

SLIPPERY SILAS A.

CHOSEN OF POPOCRATS FOR SUPREME COURT

House-Rent Holcomb Gets There With Both Brogans and Tramples the Opposition Thereunder—Popocratic Peculiarities Predominate at Conventions.

The popocrats of Nebraska have done gone and did it, and republicans are consequently happy over the result.

For downright stupidity commend us to the fusionists of Nebraska. Passing by the splendid material in their ranks they picked up the crookedest stick they could find, and amid the violent protests of the decent element in the parties they forced Holcomb to the front for a seat on the bench of the Nebraska supreme court.

From a republican standpoint, the work of the demo-pop aggregation at Omaha is eminently satisfactory. In the first place not more than half of the delegates were on hand, and a whole lot of skirmishing was indulged in to "fill out" delegations with local and visiting fusionists. A showing had to be made some how, and this was the most convenient. After a bit of labor in this direction a fairly good showing was made in the pop and democratic conventions. In the free silver republican convention hall the 60 or 100 delegates present would have felt lost had it not been for Charley Wooster's elegant side whiskers. Nearly ten hours were fooled away "getting together," as there was a whole host of recalcitrant bucks who were opposed to the chieftaincy of "Slippery Si," and these had to be whipped into line before the great council could proceed.

However, Bryan and Allen were there and everywhere all forenoon and all afternoon, and their labors in behalf of Holcomb bore fruit when the clans gathered after supper, and Si's nomination was railroaded through according to plans and specifications agreed upon.

Billy Neville was there, too. It wouldn't do for one member of the tripartite trust of Allen, Holcomb & Neville to be absent, and the Judge was on hand to aid and to see that not a cog of the machine "slipped."

Judge Edgar Howard of Papillion, another member of the happy family, was there, but he looked far from being happy. He was a Robinson Crusoe, alone on the desert island, even his man Friday going back on him. He tried hard to get a little company, but he soon discovered the uselessness of bucking against the inevitable and sorrowfully wended his way back to Papillion and is now engaged in deciding which is best for him to do—swallow Slippery Silas and wince 'er up, or maintain his reputation for consistency. His decision will be anxiously awaited by his popocratic brethren.

Harry Phelps of the Howells Journal wanted to fight because Si was chosen, but no one dared to pluck the chip off his shoulder, and he was not accommodated.

Bryan, the ringmaster, found it very hard work to get the three rings working on the same fake, but he accomplished the task, even if it did cause a careworn expression to assail his usually smiling countenance.

One of the amusing features of the conventions was the adoption of a resolution against passes. The free silver republicans started the ball to rolling, and the others took it up with a more or less gingerly grasp.

They considered it dangerous, but evidently thought that their stand on passes would be considered a straddle if they accepted the resolution and nominated the champion pass grabber of the state for supreme judge. How the people will look at the situation will be found out in November when the ex-governor is snowed under by republican ballots.

Holcomb's nomination has left a very bad taste in the mouths of many fusionists and a serious split is bound to come unless the interests of Bryan are thought to be paramount to consistency. Democrats and populists who have opposed official corruption and pass grabbing were not slow to express their indignation at having to be placed in a position where they had to eat crow or leave their party. But the bosses demanded Silas' nomination and the discontented were forced to accept the supreme court vote juggler, the house-rent absorber and champion pass grabber, Benton Maret, pusher, horns, hoofs and all.

The happy family is not at all happy.

But They Didn't.

Papillion Times.
Very long will be the way, very hard the hills to climb, with Slippery Si Holcomb weighing down the popocratic band wagon in Nebraska. For the good of the state, for the good of Bryan, we beg the popocratic conventions to keep Holcomb's name off the ticket.

We really feel sorry for Edgar Howard. He must talk, of course, but in this case, what can he say?

BARRY AGAIN DEFEATED.

No Consolation for Him Even in His Peaceful Slumbers.

