

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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Subscribed in Advance, GEORGE R. TRENKLE, Secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha, Neb., before me this 21st day of August, A. D. 1900. M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

President McKinley's formal letter of acceptance is a lengthy document, but every line of it is worth reading.

The census office has not yet announced the official figures for South Omaha, but when they come they will be record breakers.

If the Chinese desire for peace is to be measured by the number of men the emperor has authorized to negotiate for it, he must certainly be in earnest.

For a man whose sole anxiety during the present campaign is for others, Senator Pettigrew is turning many sharp corners to further his own return to the United States senate.

All Christendom will be shocked at the news of the terrible loss of life inflicted by the disastrous storm on the gulf. Such an appalling catastrophe is seldom recorded in history.

If Attorney General Smyth would only hand those trust cases over to his deputy to turn some of his Missouri grammar loose on the octopi they would come down after the first round.

Omaha welcomes new church edifices as evidences of prosperous church organizations. Every church is a constant and active factor for the upbuilding and improvement of the community.

The present warm weather is bringing along Nebraska's bumper corn crop at a rapid rate. The present week will see practically all of it beyond danger from frost. Then, goodbye, to calamity.

Council Bluffs is feeling quite well over the result of the census. When South Omaha comes up with its showing Omaha will be ready to rejoice with its neighbors, even if its own census cup is not filled to overflowing.

Democracy can now complete making up its campaign issues. It always opposes everything the republican party advocates and the letter of President McKinley leaves no doubt as to where the republican party stands in the present campaign.

Figures compiled for railroad construction in Iowa during the past year exhibit more new mileage than has been shown for more than a decade. The railroads were not building new lines when Bryanism started them in the face four years ago.

The farmers throughout Douglas county are eager for the proposed suburban electric roads. A complete system of rapid electric transit radiating from Omaha would increase the value of every acre of land thus made more accessible to the market.

German-Americans in Omaha are not stampeded by the militaristic bogey. They know there is no danger in this country of anything in the nature of military impressment in time of peace whether we keep the Philippines or turn them back to semi-barbarism.

Popocratic organs complain that republican papers do not take space to deny all the wild stories which have their origin in democratic nightmares. There is no necessity of denial—the stories are most of them so improbable that they carry their own denial with them.

Telegraph lines from the front in China are said to be five days behind with official business and little or no chance of handling press news at all. But the correspondents at Shanghai are still in connection with the outside world and able to supply any deficiency from other sources.

The general verdict is that there is not a weak man on the republican legislative ticket and that it deserves unqualified support not only from loyal republicans, but from every citizen who wants the interests of the community subserved rather than the private interests of outside schemers.

McKINLEY'S ACCEPTANCE.

President McKinley's letter of acceptance must impress the intelligent and sober-minded judgment of the American people as a candid, straightforward and masterful presentation of the issues of the campaign. It is an appeal to the integrity, the patriotism and the honor of the nation which every citizen should carefully consider. There is not a sentence in it that is not marked by that fairness and frankness for which its author is distinguished. From beginning to end it is outspoken, candid and unequivocal, stating the attitude of the republican party clearly and without ambiguity. It contains no excuses or apologies for the course of the administration, but with absolute adherence to the facts and undeviating observance of historical events, shows how the policy of the government has been justified and vindicated.

Mr. McKinley very properly places in the forefront of the questions that should command the attention of the American people that of upholding the monetary standard of the nation. He points out that while the opposition to the republican party undertakes to make a "paramount" issue of so-called imperialism, it still advocates the debasement of the currency and that that is really the immediate question of interest to our people. The absolutely correct idea of Mr. McKinley is that the very first concern of our people is in regard to the character of the financial policy of the future rather than what shall be the policy respecting the new possessions. He recognizes the fact, which ought to be plain to everybody, that the attitude of the popocratic party forces a repetition of the battle of four years ago for the maintenance of the gold standard of value and while regretting the reopening of this question, deliberately made by the Kansas City convention under the autocratic dictation of Mr. Bryan, Mr. McKinley says that "we accept the issue and again invite the sound money forces to join in winning another and we hope a permanent triumph for an honest financial system which will continue inviolable the public faith." In placing the question of a sound currency before every other issue, Mr. McKinley is in view that which is the very lifeblood of national life, progress and prosperity. He takes into consideration the very first requirement to the welfare of our people and the promotion of their interests. As one of the family of the great commercial nations of the world there is nothing more essential to the maintenance of the credit, the power and the material advancement of the United States than that it should have a monetary system in accord with that of the other civilized nations.

