has enjoyed prosperity and it is conclusively established that all the pop, demo-pops and pop-pops in Christendom

couldn't help the McKinley prosperity wave, which has swept over the country, from slipping over into this state. Nebraska has been prosperous under "reform" management—will the reformers admit that the country has enjoyed prosperity under McKinley? Surely they won't claim that the prosperity in other states is due to the populist administration in Nebraska! How much greater the prosperity of this commonwealth would have been with the state administration in hearty political sympathy with the balance of the country cannot be computed, but it would probably have been fully as good as under "reform."

The populists and democrats of Pierce county appear to be deserting the "reform" ship of state in alarming numbers. Recently C. C. Wilson of that county, who has been identified with the populist party since its inception, came out with a long letter renouncing and announcing his intention of affiliating with the old tried republican party and supporting Wm. McKinley, "the greatest man of the nation today." Albert Mass, a prosperous German farmer of the same county, recently said: "Well, I roasted an ox when Cleveland was elected, but I don't think I will do it again. McKinley is good enough for me and I guess I'll vote for him. The German farmers have gone through the hard times of 1892-96 and don't want any more of them. The bugaboo of imperialism and trusts won't turn them either." These are but two public expressions of the change that is going on, and the more unbecoming and demagogic the fusionists endeavor to inject into the campaign the more changes there will be, not only in Pierce, but every other county in the state.

The fusionists want the people of this country to make an especial study of every question but that which vitally concerns them. If an American says he is employed at good wages they say look at the Boer-England situation. If a farmer says he has good crops and is getting satisfactory prices, they direct his attention to the Porto Rican tariff and the Cuban frauds. If a man says he is happy they question his sanity and tell him of the Aguinaldoites who are prevented by the American soldier boys from stealing and murdering in their own sweet way. The great horrors of the McKinley administration are always just over the line where a voter cannot personally investigate and must depend on the stories of the antis for inspiration. They make no fight against the things that the voter can realize from personal contact. They ignore his condition and make their capital from distant subjects. It is safe to predict that if a campaign were to be waged in Cuba, Porto Rico or the Philippines these smooth dissemblers would direct attention to the horrible condition of the people of this country. Their appeal is to prejudice not to sense.

The democrats are savage in their denunciation of McKinley and his administration, but they do not point out wherein Bryanism would be better. They indicate supposed evils, but are all-fired slow in suggesting a remedy. McKinleyism has a four years record on which to stand and it would be surprising indeed if there are no faults to be found or flaws to be picked. Almost any citizen can discover something which would have better pleased him had it been different. But what is there to Bryanism? Nothing but the man and his mouth, and criticism of these could well be termed personal. Look for the Bryan of 1892 with his free trade issue, and in 1896 you find him absorbed by the free silver. Bryan denouncing the "crime of '73" and talking night and day for the "free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 without the aid or consent of any nation on earth." Look for Bryan in 1890 and you will find neither of these, but a man who will be singing a gloomy song about trusts, militarism, expansion and other topics with which he hopes to frighten the people. If Mr. Bryan is a man of pronounced convictions and deep seated principles, as his adherents claim, how do they account for this kaleidoscope of changes? Where is his record that the people may have something beside assurances and promises to guide them? All the faults of the McKinley administration are overshadowed by acts that have resulted in the betterment of the people, financially, morally and socially. It is a record of promises fulfilled, of prosperity, of happiness and of advancement. Who would trade a certainty for a chimera? Who wants to sacrifice a well defined prosperity for a chance?

The Madison Chronicle, published last week, says that J. B. Simpson, the state examiner of county treasurers' books, who has recently completed an examination of the records of the Madison county treasurer's office, finds some irregularities on the books of Ex-Treasurer Wilde for the years 1898 and 1899. It is claimed by the Chronicle that Mr. Wilde took a semi-annual commission, whereas he is allowed an annual percentage on the first \$3,000 of 10 per cent and four per cent on the next \$2,000 collected, and two per cent on the remainder. It is also claimed that the semi-annual method resulted in increasing the fees of his office some \$500 more than the law contemplates. The irreg-

ularity charged is not a matter for the state to adjudicate and will be referred to the county commissioners. The state moneys were all correctly accounted for. The insinuation that Mr. Wilde did this knowingly to make sure of \$2,000 salary and leave a balance for clerk hire is not believed by his friends and they will await the action of the commissioners before denouncing him. In another column of this issue Mr. Wilde presents facts gleaned from his fee book which, while acknowledging a technical irregularity, states that the county was not the loser of a cent by the transaction, and his many Norfolk friends will believe that his statements are true until proven otherwise. Mr. Wilde is entitled to a fair treatment as a man and citizen. A man's character, whether he be democrat or republican, is his choicest heritage and THE NEWS does not believe in assailing it unless supported by indisputable evidence. Justice in court means that a man must be given all the benefit of every doubt and justice in every day life should mean fully as much.