Word comes by wire just as we go to press that General Barry, when he got back to Lincoln, threw himself on the lounge and was soon wrapped in a deep sleep. While thus resting in the arms of Morpheus, he had the following dream: The general in his dream died, and wending his way upward to the outer gate, he knocked with considerable confidence, feeling that his war record should give him open sesame to the courts above. As the sound echoed through the corridors and died away in the distance, the gate was opened and the general was asked what he wanted. He replied that he had lately attended a political convention, went home disappointed and died, and now he desired to escape from the buffeting and sorrows of the work by entering within the gates of the golden city. St. Peter asked the general his politics, and when he replied that he was a populist, he was informed that parties of that political faith were not permitted to enter, but that he could go round on the bluffs overlooking the city and gaze on the happy conditions within. Slowly and sorrowfully the general wandered around and took his seat on a big boulder high up on the bluffs overlooking the walls. Imagine his surprise when he saw Judge Neville mingling with the happy throng. Greatly astonished the general went back to the gate, and when St. Peter came he said he noticed Neville inside, and that he was a populist and had beaten him for the nomination for congress. St. Peter smiled and said that since Neville was nominated and before he died he had changed his political belief and joined the Salvation army, that being the only party that Neville had not joined at some period of his life. Then the general turned and walked slowly down the pathway, reflecting on the uncertainties of life and the fickleness of human nature.

Afraid It Will Get Away.

Seward Reporter.

The pops must be getting a little uneasy about Nebraska. Coin Harvey has been speaking in the state for a number of weeks, and is billed for a long time ahead. W. J. Bryan is also announced to make a number of speeches in Nebraska during the campaign. It would seem as if they were making unusual assertions for an "off year." The trouble is, Mr. Bryan is a little fearful that the state may get away from the fusion forces this year, which would somewhat damage his boom for 1900. He is therefore making strenuous efforts to hold his forces in line. Harvey has been sent out because his book had a great effect in Nebraska in 1896. Since then the people of this state have seen demonstrated the fallacy of his arguments, and they are not likely to be again misled by his sophistries. Nor will they be deceived by the brilliant rhetoric of Mr. Bryan. The logic of facts is more convincing than the theories of any orator, and the people of Nebraska have had plenty of facts to convince them of the unsoundness of the Bryan argument.

Won't Be Humbugged

Wayne Herald.
We do not believe there is an honest thinking farmer in Wayne county who will deny that this country is now blessed with prosperity, and that the ranting of the free silverites three years ago when they proclaimed so vigorously that the country would be ruined if Bryan was defeated, was a delusion. Doubtless many of them will register his contempt for such misrepresentation by voting for the party which brought a return of prosperity in addition to having carried on a successful war with Spain, brought on by the continuous singsong of Bryan and his fusion friends in congress. But thinking people will no longer be humbugged by the oratorical Willie. In fact, it is doubtful if he again gets the nomination.

It Is As Leaven.

State Journal.
Up to date there has not appeared one word of sworn testimony to disprove or discredit the findings of the senate investigating committee. There has not been the slightest bit of testimony, explanation or attempt to show mitigating circumstances that would be given the slightest consideration in any court of equity or justice. The report of the investigating committee stands uncontradicted if not unassailed, and the findings are just as clearly impressed on the minds of the people of Nebraska as they would have been had the governor given the document the most spacious pigeon hole in the office.

Holcomb's House Rent.

Wayne Republican.
There are a few reform organs—God spare the name—in the state that have the brazen effrontery to try to make their readers believe that ex Governor Holcomb only drew from the state treasury the amount actually paid for house rent. These papers evidently believe their readers entirely ignorant of the true facts in the case and trust that their only source of information on such subjects is through the medium of their miserable lying columns.

HE IS "UP AGAINST IT"

BRYAN'S WAY TO THE WHITE HOUSE BARRED.

Breasting the Demo-Pop Donkey, "Free Silver and Free Trade," His Path Is So Obstructed by the Solid Wall of Substantial Prosperity.