As Mr. McKinley points out all the perils involved in the Chicago platform are just as great and serious today as they were four years ago. Indeed the deliberate reaffirmation of that platform gives added force to the perils of its declarations. Can any national man doubt this? The democratic party has refused to recede from a single one of the reactionary and revolutionary doctrines enunciated in 1896. It stands for them now as fully as it did four years ago. If it was wrong then it must necessarily be wrong today. There is not a policy or principle declared by the Chicago platform that the Bryanite party is not now insisting upon as being irrevocably right. Every heresy, every dangerous doctrine, every revolutionary principle contained in that platform and which was repudiated by the American people four years ago is still avowed by the democratic party and that party is fully and unalterably committed, if given the power, to put those policies and principles into effect. Bryanism means now all that it meant in 1896, with the addition of a declared purpose to strike at the integrity and the honor of the nation in respect to its foreign policy. It would not only inflict inestimable damage upon us at home, but would also bring upon us the reproach and contempt of the civilized world.

In regard to alleged "imperialism" Mr. McKinley shows how absolutely groundless the charge is. He states the historical facts regarding the occupation of the Philippines—facts substantiated by indisputable official documents—and most convincingly and conclusively demonstrates that the course of the government was absolutely necessary, proper and just. It seems impossible that any fair-minded and unprejudiced man can read the statement of the president in this matter without admitting that his presentation of the matter is a complete refutation of the allegations of the opponents of the administration and a full justification of the course of the government. The legislation in regard to Porto Rico is ably defended and the course pursued respecting Cuba is shown to have been in strict accord with the pledge of the government.

Mr. McKinley's letter leaves no doubt regarding the attitude of the administration toward the trusts. He declares that "combinations of capital which control the market in commodities necessary to the general use of the people by suppressing natural and ordinary competition, thus enhancing prices to the general consumer, are obnoxious to the common law and the public welfare. They are dangerous conspiracies against the public good and should be made the subject of prohibitory or penal legislation." He does not indulge in vague theories as to how this evil should be controlled or repressed, but very properly leaves this question to the determination of the representatives of the people in congress.

President McKinley says, what every sane man should understand, that imperialism has no place in the creed or conduct of the administration. "Freedom," he declares, "is a rock upon which the republican party was built and now rests. Liberty is the great republican doctrine for which the people went to war and for which a million lives were offered and billions of dollars expended to make it a lawful legacy of all without the consent of master or slave." That voices the sentiment of all republicans and of every citizen who is not utterly blinded by partisanship. Mr. McKinley's letter completely sweeps away the "paramount issue" of Bryanism.

ORGANIZED LABOR IN POLITICS.

One of the first principles of every trades union is that the organization is not to be used in politics for or against any political party. Every labor organization is composed of members of all political creeds, who, so far as the rules of their unions are concerned, are free to exert their political activity, as partisans, as they may choose. The attempt of any member or members of labor organizations to set themselves up as representing union labor and dictating nominations to any political convention is therefore a contravention of the principles upon which trades unions are founded.

When Asa Taylor, president of the Central Labor union and an adherent of the party which has nominated Debs for the presidency, appeared in the republican county convention to present demands of a self-constituted committee usurping the name of union labor, he had no right to a hearing, and in being heard was accorded a privilege never before granted by any party convention.

Instead of turning down union labor in refusing to allow members of the Debs party to name republican candidates, the republican convention gave greater recognition to organized labor and to wage-workers who really work than has ever before been accorded. Nearly every man on the republican legislative ticket has made his way in life by actual toil while one of the candidates nominated for the house was the predecessor of Mr. Taylor as president of the Central Labor union, and as a representative of organized labor on the board of directors of the Transmississippi Exposition stood up for union labor from start to finish. He is at present a member of the Central Labor union and of his own trades union. Several other nominees belong to labor organizations and can present credentials attesting their good standing, while still others have shown their substantial friendship for the wage-worker as large employers of labor and in active assistance to laboring men.

True, none of the labor agitators who have ceased working at their trades to make a living out of professional politics have found places on the republican ticket, but this will be no drawback in the eyes of the rank and file of organized labor. The trades unionist knows his real friends from his pretended friends and will not be fooled by the hue and cry raised against the republican ticket by the Debsite, Asa Taylor, and others who never had anything in common with the republican party.

Omaha is competing for the location of the next annual convention of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen. The Bee has been urging our commercial bodies to spread their nets for a few of these national gatherings which could easily be brought to Omaha with proper effort. Omaha made a reputation as a convention city during the exposition and that reputation should go far in making its invitations effective.

