

THE FRONTIER.

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D. H. CRONIN, Editor.



NATIONAL TICKET.

For President:
WILLIAM M'KINLEY.
For Vice-President:
GARRETT A. HVBART.

STATE TICKET.



For Governor.....JOHN H. MACCOLL
For Lieut. Governor.....ORLANDO TEFT.
For Secretary of State.....J. A. PIPER.
For Auditor.....P. O. REDLUND.
For Treasurer.....CHAS. E. CASEY.
For Superintendent.....H. B. CORBETT.
For Attorney General.....A. S. CHURCHILL.
For Commissioner.....H. C. RUSSELL.
Supreme Judge, long term.....R. RYAN.
Supreme Judge, short term.....M. P. KINKAID.
Regent.....W. G. WHITMORE.

CONGRESSIONAL TICKET.

For Congressman:
A. E. CADY, of Howard.

SENATORIAL TICKET.

For Senator:
L. P. GLASSBURN, of Wheeler.

COUNTY REPUBLICAN TICKET.

For Representatives:
JOHN THROMMERSHAUSER, of Ewins.
J. A. RICE, of Stuart.
For County Attorney:
E. H. BENEDICT, of O'Neill.
For Supervisor Third District:
JOHN HARRINGTON, Jr., of Grattan.
For Supervisor Fifth District:
C. M. FERGUSON, of Inman.
For Supervisor Seventh District:
W. N. COATS, of Stuart.

HON. M. P. KINKAID, one of the two republican nominees for judge of the supreme court, graduated in the law school of the University of Michigan just twenty years ago. His law class, consisting of 162 members, elected him class president in its senior year. Immediately after his admission to the bar, in 1876, he engaged in the active practice of his profession, and at the time of being appointed judge of this judicial district in 1887 his standing for winning cases, amount of business and fees earned was second to none of the profession in north Nebraska.

In 1882 he was elected a member of the state senate, and was, by the senate, elected chairman of the judiciary committee of that body. By the increase of judicial districts in 1887 a vacancy occurred in the then newly formed Twelfth district, and he was by Governor Thayer appointed to fill that vacancy, being elected to a full four years term the following fall, again in the fall of 1891, and again in the fall of 1895, so that he is now serving his tenth year on the district bench.

For the last eight years Judge Kinkaid could have at any time, when in order, commanded a large support for a congressional nomination, but he has all the while evinced a preference for judicial work. That he is eminently qualified by nature and requirements, and by experience as lawyer and judge for the position of associate justice of the supreme court is the unanimous opinion of those who are familiar with his professional and official record.

The nomination of John Harrington as the republican candidate for supervisor in this district, was, in our estimation, a wise one. While it cannot be said that Mr. Harrington is in harmony with all republicans in their views on the questions of the day, we believe it to be the duty of all republicans, and in fact all citizens irrespective of party, to rally to his support, as we believe that if elected he will perform the duties of the office to the best interests of the taxpayers of the district. For the past year he has been treasurer of Grattan township and the able manner in which he has performed the duties of that office is a guarantee that if he is elected as a member of the county board he will carefully guard the interests of the people. Vote and work for John Harrington for supervisor.

EVERY voter should vote for the proposed constitutional amendment to be found at the head of the constitutional amendment ticket for the increase of the number of supreme judges from three, the present number, to five, the number proposed, thus dispensing with the three supreme court commissioners, because:

First—The large amount of work of the supreme bench renders such an increase necessary.

Second—Because it is more in accordance with the principles of our government that judges be elected than that commissioners be appointed by the court.

Third—Because by the substitution of two judges for the three commissioners there will be a saving in salary of \$2,500 for one commissioner and \$1,000 for his stenographer, amounting to \$3,500 per annum.

Fourth—Unless the constitution can be thus amended at this election a constitutional convention will be provided for, occasioning an expense of at least \$150,000.00.

THE IMPORTER GETS THE PROFIT

Touching the question of Mexican cattle importations again, Senator Warren of Wyoming replies to an inquiry by enclosing a letter upon the subject from A. A. Spough, of Manville, Wyo. Mr. Spough is a cattle importer and is in a position to see the good or the bad side of the Wilson bill, and so far as the policy of this government, or the interests of the consumers of meat stuffs are concerned he sees nothing in it to commend. His conclusion is that the benefits accrue entirely to the Mexican producer and the American importer, and that no one else is benefitted at all.

On this line Mr. Spough says in his letter to Senator Warren: "I claim that Mexican cattle do not reach the masses of the people any cheaper under the Wilson bill than they did under the McKinley law. But if they do, and it makes cattle cheaper, then it works a hardship on the producer of cattle alone, in this country, to the tune of a million dollars annually (it is considerably more,) * * * for there is no difference when the beef reaches the consumer, and if there is it is so small that it is not noticeable."

He further says: "If there is anyone in the United States who is benefitted by the free importation of Mexican cattle (that is what importation under the Wilson bill virtually amounts to) it is the importer. If it is for the best for the masses, and does the greatest good for the greatest number of people, to return to protection and good old McKinley times—and I certainly think it is—you will have a helping hand from me, for I can find plenty to do outside of the Mexican cattle trade."