One of the most impressive among the many showings of prosperity with which the American people are nowadays so frequently regaled after two full years of restored protection, is that made in the news columns of the New York Sun of July 29. With its characteristic enterprise and sagacity the Sun, always keenly alive to matters of genuine public interest, has gathered from correspondents in various business centers some very significant facts as to the abnormal activity which prevails among the railroads of the United States. No one needs to be told that when the great inland transportation systems are rushed with business and straining to increase their facilities to meet an increased demand, everybody else must be extremely busy. Railroad business is a sure index of general business.

From Chicago the report is that every railroad entering that city today needs more cars than it has or can get to meet the demands of shippers. This condition is not due to any great and sudden increase in any particular traffic, but is due to the steady growth of all kinds of traffic. From all indications the year 1899 will eclipse all former years in the volume of business done by the railroads. Last year was one of prosperity for the railroads, the increase in traffic as compared with that of several years previous being considered almost phenomenal, but there is almost as great an increase in earnings so far this year over those of the corresponding period of last year as was the case of 1898 over 1897. All the railroads which build their own freight cars have kept full forces at work in the shops, but they could not turn out cars fast enough to supply the demand, and orders were placed with car manufacturing companies which will keep most of them busy for the remainder of the year, if not longer.

Here is a curiously suggestive fact stated by an official of one of the big Western railroads:

"More pianos were shipped over our road from Chicago to the West and Southwest in the last three months than the entire number in the years from 1893 to 1897. This is good proof of the prosperity of the farmer, for a piano is a luxury in which he does not indulge as soon as he gets a few hundred dollars ahead. Our traffic in farming machinery was never so large as it has been this year and our reports made it certain that the investments in machinery were well made."

When the farmers buy pianos they are "on Easy street." No doubt of that. Another railroad manager said: "If we could borrow or hire from 5,000 to 10,000 box cars we could find immediate use for all of them."

At Detroit an official declared that in twenty years his road has "never seen a condition like the present. Ordinarily at this time of the year we are not burdened with a surplus of business and rather have difficulty in finding a place to store our empty freight cars than to employ all our energies to find cars enough to carry the business offered to us. We are certainly behind on a visible supply of cars requisite to carry the freight which we can get without any solicitation."

Baltimore reports a scarcity of cars with which to move the tremendous business present and prospective. At Buffalo the freight traffic is far in excess of the supply of cars. Thousands of extra cars could be used, but they are not to be found. At Philadelphia a trunk line official testifies to a great increase on all the lines of his road. Speaking of the lines east of Pittsburg, he said:

