

SOME COMMENTS.

The Kearney convention was a great affair. It was great in numbers, enthusiasm and practical wisdom. The convention was pervaded by a spirit of devotion to the cause in the presence of which treachery shrunk away, discord hushed its noisy clamor, and old party cappers stood silent.

A FAIR DEAL.

We do not believe there ever was a state convention held in Nebraska with less log rolling and wire pulling than there was at Kearney. There was very little effort at combination among the friends of the candidates. The convention did one thing at a time, and did it well. As a result, the ticket is fairly representative; fairly distributed over the state and fairly satisfactory.

DISTRIBUTION OF CANDIDATES.

The independents all believe in "just distribution" and they "hewed to the line" fairly well in the distribution of positions. Van Wyck and Wolfe live in the first, Strickler in the second, Gunnett in the fourth, McReynolds in the fifth and Shrader, Easterling and Hyatt in the sixth. The third was left out in the cold. They made their fight for Hatfield for treasurer and lost by a scratch. But it is loyal territory and will roll up a big majority for the ticket. The big sixth has been neglected heretofore, but now it is decidedly in the swim. It will roll up majorities to correspond with its recognition.

DISREPUTABLE METHODS.

It is to the credit of General Van Wyck and his friends that they paid very little attention to the disreputable means employed to defeat the old war horse's nomination. Thousands of copies of the most disreputable sheet ever published in the state were scattered on the streets and in the hotels at Kearney. In the middle of the night hundreds of flaming posters were posted on the bulletin boards and sidewalks of the city. Circulars were printed in the office of a republican paper, and sowed broadcast. A few men who were not delegates assisted by republican strikers and shouters tried by every means to stir up dissension, create suspicion, and pave the way for a split in the convention. But all these efforts were in vain. In fact they created a deep disgust in the minds of the sensible, earnest men, who composed that convention, which re-acted in General Van Wyck's favor.

It is to the credit of General Van Wyck's friends that they had no words of abuse for any other candidate. They cheerfully acknowledged the worth and merit of other candidates. They simply relied on the strength of their candidate, and the good sense of the delegates for success, and they made no mistake.

Disreputable methods and the rule or ruin policy received such a crushing rebuke that they will never appear in another People's convention in Nebraska. The independent party in Nebraska has passed a great crisis. The wisdom and loyalty of the plain people who compose it have been tested and found sufficient. The era of dictatorship, of blighting suspicion, is past. The era of fraternity, of mutual confidence and harmonious cooperation has begun. Every true man will fall into line and a grand and substantial victory will be achieved as a result of this campaign.

THEY DECLINED.

A strong pressure was brought to bear on General Leese during the day preceding the convention to induce him to become a candidate for governor but he steadfastly refused. When the balloting began he was absent from the pavilion. But as soon as notified that his name was being used he hastened into the convention, mounted a chair and protested against the further use of his name, saying that he was for Van Wyck. Notwithstanding this a number of delegates persisted in voting for him. He would probably have received a larger vote if he had

the man of his choice and he could not be persuaded to be guilty of such an act.

When nominations for lieutenant governor were called for, Hon. I. D. Chamberlain's name was presented, but a member of his delegation said he was authorized to withdraw it. This led to quite an altercation in which several took part, some claiming that he would accept and others declaring that he did not wish his name used. Notwithstanding this he received quite a large vote. Mr. Chamberlain's course is taken as an indication that he and his friends are looking forward to a convention which meets at Seward August 11th.

KEM'S RENOMINATION.

had been a foregone conclusion for many months. But the absolute unanimity and the genuine enthusiasm with which the convention chose him were most gratifying. Mr. Kem made two excellent speeches at the convention, one at the court house and the other at the tent. It was the general remark of the hearers that he had improved as a speaker and thinker during his service at Washington. Reports from all parts of the district are favorable for his reelection by increased majorities over those of two years ago. He will make a thorough and vigorous campaign under the management of Hon. J. H. Edminsten of Eddyville who was made chairman of the congressional committee.

WHAT HE WILL DO.

General Van Wyck was called out after his nomination, but he did not undertake to make a speech. He returned thanks in most appropriate words which impressed his hearers with the depth and sincerity of his gratitude. He said no independent of Nebraska stood more squarely on the platforms adopted at St. Louis and Omaha than he did. He said somebody had inquired of him if he would sign the Newberry Bill if he were governor and it were passed. He said he certainly would and he would say more: He would sign any bill passed by the representatives of his party. He did not think it was the duty of the governor to legislate.

JOHN H. POWERS.

When John H. Powers mounted the rostrum a deep silence prevailed. When he said he would withdraw his name in the interest of harmony a storm of applause broke forth. And it broke forth again and stronger still when he was unanimously nominated for auditor. His declination caused much disappointment, but still no one felt disposed to censure Mr. Powers for his action was entirely consistent. He has a deep hold on the confidence and affection of the people.

W. L. GREEN.

The ablest and most eloquent orator in Nebraska lives in Kearney. No one who attended the convention will ever forget his grand speech. He is thoroughly familiar with the issues, and he presents them with a force clearness that is unsurpassable. He is both a natural and a trained orator. He promised the delegates that he would visit every part of the state during the campaign and would be glad to meet any champion the opposition might put up.

KEARNEY.

Last week Kearney earned a good reputation as a convention city. The immense crowd was well taken care of, and the visitors were handsomely treated. The citizens seemed to vie with one another in their readiness to look after the comfort and enjoyment of visitors.