Taken in connection with the showing that has already been made as to the ruin of the cattle industry in the west, this statement from an importer who thinks more of the prosperity of the "greatest number" than he does of his personal profits from a business that he feels called upon to condemn, ought to sink deep into the hearts of the farmers of Nebraska who have not yet been able to see that one item of the tariff schedule is costing them more than they could ever hope to gain from a shower of 50-cent dollars.

M. A. BROWN.

LOST IN A WILDERNESS

And Swallowed Bodily by the Bryan-ized Democracy.

FATE OF NEBRASKA "POPS."

Foreseen by a Nebraska Populist—J. V. Wolfe's Open Letter to Gov. Holcomb. A Tool of Democracy—Holcomb's Record and Political Origin.

LINCOLN, Neb., Oct. 12.—The tripartite deal in this state between Senator Allen, Governor Holcomb and William J. Bryan, the result of which has been the delivery of the Populist party of the state, bound hand and foot, to the democracy has been a source of unpleasant reflection to many middle-of-the-road Populists, and there is a very large proportion of them that not only resent the sale and delivery, but are disposed to make their objections known at the polls in the most effective manner, and in fact the only way now left to them. Ever since Governor Holcomb took up the reins of office and began to show his predilection for Democrats and a disregard for the Populists of the state who had made his further elevation possible, there have been many "kickers" in the Populist party who have not hesitated to charge him with betrayal of their political interests. Republicans have pretty generally held aloof and listened to the crimination and recrimination from afar off, and have not been disposed to take a hand in the family quarrel of the Populists and Democrats. Just at this juncture, however, when Governor Holcomb is running a personal campaign strictly for himself, and after having still further shown his Democratic proclivities by being a party to the further betrayal of the Populists of Nebraska into the hands of the national Democracy, it is not amiss to quote what a well known Populist of this state thought about him and wrote concerning him in 1895, less than 18 months ago. That person is J. V. Wolfe, who at the present time is a candidate upon the Popocratic ticket along with Governor Holcomb for the office of commissioner of public lands and buildings.

On May 1, 1895, Mr. Wolfe published in the Nebraska State Journal a two column article over his own signature, in which he excoriated Governor Holcomb as few public men or officials have been scored in this state for political or official misdeeds. Mr. Wolfe had been a candidate for warden of the state penitentiary, as a Populist, but the appointment was bestowed upon G. W. Leidigh, a Democrat. Mr. Wolfe's complaint was not so much for himself, personally, as it was from the fact that the governor had shown a disposition to ignore the main body of his supporters, the Populists, and reward a small minority of his supporters, the Democrats. There is probably nothing that a Republican might say that would give credence or consideration by a Populist, but an arraignment by one of their own number is entitled to pass current among the members of the Populist party. Therefore, remembering this arraignment by Mr. Wolfe, the original has been brought to light and portions of it are given below. Mr. Wolfe says in the opening of his letter to Governor Holcomb:

Crimes and offenses of all kinds have generally at least one mitigating circumstance. They are generally committed in haste or without due consideration, but you undoubtedly do not regard the act as a crime or even as an offense, but coupled with a number of other appointments of a similar nature, and especially with Mr. Dahlgren's, another leading Democrat, made at the same time, and who was an applicant for the same position, you are charged with party perjury and a deadly assault upon "the Independent party" organization in this state, and upon this charge you will have to go upon trial before the bar of our people, and may God defend the right.

After a somewhat lengthy defense of his own motives, in which he states that he too had come out of the Democratic party, but that he considered the Populist party "humanity's last and only hope," Mr. Wolfe proceeds to say:

I by no means think you are a bad man. I only think you have proven yourself a weak one. You are by no means the first man, even in Nebraska, whose "ambition has overleaped itself." The political highway is everywhere strewn with its wrecks. Men are more or less (and frequently more) like pigs. If fed on too rich food they develop too much flesh for the amount of bone, and especially backbone. The remedy, in the case of pigs, is to put them on a diet of skimmed milk, and I can see no reason why it would not act as well in one case as in the other. It may not be your fault. You have neither been in a position, nor in the condition, since our reform movement began, to be able to grasp its full meaning. You have been in good circumstances and drawing a liberal salary. Your mind has been occupied more with law and with loans than with distressed homes and an impoverished people. You did not, I believe, attend either the Cincinnati or St. Louis conference, or the Omaha national convention. You have, therefore, probably not been baptized with the "baptism that is unto repentance." I am not speaking of or dealing with your intentions. You are too good a lawyer not to know that all law presumes a man to intend the consequences of his own acts, and the sooner you recognize the fact that, when you are consorting with the Democratic or any other party, you are nursing at your bosom a torpid viper that, as soon as it is warmed into life by Populistic heat and strengthened by Populistic nourishment, will turn on its benefactor with all the accustomed vigor and venom, the sooner you will see and realize the folly of your course. They (the Democrats) may permit, and even assist, a chosen candidate now and then to come into office, but it will be found generally, if not always, at the expense of all the rest of the ticket; and so small a victory may mean more harm to us than a total temporary defeat. The old Democratic ship is down deep in the trough of the political sea, and of, and by itself, can never be safely harbored. It is both seaworn and unseaworthy, and Mr. Bryan and Mr. Bland have seen the approaching catas-