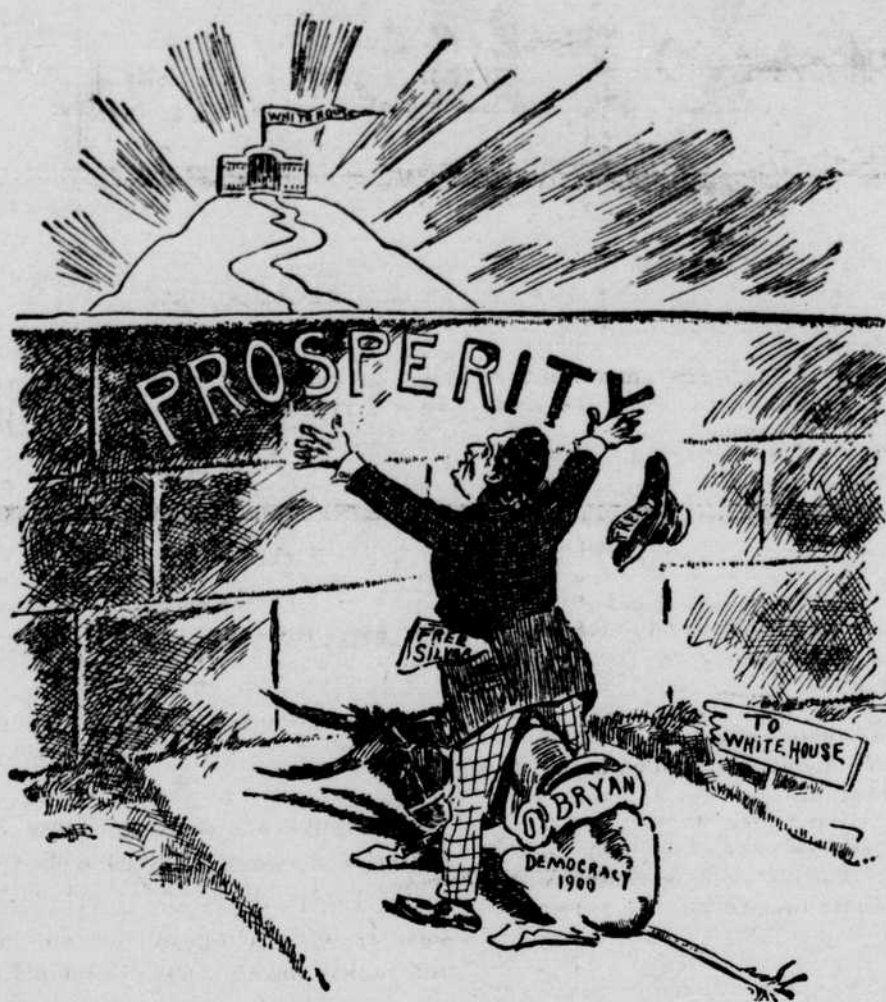
"I am convinced that the present prosperity is lasting for the reason that the increase of business is not confined to a particular locality. It is general. For instance, on all the stations of our road there is a substantial betterment. Some of the offices report an increase of 7 per cent, others 15 per cent, many from 50 to 75 per cent, some 100 per cent, and one as high as 216 per cent."

"While, as these reports show, our business is much in excess of that of last year, we have not experienced any great difficulty in getting cars to handle the freight thus far, but there will be a scarcity of cars in the latter part of September or October. How serious it will be I have no means of telling at this time. As a matter of fact we have very largely increased our equipment this year, and of course, that has added us in handling the increased business, but in some kinds of cars there has already been a scarcity."

It is now but twenty-nine months since William McKinley took his seat as president of the United States; only a few days more than two years since the Dingley tariff was enacted. Contrast, if you can, present conditions with those which existed twenty-nine months after the inauguration of Grover Cleveland in 1893 and twenty-four months after the enactment of the all-destroying Wilson-Gorman tariff law. Ten billions of dollars would not suffice to measure the increase in individual, corporate and national wealth which has taken place since the restoration of protection as the American policy. Probably twenty billions would fall below the mark.

Verily, it is true, in the euphemistic phraseology of the cartoon which appears on this page of the American Economist, that William Jennings Bryan, bestriding the Free Silver and Free Trade ass of his party, finds his progress to the white house barred by a solid wall of prosperity, and is "Up Against the Real Thing Now."

UP AGAINST THE REAL THING NOW.



HAVEMEYER'S INCONSISTENCIES.

He Wants Free Trade in Raw Sugar as a Means of Increasing His Profits.

The free-trade papers have been attempting to gain comfort from the statements of President Havemeyer of the sugar trust, before the national industrial commission, but can only do so by separating a few of his statements from his whole testimony. The protectionists are willing for the people to consider the whole of Havemeyer's testimony, for it proves that he is seeking the elimination of the tariff on raw sugar in order that the sugar trust's profits may be made larger! That fact is made prominent by his statement: "The protection on sugar amounts only to 3 1/2 per cent. It ought to be twice as much." He also said: "Congress should put an internal revenue tax on the production of American sugar." He stated that his company has 11,000 stockholders, and his admissions show that the company's business is not profitable, but it has made many millions of dollars by the sale of stock. Those who were in the company before the stock was enormously inflated have made millions, but it is probable that the new stockholders of the sugar trust will receive very small, if any, dividends.