Kearney is one of the most beautiful and enterprising cities in the west. She has a population of 10,000, three railroads, plenty of churches and schools, an oatmeal factory, a plow factory, a canning factory, a woolen factory and last and greatest of all the wonderful cotton mill. This is now finished and in actual operation. The attendants on the convention carried away as mementoes thousands of badges made of cotton goods from this mill. The city of Kearney is beautifully located in the Platte valley about midway between the eastern and western borders of the state, and just half-way

farming country, settled by as enterprising and industrious farmers as can be found anywhere, and to them Kearney owes much of her success.

Buffalo county, of which Kearney is the county seat, is one of the banner counties in the independent movement. The old anti-monopoly movement was strong there. The county alliance in that county was among the first to declare for independent political action. In 1890, the new party carried the county by a large majority for the whole ticket. In 1891 they elected every county officer but two by good majorities. Now they are in better shape than ever. Mr. Easterling, our candidate for secretary of state is a resident of Kearney and is universally popular. Hundreds of democrats and republicans in Buffalo county will vote for him.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mr. G. H. Whittaker, one of the leading real estate men of Kearney, was chairman of the press committee. He looked after the independent editors and treated them handsomely.

Mr. S. S. Smith of the Kearney Standard probably did as much as any other man to make the convention a success. It was largely through his efforts that the great tent was secured. Without it the 5,000 people present would have stood no show to see or hear anything in connection with the convention.

Judge Allen is by all odds the best presiding officer that has yet come to the front among the independents. He gave perfect satisfaction.

Mr. B. S. Littlefield makes a capital secretary. His voice is good, and he does business in a business-like way. H. G. Stewart was chairman of the congressional convention and filled the place to the satisfaction of all.

Captain Ashby of Beatrice took an active part in the convention, and his points were well taken.

No man in the convention exerted a stronger influence than W. L. Greene of Kearney. He is a coming man.

O. E. Goodell of Lancaster was amongst the foremost men of the convention.

J. M. Kinney of Omaha showed himself to be a natural orator in a short speech against the state militia.

Charley Pirtle was unanimously elected secretary of the state committee, a deserved mark of confidence and a vindication of a worthy and faithful young man against the vile slanders which have been heaped on him.

Ye editor was there and took it all in. He met many hundreds of old acquaintances. The hearty hand-shakes and the warm words of approval and encouragement which he received from them were most grateful to him. They showed that the voice of slander has not shaken the confidence of the people.

Frank Hibberd of Douglas county deserves special mention. He did some great work for his political hero, General Van Wyck.

Capt. Hatfield of Antelope gave our own Wolfe a close race for state treasurer. Mr. H. is one of the best men in state, and has a host of friends.

Hon. W. F. Wright was one of the good and true men whom lightning did not strike, but he has the respect and confidence of the people to a high degree. He has done as much to build up this movement as any man in the state, and he will be in the fight as long as anybody else.

Col. E. A. Fletcher of Franklin was a strong candidate for the place of attorney general, and he would have been a good one.

Mr. Strickler is absent on a tour through the west with General Weaver. So soon as we can ascertain his pedigree we will give our readers the benefit of it. Meanwhile we want to say that he is a mighty big little man, a fighter and a winner.

HARMONY is good but it is not to be seen to any alarming extent in the republican party of Nebraska just now.

CONGRESS adjourned at midnight August 5. A review of what it has done would occupy a very small space.

STILL FALLING.

We have frequently called attention to the fact that the immediate cause of financial depression business stagnation and hard times which have prevailed in this country for years is a long continued falling of prices.

Every week the readers of the daily press are regaled with trade reports under glaring head-lines telling of "increased business activity", "trade improving," etc. But he who reads carefully will find in almost every such report the fatal admission that prices are still falling.

In R. G. Dunn & Co's report for last week we find the following:

"The volume of trade in July is fully 15 per cent larger than last year, and greater than in any previous year, in spite of a decline of 5 per cent in prices since a year ago."

This is but a repetition of the history of previous years. The effect of this long-continued falling in prices is as follows: 1st. Business of all kinds is depressed. The profits of dealers must be sacrificed because the prices of goods fall while in their hands. Men who have money avoid investments, and seek loans. Industry languishes. Demand for goods falls off because the consumers are unable to buy, and this in turn checks production. And so one reaction follows another till the whole country is prostrated.

2. Every fall in prices enhances the value of every obligation to pay money. Every debt becomes more valuable to the creditor, and harder for the debtor to pay. Debt begins to increase, and after a time, if prices continue falling, the increase of debt becomes regular and rapid; and the producers of the country engage in a continuous struggle merely to keep their heads above water. On the other hand the wealth of the debt holders increases until in a few years, the whole surplus earnings of the people flow regularly into their coffers. Even worse than this, debt not only absorbs the surplus earnings, but continually spreads more and more over the capital and the homes of the producers.

The only logical result of a long continued falling of prices is the concentration of the whole wealth of the country into the hands of a few very rich men, and the practical slavery of the masses of the people.

For twenty-five years prices have fallen with little variation, and they are still falling. And the awful effects can be seen on every hand. The logical result will soon be realized in full unless some change comes.

And, what is the cause of this long continued falling of prices? Primarily it is the contraction of the currency by the retirement of the greenbacks and the demonetization of silver. These acts of legislation were crimes against civilization.

These acts must be repealed and their effects counteracted by legislation or our boasted civilization will become a curse, and liberty will be banished from our land.

What the end will be is the question for the people to decide.

"ERROR ceases to be dangerous," said Thomas Jefferson, "when reason is left free to combat it." Many of the errors of public policy have held sway because reason was chained down by party prejudice. When men once consent to give reason full sway they see how flimsy are the arguments advanced for suste...