The fake advertising schemer is having a good deal of trouble in the west these days. The time was in the west when the snap advertising fakir had everything his own way. Last week the people of Marysville, Mo., in mass meeting decided to discourage the fake advertising man in every possible way. The merchants no longer patronize the bill board fiend, the cross road poster nor the man who paints signs on farmers' fences. They will confine their efforts wholly to the newspapers. This is a move in the right direction and will result in a big saving of money to the merchants of that part of the state. Other merchants throughout the country might profit by this very thing. An Omaha man, manager for a big department store, boasts that he saved his employer \$5,000 last year by cutting off the fake advertisers who had been getting the firm's money without any return other than a little bold "scheming." The merchant who spends a part of his receipts annually for advertising purposes will make no mistake if the money is spent with legitimate newspaper publishers. If the retailer wants to reach his customers, let him advertise in his home daily or weekly. Common sense ought to teach the retailer this much. These institutions are reliable, they reach the reading public of the section where they are printed and some attention is paid to what the paper contains. The reverse is true of hotel register, fence post bills and that sort of foolishness. If the jobber wants to reach the retailer he should advertise in those journals that go to the retailer. If the manufacturer wants to reach the jobber he must seek the channel that is patronized by the jobber. In the language of the street, you must know a man's runway before you can locate him." That is the thing.—Omaha Trade Exhibit.

The Wool Country Hostile. "Mr. Bryan was in the land of his enemies when he boarded the Santa Fe train at Winslow," said M. W. Hunt, a Denver Republican reporter. "The people on the train were mostly republicans, and the country he was traveling through was, because of recent prosperity, inclined to be hostile. But he had some friends who were anxious to hear him speak, for when he drew into the little station of Gallup, N. M., there was quite a crowd collected to welcome the silver champion. "In response to their urgent invitation he stepped out upon the back platform and delivered one of his typical speeches. The people applauded and when the noise subsided the mayor of the town climbed up to the speaker and presented him with a large Navajo blanket, neatly done up in a parcel, saying that it was the work of an Indian squaw of the city who admired Mr. Bryan. "The train drew out, and Mr. Bryan deposited his gift upon a seat, going into the smoking-room. On returning he spread out his present, for a better view, and as he did so, a piece of paper pinned on the inside came in view. This was what he read: "My Dear Mr. Bryan: Under the republican administration the wool in this blanket sells for 22 cents a pound. Under the democratic administration it sold for 6 cents. Please tell that to your constituents."

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THE NEWS' job department is complete in every particular.

Croker's Love for Bryan. The Tammany forces are smooth people and if the Bryan forces think that by their endorsement they have made a valuable acquisition they are very apt to discover their folly. Tammany evidently desires the good will of western democrats for their use in the next campaign and in order to secure it have apparently dropped in to the support of Bryan, heart and soul. The Omaha Daily News, which, while professing independence in politics, has a pronounced democratic leaning, reviews the situation as follows: "I am for W. J. Bryan, heart and soul," says Richard Croker, ruler of Tammany. It is significant that this declaration, which is apparently frank enough, should have come from the famous—or infamous—chief, so long after Dewey announced himself as a candidate of the democratic persuasion. It makes nothing seem so likely as that Croker was waiting and watching to see what he might see. When Dewey launched himself in so singular a fashion, politicians were at sea. Not even Croker himself knew what to think. He knew this much, however, that he was unwilling to endorse Bryan while there was another possibility in the field so he waited and watched.

"But Dewey, the candidate, did not last very long, and Croker was thrown back upon Bryan. It is inconceivable that Bryan and all that he stands for is wholly acceptable to Croker, or that Tammany sincerely desires Bryan's success. Croker's manifestation of good will toward the other half of the party is undoubtedly dictated by self-interest. No matter how the election goes, it will serve Tammany best. If Bryan should be elected, Tammany can claim a share of the credit for having produced that result. When Bryan is defeated, as Croker expects, Croker can say: 'This is what we expected, but we gave in then and did what we could to help you. In the future you and your western constituency will please pay more attention to the only real boss.'

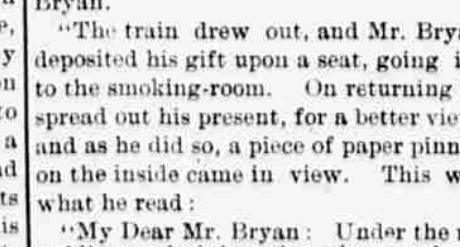
"Croker doubtless looks upon the idea of November as heralding the dawn of a brighter day for the democracy of the east."

State Militia. Governor Poynter, if he be true to the teachings of populism, will soon order out the state militia to expel banks, bankers, and money in corporate form everywhere, from the state of Nebraska. Country banks here in Otoe county with only ten thousand dollars capital have deposits of over a hundred thousand dollars. And in Nebraska City are more than a million of dollars constantly on deposit in four banks. There is danger from this money power, and Governor Poynter knows it, which is a menace to humanity. That is, there is peril to the plain people in this plutocratic trend, or the doctrines of populism are false. Call out the militia! Issue a proclamation against corporate capital in Nebraska and banish it from the commonwealth or admit that the teachings of Bryanarchy are demagogic and false in each and every particular! Praise poverty! Damn thrift! Land adversity! Denounce prosperity in Nebraska!—The Conservative.

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