Mr. Havemeyer closed his testimony with a protest against the tariff discriminations against sugar, and insisted that "those discriminations against sugar are entirely due to the feeling against combinations in business!" He said that his company "is in the coffee business to stay," yet there is no tariff on coffee, and the coffee trust has been able to double the prices of coffee during recent years! The coffee trust is able to control the coffee trade of the world, and notwithstanding all the squabbling between companies composing the trust, they are making enormous profits on the sale of coffee and stocks. The sale of stock has been the chief source of profits for all trusts, and when they cannot sell stocks at good profits the downfall of the trusts is at hand. Protectionists are entirely willing for the people to consider the whole of Havemeyer's testimony, for it is only further proof that a sufficient tariff must be maintained to protect American labor. Home competition is the only safe regulator, and that competition will destroy about all trusts as soon as the trusts are unable to make enormous profits on the sale of stock. If you own stock in any trust now is a good time to sell, for it is possible that it will not be many months before your stock will not be worth more than its value as waste paper.—Des Moines (Iowa) State Register.

In Bryan's State.

A dispatch from Omaha says: "The industrial situation through this part of the Missouri valley is indicative of the general prosperity that appears to prevail throughout the entire west. Ordinarily July witnesses very little business in the commercial world among Missouri river jobbers, but this month is an exception. Wholesale generally have scarcely had time to invoice their stocks and ascertain the extent of business for the first six months of the year."

This is the situation in Mr. Bryan's own state, and in the other states nearby. It makes an effective contrast to the situation which existed in that region during the years when the policy of free trade, so vigorously supported by Mr. Bryan, both in and out of congress, was in force, and the Wilson law was exerting its blighting influence upon the industries of the country. It is pretty safe to say that the business men of Nebraska and of other Missouri river valley states will not have any free trade for Mr. Bryan or for any other free trader in 1900.

An Era of Prosperity.

The best news possible, increase in the wages of the workman, is heard on all sides. Prosperity is not only on the way, but it is here, and the good news is not confined to one section of the country, it comes from all sections, in far off Denver, the Times reports increases in wages that show that section to be prospering beyond expectation. The Denver Times says: "Colorado may be in distress with her labor troubles, but the rest of the

nation is reaping a harvest from the unprecedented demand of foreign nations for our manufactured products. On June 10 the iron, steel and tin trust raised the wages of their employees 25 per cent. The raise takes effect immediately and affects directly 45,000 employees. This is glad tidings to labor. The advances are the largest made in the history of the Amalgamated association, and the wages for the year will be the highest since 1892. The tin pall brigade of the great manufacturing districts of the eastern states have already opened the campaign of 1900 and are shouting: "McKinley has kept his promise—now we'll keep ours." This augurs well for republican success in 1900, and would indicate that the calamity howler will not be much in demand in the next presidential campaign."

The same news comes from Chicago, Philadelphia, St. Louis and the other trade centers. All over New England the mills and factories are running on full time, and the employees are receiving better pay. It is a McKinley era of prosperity and to the president the people give the credit.—Springfield (Mass.) Union.

Produce a Remedy.

As to the political responsibility for trusts there is none. Trusts are no more Republican or Democratic than are ordinary business combinations on a small scale. Their friends and enemies, their beneficiaries and victims, are in all parties, and they thrive in England and Germany as well as in America. In the eastern rural districts, where the heaviest Republican vote exists, the warfare upon trusts is waged with more vigor than is evidenced in Democratic cities, where the bulk of the laboring population is in some way dependent on industrial pursuits. Produce a remedy for the evil and the Republican party will be as quick to take it up and press it as any other. Nor will it be less assiduous in search of a remedy. With things in this position how is it possible to draw campaign lines? People who are agreed cannot divide and fight; when two parties are equally solicitous to "smash the trusts" how is one, unless it presents a remedy which the other rejects, going to profit by the issue?