The Philippines commission intends to appropriate \$2,000,000 for the construction of roads and bridges in the islands as the first step in the regeneration of the Philippines, which will be an object lesson counting more than words and promises toward showing the people that the United States proposes to do all it can to make the islands and people prosperous.

The democratic press is demanding that Roosevelt apologize for some of his campaign utterances. It is too bad the governor, in the interest of truth, has been compelled to say some things distasteful to democracy, but if democracy does not wish to have its shortcomings paraded before the public it should keep out of politics and remain a private citizen.

Omaha's schools will open shortly with the advantage of several new buildings to accommodate the lower grades, but the High school will still be sorely pressed for commodious facilities. It is certainly to be hoped that not more than another year will have to pass with the High school pupils in present cramped and dangerous quarters.

Congressman Stark's effort to secure a favorable ruling on the revenue law for his insurance company by starting the story that the fraternal organizations were also to be taxed did not pan out. The fraternalists were speedily shown that no ruling which affected them injuriously had been made or was contemplated.

A Terrible Charge. Washington Star. It appears that in addition to its other offenses China must answer for having spread the contagion of barbarism in war through the European tropics.

Two States Out of the Fight. Kansas City Star. It is understood that Mr. Bryan has relinquished all hope of carrying Vermont in November and that no republican campaign speakers will be wasted on Arkansas.

A Terrible Imposition. Chicago Post. That was a terrible imposition that was practiced on Bryan in West Virginia, wasn't it? The railroad company insisted that he should pay fare just like an ordinary mortal. Oh, these grinding monopolies!

Indifference of Bryan's Crowds. Washington Post. The experience of Mr. Bryan has convinced him that people will flock to the railway station to hear a man talk from the rear platform of a Pullman car and then go to the ballot box and vote for the other fellow.

Hypocrites Revealed. Springfield Republican. The British government's act in formally annexing the South American republic to the British empire reveals the hypocrisy of the claim advanced before the war that the Transvaal was already a part of or a vassal of the empire.

Prosperity on the Farm. Minneapolis Journal. Colonel Bryan is in the east busily at work persuading the farmer that he is having hard times. Shakes! What's the use of talking that way to a man with a bank account, a pasture full of fat cattle and two or three acres of land with a fancy printing known as government bonds.

Some Trouble Left.

Chicago News. Lord Roberts' latest telegram from Belfast says: "Butler's engagement of the enemy's left this morning. Hamilton is endeavoring to turn the enemy's right." And yet a few days before the Transvaal was formally annexed to Great Britain. If Field Marshal Roberts is not careful, he may leave a "some trouble left" after the manner of the third high admiral of the "queen's navy."

Measure of Republican Prosperity.

San Francisco Call. Since Grover Cleveland went out of office the wages of bricklayers and stone-masons in this country have advanced 20 per cent; boiler-makers, 25 per cent; carpenters, 15 per cent; electrical workers, 25 per cent; machinists, 40 per cent; printers, 30 per cent; railroad laborers, 30 per cent; woodworkers, 15 per cent. This is the prosperity the republican policy of protection has brought to the American wage-earner.

CARRYING COALS TO NEWCASTLE.

Newport News and Norfolk. Now the old proverbial symbol for foolish surplussage is about to be upset. We are told that the coal trade in England is in a bad way. The supply on which the proverb was based, and which was supposed to be inexhaustible, is now not more than sufficient for the needs of England. Not long ago four ships were chartered to carry coals to Newcastle.

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Chicago Journal (ind.). It is probable that the republicans will get the greatest blessing out of the returns from Vermont. The fact that the silver scarecrow is of no account may stir the party at large into aggressiveness and cause it to wage a spirited campaign against the live democratic propositions.

Cleveland Plain Dealer (dem.). Take it all together, there is nothing for either side to crow much over, and the post-election position is the same as the ante-election statement—that little significance can be given the Vermont election as an indication of the set of the popular tide. Perhaps the Maine election next Monday will have more value as a political "straw" for both sides have been working hard to that state to get out the full vote.

Detroit Free Press (ind.). Although the reliability of any single state as a political barometer is open to question, there is no reason why the republicans need feel downcast or disheartened over the returns from Vermont. The increase of 13 per cent in the democratic vote this year goes to show that the party is pulling itself together again; but the returns carry no promise of a general democratic success this fall, unless the republican managers are to be granted that Mr. McKinley is a man of destiny who cannot be defeated.

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EXPANSION IN THE SOUTH.

