

POINTS IN POLITICS.

If Lancaster county candidates are distinguished for one thing more than another, it is for their disposition to go in and make a hot fight and then suddenly withdraw and write a letter. Following close upon the heels of Judge Field's letter announcing his withdrawal as a candidate for congress, came the announcement of Mr. I. M. Raymond to the effect that he would no longer permit his name to be used as a candidate for the republican nomination for governor. Mr. Raymond's declination simplifies matters somewhat, and the much talked of contest between Raymond and Moore for the county delegation is off. Mr. Hamilton and other candidates are making a vigorous effort within the county, and whether Mr. Moore for lieutenant governor will have the support of the county in the state convention to do with it what he pleases, or whether there will be a show all around for the four or five other candidates, remains to be seen. W. S. Hamilton has surprised some people by the vigor of his candidacy for attorney general. He seems to be working with a determination to succeed. Mr. Austin's friends are getting closer together and he continues to develop new strength in the county and out in the state.

Raymond's withdrawal will add to the strength of Tom Majors as a candidate for governor, and the latter gentleman's friends in this county are very enthusiastic in his support; but at the present writing Jack McColl undoubtedly is in the lead. There are more McColl men than there are Majors men, and somehow they seem to be making even more than a proportionate share of the noise. It is confidently predicted that McColl will be nominated, although it can be said with equal truth that there are many predictions that Tom Majors will be the man. A. E. Cady, of St. Paul, will go to the state convention with Howard county at his back, and he may play the role to which Mr. Raymond aspired: to-wit,—that of a compromise candidate. Should the contest between Majors and McColl be very long or wax very bitter there may be a movement in the direction of Cady or some other third man.

The young men dominated the republican state league convention this week. They elected F. W. Collins of this city president, and H. M. Waring of Omaha, secretary. Mr. Collins was easily a favorite for the presidency and he got there without and trouble. The speech that Collins delivered accepting the presidency was unlike any political speech that has been heard in Nebraska for years. It was a symphony of thought and sound epigrams and alliteration rolled from his lips with remarkable ease. His speech was composed entirely of short, crisp, and pungent sentences. It sparkled with bright and telling sayings.

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SOME OPINIONS AND IDEAS.

The Nebraska free silver democrats are preparing for war on Cleveland and Morton who have treated Bryan as a dog. On June 21 there will be a meeting of the Bryan democrats from all over the state at Omaha. As long as these men remain in the party dominated by trusts their efforts to secure the establishment of Jeffersonian principles will be a mockery. Let them throw off party manacles and be free and untrammled—Clay Co. Progress

The *World Herald*, which has been cuckoo and populist by turns, and now poses as the personal organ of Representative Bryan and Senator Allen, says that the people of Nebraska will be rejoiced over the defeat of the bounty act. But the present position of the W.-H. is not to be wondered at. It changes its attitude on public questions as often as it changes its politics.—Norfolk News.

Two weeks more and the Great Bryan circus opens in Omaha, with music furnished by the Pop orchestra. Morton democrats who obtain admission will be obliged to crawl under the canvas.—Norfolk News.

(From the North Bend *Republican*.)

Every time Thurston is mentioned for senator somebody howls "corporation attorney." If Thurston's brains and ability are worth \$12,000 a year to a corporation they are certainly worth half that much to the great state of Nebraska.

Lost, a gubernatorial boom which was born the day Nebraska was admitted into the union. Finder will be suitably rewarded by returning to W. J. Brotch, Omaha, Nebraska.

If the combatants are the same this year as they were last in the Fourth congressional district, Hainer will be on Dech at the close of the polls on election day.

The indications point to a violent windstorm in northwest Missouri on July 4. Bill Greene is going down there and shoot off his mouth.

If free silver was an accomplished fact half of the supporters of the idea would be too lazy to pick it up.

It is in the air. Jack MacColl will be nominated at the Omaha convention on the first ballot.

There has been a good deal of speculation as to whether Representative Bryan has really made up his mind to leave the democratic party and join the populists. Everybody is guessing at the riddle but the sphinx declines to state positively. The pop masses would be pleased to have him unqualifiedly espouse their cause, though the ambitious fellows who are in that party for the offices would really prefer he should keep out of it.

Mr. Bryan has a private secretary in the person of C. W. Sherman, editor of the *Plattsmouth Journal*. Mr. Sherman may be regarded as speaking with a full knowledge of the situation with reference to Bryan's position. In a letter to his paper from Washington Mr. Sherman writes:

"Plainly, therefore, the wish is father to the thought in Mr. Annin's very vivid imagination. So he is likewise mistaken in his statement that Mr. B. contemplates joining the populists. Whenever the populists adopt a platform consistent with the democratic platform, as he has defined it, there may be a chance to get him to stand on it and not till then.

Mayor Weir, of Lincoln, is struggling hard to keep himself in good repute with the populists, with a view to becoming a candidate for governor and leading their hosts. He has established a literary bureau and is stuffing all the papers with open letters. The *Wealth Makers* contains an elaborate one from his facile pen, which has the gubernatorial itch! In this Mr. Weir clears away all doubt about his perfect willingness to be a candidate. He says: "I should have serious doubts of the mental condition of the live Populist who does not believe that he would make a good governor. No friend of mine will ever accuse me of mental weakness in this direction." Weir sizes up the party in that sentence. The pops are all governors, all of them. This adroit compliment to the masses of his party is likely to satisfy the wavering hosts and rally them to his standard.—Fremont Tribune.

One of the representatives of THE COURIER had the pleasure of watching the process of weighing diamonds this week, while on his rounds for news he dropped into Mr. E. Hallett's place at 1143 O street, one of the well known jewelers of this city. Mr. Hallett was engaged in weighing up a two and five-eighths carat diamond of the first water, for one of his customers. By request Mr. Hallett showed our representative a part of his collection of rare and valuable loose stones. They were of all sizes and weights, some weighing as low as three-eighths of a carat and up to three carats and larger and they were all of the first water class. Mr. Hallett then explained the process of cutting and weighing diamonds which is very interesting. Next he showed him a collection of set stones in the shape of rings, shirt studs, breast pins and ear rings in such a great variety that it was hard to tell which was the prettiest. Mr. Hallett certainly carries not only the largest stock of this class of goods in the city of Lincoln but the best in endless variety. If you want a fine set ring he has it, if you want a loose diamond of any size he has it, and is always ready to show and explain the difference of the qualities of diamonds to you, which his long experience has taught him