The great trouble is that no one has a remedy. The federal law is necessarily limited in its application; the state laws have uniformly failed. Has the Democracy anything new to suggest? If it has not its slogan of "smash the trusts!" will be as meaningless and inconsequential as one to wipe out the grip or abolish the measles.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Why Trust Them?

The Republican party gave the country a protective tariff. Now watch the ever increasing exports: In 1895, \$807,000,000; in 1896, \$882,000,000; in 1897, \$1,000,000,000; in 1898, \$1,231,000,000; and when the present fiscal year is completed on the 30th of June instant, look out for a larger figure even than the last one. And yet Democratic free traders predicted—they wouldn't have it any other way—that Republican protection would destroy our foreign commerce by killing off our exports. What prophets!—and why should the country further trust them?—Mansfield (O.) News.

Everything Gained, Nothing Lost.

The home market is ours; the wages of American workmen and workwomen are the highest in the world and the highest ever known in this country of high wages; the markets of the world are fast becoming ours. Through protection we have won everything and have given up nothing; we have won everything which free trade falsely claimed for itself without paying the price which free trade always exacted. Such a record ought to and undoubtedly has won for protection immunity from any serious assault for many years to come.—Trenton (N. J.) Gazette.

They "Jest Grewed."

President Havemeyer of the Sugar Trust recently told the industrial commission that the tariff was the mother of the trust. Assuming the statement to be true the big trust over in free trade England must be commercial Top-sies. They certainly had no tariff mamma. They must have "just grewed."—Sioux City (Iowa) Journal.

The Western Mecca.
Omaha seems to be the objective point of all western pleasure seekers this year, and the season there is now at its height. Coupled with the amusement attractions is another of almost as much drawing power,—Hayden Bros., the Big Store. Widely advertised as the greatest of the Trans-Mississippi stores it lives up to its name and carries incredible assortments of goods in over forty different lines. Visitors make the Big Store their headquarters, meet their friends, check their bundles free and write their letters there. A postal card addressed Hayden Bros., Omaha, will bring you prices on any goods you want.

A North Georgia candidate says: "We want the office because we think we deserve it; and we deserved it because we have lived here ten years and have never had anything except the opportunity of running for it."

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If afflicted with sore eyes, use Thompson's Eye Water.

Since their supply of tobacco was cut down the convicts in the Iowa state penitentiary have been sullen and hard to manage, and some 300 of them have refused to work. Chicago physicians interviewed on the subject say the action of the prison authorities was unwise; that tobacco in moderate quantity does no harm and its quieting effects make prisoners as well as soldiers—as is recognized in the armies of the world—more amenable to discipline and less disposed to mischief.

John K. Cowen, the new president of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad company, was graduated from Princeton at the head of his class in 1866. He taught school for a time, and then turned his attention to law. Mr. Cowen's connection with the Baltimore & Ohio was due to the late Robert Garrett, one of his predecessors in the presidency of the road and a classmate at Princeton.

A great national movement has been started for the observance of the one hundredth anniversary of the death of George Washington on December 14. The Sons of the Revolution and other similar organizations have the matter in hand, and are arranging details of the plan.

Misled.—"I am frank to say," he said, "that I feel you encouraged my attentions." "Perhaps," she replied, "but how was I to know whether you wanted to marry me, or only to borrow money from father?"—Philadelphia North American.

The majority of motor cars are now driven by petroleum, but a French engineer recommends the use of alcohol instead of it, and motors are being altered so as to consume it. There is no fear of explosion with alcohol and it is said to be less costly than petroleum.

Religion may say what it will, but there comes a time in every human soul, when it knows that there can be no heaven for it where some one other human soul is not.

Married men, according to a German investigator, live longer than bachelors and are less likely to become insane. Another argument for matrimony is found in the fact that there are thirty-eight criminals among every 1,000 bachelors, while among married men the ratio is only eighteen per 1,000.

Sea Terms.—Stout Party (to bathing master)—Got a bathing suit to fit me? Bath Robe Man—(looking over him)—I guess so. What's your displacement?—Philadelphia North American.