A Great Deal of It, but It Will Not Prevent Democratic Solidity. Philadelphia Record (ind. dem.). The south will, no doubt, vote solidly for the democratic nominee, but the evidence multiplies that a large number—possibly a majority—of southern men by no means in sympathy with Mr. Bryan on what in other sections are regarded as the leading issues of the day. Many of the democratic leaders of the south are evidently out of joint with the present policies of the party of their choice. Many southerners are no less enthusiastic for expansion than for the gold standard.

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Southern newspaper men by the dozen make no secret of their expansion leanings, thus indicating the unmistakable popularity of the sentiment. This is especially noticeable in Tennessee—the Nashville Banner, the Memphis Scimitar, the Nashville Banner, the Chattanooga Times, the Memphis Commercial-Appeal, and, in fact, about all the leading papers of that state being openly expansionistic.

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Prosperity Argument

Washington Post.

Mr. Bryan essayed a stupendous task in his effort to prove that the all-pervading prosperity in which every class of citizens is sharing is a sham. It is never advisable for a public man to butt his head against a solid wall of notorious and indisputable facts. The statistics of the nation's and the people's finances show, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that there has been an immense and entirely unexampled progress since 1896. The fact that such statistics prove Mr. Bryan to have been laboring under a delusion when he was going up and down across the country foretelling awful disasters in case of his defeat is not a good and sufficient reason why he should treat them with contempt. The lessons of experience should be profitably utilized.

The immense gain in our export trade, the large increase in wages, the addition of one to two millions of workers to the active lists of our industries, the substantial prosperity of the farmers, the abundance of capital, the transfer of the world's monetary center from London to New York—all these are facts that should not be ignored and which should be a cause of congratulation and patriotic pride to Mr. Bryan, even though their coming discredits his 1896 forecast.

In one or more of his recent speeches Mr. Bryan has said to the wage-workers: "I want you to take the cost of what you buy as a laboring man and measure it against your wages and see if the 'trusts' have raised the price of what you buy more than they have your wages."

That was a risky challenge, for the facts were and are at hand to prove that the workmen have been prosperous since 1896. The returns from New York State show that the workmen in 1894, measuring the cost of what they bought against their wages, earned so much less than they had to spend to keep from going hungry that they ate up not only all their wage earnings, but more

are not required to pay duty. Thus are home industries fostered and protected for the benefit of the people.

General Wheeler's book on Guam is beautifully illustrated with reproductions of photographs taken by a correspondent who happened to accompany him. One of them shows the solitary figure of the little general in the midst of a jungle which would do honor to Darkest Africa. Another is labeled "Dance of the Caroline Islanders" (the latter being one of the tribes inhabiting the islands). It is a view of twenty dark-skinned women with pleasant expressions on their faces and beads about their necks. The climate in Guam is so warm that much clothing is a superfluity.

OF VERY COMMON CLAY.

Bryan's Topicality Act Analyzed and Compressed. Detroit Free Press (ind. dem.). During time past contention has been made by the close admirers of Mr. Bryan that he breathed an air higher and purer than the miasmatic atmosphere of practical politics. Earlier in his career as a national figure they could afford to be optimistic and noble aspirations, so far as could be gathered from superficial indications.

But there is painful testimony to the fact that he has been corrupted by evil—or at least political-associations. Unless placed beyond belief he has admitted and labeled himself in close communion with Tammany, seeking as it does a wide-open city, the right to blackmail the beneficiaries of such a system, the right to conduct prize fights, the right to establish one of the most wicked and obnoxious trusts ever conceived, the right, in short, to rule without let or hindrance the metropolis of the nation. This may involve a compact with the quiet boss of the Empire republicans, but we are discussing Mr. Bryan.

It certainly means a coalition for the unseating of David B. Hill, though the ovation given him in the Kansas City convention should serve as a warning against such an unnatural combine for his overthrow. The heights and depths of his offending are found in the fact that he wants a clean, upright and dignified advocacy of democracy.

Mr. Bryan, as a sop for the populist vote, insisted upon an insertion of the 16th plank in the Kansas City platform. He has nothing to show for his defense or advocacy in his fractional speech of acceptance, the remainder of which he has forgotten or neglected. He has religiously avoided the subject while speaking in the states committed to honest money. Even the ubiquitous interviewer has failed to extract his views.

But down in West Virginia it is different. His financial views there were adopted to his sympathetic audiences. It is plain to ordinary intelligence and common honesty that he begged the question, perverted the facts and drew satisfactory conclusions from distorted premises, but this only emphasizes the fact that he has become the practical politician. He can blow hot and cold and pray "Good Lord" and "Good Devil" with the best of them.

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