trophe, and have each lowered a silver lifeboat and struck for the shore. The one for help to save the old ship, the other to build a new one. Of the two, Mr. Bland shows the most sense, but there is a method in Mr. Bryan's madness. If you and the Independent party will get aboard Mr. Bryan's little silver skiff he will row you out to the old wreck and, if you will help it into harbor again, then will come to pass the saying that "death is swallowed up in victory." (our death, I mean, and their victory.) But my political bible says that our party cannot live by silver alone, but by every word that proceeded out of the Omaha platform, until revised or changed.

Mr. Wolfe then reverts to Homer's "Iliad" and brings forth the story of the Trojan horse, by means of which the Greeks captured the city of Troy. The story is familiar to nearly all and need not be retold. Mr. Wolfe's application of the legend is to show that the Democrats had been using a "Trojan horse" for the purpose of capturing the Independent party; and he fears that by means of this strategy "a sufficient number of men armed with the weapons of our destruction," have been placed within the Populist walls with the same intent. To this he pathetically adds: "I hope not, and yet I fear it may be so."

After discussing the manner of the appointment, and insinuating that the governor had been influenced by a private secretary (Maret), or a Democratic ex-congressman (Bryan), or a United States senator (Allen), Mr. Wolfe closes as follows:

My grievance, however, is by no means a personal one. While I think I had a right to expect different and better treatment, I have no spite to gratify. It is true that I have spent more time in trying to build up and to advance the party's interests than you and all your appointees put together, except Mr. Powers, and the movement has cost me more money than you all, without an exception, yet I only ask that our principles be adhered to until enacted into law. Don't think for a moment you can drive me from the party, for you will find me a stayer, and, if necessary, a fighter, and I know the rank and file too well to even imagine that they are not going to stand with me, and by me, shoulder to shoulder, in the future, as in the past, as long as I stand for the right and till the battle is finally won.

Has Silas Holcomb Made a Good Governor?

Considerable might be said on this score. Superficially, yes. Essentially, no. From the beginning he assumed to dictate to the law-making power. When acts had become crystallized into laws, and those laws did not suit his political purposes, he assailed their constitutionality, and was invariably beaten. As a member of the board of educational lands and funds, he has constantly advised the board to pursue an unconstitutional course in the investment of the permanent school fund in general fund warrants, even in the face of an adverse decision of the supreme court, and has gone out among the people and cast aspersions upon the law-abiding members of that board because they had actually complied with statutory requirements. In the appointment of the heads of state institutions he has been uniformly unfortunate in the selection of men who have been incompetent, bred scandals, and wilfully violated the law. The Norfolk asylum, the Grand Island Soldiers' home and the state penitentiary afford reeking examples of this kind. It is not necessary, however, to dwell upon these counts.

It is merely necessary to introduce another Populist witness, Mart Howe, formerly steward of the Soldiers' home. The charges preferred by Mr. Howe during the past winter against the management of the home are well remembered by newspaper readers. It will also be recalled that an investigation was reluctantly ordered by Governor Holcomb. In the Nebraska State Journal of March 14, 1896, Mr. Howe tells how that investigation was conducted, and how the whitewash brush was used. To quote from the article:

"In regard to the investigation, he says that the governor told him the utmost latitude would be given in the introduction of testimony, but when the time came the governor refused to admit a great deal of the testimony, both oral and in the form of affidavits. In addition Mr. Howe alleges that persons employed at the home were intimidated and refused to testify to all the circumstances with which they were familiar." Concerning the whole matter Mr. Howe said: "If the legislature was in session I would demand an investigation by that body, which has power to send for persons and papers, and with a fair hearing I would be content to rest the case."

In the State Journal of April 12, 1895, a correspondent scores Governor Holcomb severely for his veto of the mutual fire insurance bill, but this is not a political arraignment and it will be passed by, the intention of this article being principally to show what Populists have had to say about his political, official and administrative acts. He is condemned by leading members of the party that elected him, and the fact that no Democrat has taken his pen in hand to find any fault with his administration will probably be construed by many Populists as a verification of the wide open suspicion that his Populism is not even skin deep while his democracy is bred in the bone.

Some Light Thrown on the Discovery of Holcomb.

Previous to the nomination of Silas A. Holcomb for district judge by the Populists of the Twelfth judicial district he was unknown outside of Broken Bow, where he had hung up a lawyer's shingle, but was engaged in the more lucrative occupation of loaning money to Custer county farmers at rates of interest that were not only usurious, but exorbitantly so. The judicial convention was held at Eddyville, on the new line of the Kearney and Black Hills railway, and somebody's manipulation had secured the location there to prevent too much local pressure on the part of the friends of a couple of Populist candidates from Kearney. Indications pointed to the nomination of

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