EDMISTEN ON THE CAMPAIGN

Chairman of the State Populist Committee Tells Why Fusion Will Win in Nebraska.

Chairman Edmisten of the populist state central committee is daily in receipt of telegrams from eastern papers asking his views on the political situation in Nebraska. In response to a recent telegram from the North American of Philadelphia, asking for his judgment as to the outcome of the pending contest here, he replied as follows:

"Headquarters State Central Committee, People's Independent Party of Nebraska. Lincoln, Neb., Sept. 27.—Editor The North American, Philadelphia, Pa.; Dear Sir:—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your telegram under date of September 24, asking my views on the outcome of the political battle now being fought in Nebraska.

"Three great parties in Nebraska are arrayed against the republican party. Although each has a distinct party organization, yet all three work in harmony together, have platforms very similar, and are united on one ticket. Of these, the people's independent party polls about 58 per cent of the combined fusion vote; the democratic party has about 35 per cent; and the silver republicans about 7 per cent.

"The people's independent party name was adopted some time prior to the people's party convention at Omaha in 1892, and, because of possible difficulties which might arise on account of the Nebraska election laws, the people's party of Nebraska has continued to retain the name 'People's Independent.'

"Partial fusion between the populists and democrats was accomplished in 1894, when the silver wing of democracy endorsed part of the people's independent ticket. Only one of the fusion nominees, Governor Holcomb, was elected, and his plurality of 3,202 may doubtless be credited to independent republican votes, cast for Holcomb because of the unsavory public record of his opponent as set forth by a number of republican papers.

"In 1896 the state conventions were held subsequent to the three great national conventions, and perfect fusion was accomplished. The democrats were given one place, attorney general, on the state ticket, and presidential electors were divided, four populists and four democrats. In this campaign a new ally, the silver republican party, was recognized as an important factor. Governor Holcomb's majority over his republican opponent was 21,692; Bryan's taking the first named elector on each ticket, 12,170; and the other fusion state officers were elected by an average majority of about 12,000.

"In 1897 the democrats were given the candidate for supreme judge, and perfect fusion of the three parties again effected. Judge John J. Sullivan, the fusion nominee, was elected by 13,819 majority over his republican opponent.

"In 1898 fusion was again brought about. Governor Holcomb had served two terms and was not a candidate for re-election. The silver republicans were given lieutenant governor; William A. Poynter, a populist, nominated for governor, and the remaining state officers were renominated. In this campaign the fusion forces were over-confident. The fusion state officers had made an admirable record; businesslike methods and economy prevailed in every department under their control; the credit of the state was enhanced; state warrants that sold for 93 and 95 under republican administration, rose rapidly to par and then to 1 and 1½ per cent premium under the fusion treasurer's careful management of the state treasury. A legislative investigating committee had commenced proceedings early in 1897 and had brought to light some damning disclosures regarding the incompetency and dishonesty of preceding republican administrations; the republican state treasurer was short upward of a million dollars, and numerous smaller defalcations were discovered in other offices.

"But the campaign of 1898 had been very stirring in Nebraska, which may be seen from the very large vote cast—16,000 more than had ever before been cast in Nebraska. In 1897 and 1898, both heavy crop years, more or less apathy among the voters was apparent. After the political storms of 1896 came the calms of 1897 and 1898. The fusion vote is heaviest in agricultural districts, while the city vote has been largely republican, and this fact accounts for the apparent gains made in 1898 by the republican party—the farmers stayed at home on election day, but the city vote came out. In reality the republican gain was very little, if any, while the fusion loss, occasioned by the large stay-at-home country vote, was heavy. There was a general feeling among the fusion voters in 1898 that we could not be defeated, which in great measure accounts for the stay-at-home vote.

"This year every fusion voter knows that the result in Nebraska at the coming election will have its effect on the campaign of 1900. While state matters enter somewhat into the contest in Nebraska, and the personality of the nominees will cut some figure, yet the feeling is growing every day that this is an all-imporant preliminary skirmish in the battle of 1900. The silver question is the same lively corpse that it was in 1896, in fact, livelier, because many republicans who followed the international bimetallism will-o'-the-wisp then, see now how they were duped; and the present condition of the banks of New York is every day bringing the money question more prominently before the people. That comparatively new question, the trusts, and the newer, but none the less important one, imperialism, are claiming a great share of the people's attention.

The fusion forces have a normal majority of nearly 20,000 over the republicans with a full vote polled, or from 15,000 to 18,000 with an average vote out. However, Governor Holcomb's magnificent record as "the best governor Nebraska ever had" will bring him many republican votes that could not be secured for the national ticket.

In passing, it may not be amiss to state that the republican party formerly had an overwhelming majority in Nebraska, but was always divided into two factions, the monopolists and anti-monopolists. The warfare beteen these factions was very bitter and continued from about 1880 to 1890. The people's independent party has, since 1890, practically absorbed all sincere anti-monopoly republicans who could lay aside party for principle. In 1883 the present republican nominee for supreme judge was elected to the supreme bench and one or two of his decisions show a leaning toward the anti-monoply wing of his party, as then constituted; in 1889 he was defeated for renomination by the monopoly wing of his party through convention trickery; and since that time, the monopoly republicans being in control, he has smothered his anti-monopoly views and made herculean efforts to show that he is most subservient to the monopoly ring. He has not been an anti-monopolist since at least 1832, and is now the party nominee of the most pronounced advocates of trusts, monopolies and imperialism. But his campaign will doubtless be made, so far as the republican state committee can manage it, upon his anti-monopolistic leanings prior to 1889.

The average total vote cast in the last ten years for the head of the state ticket during the same period is 83,787, leaving to all forces opposing the republican party an average vote of 107,121. Of this latter amount there is an average of 7,474 gold democrats, 4,412 prohibitionists, and 150 scattering votes, which includes the labor socialists, leaving close to a hundred thousand for the three parties composing the fusion forces.

Governor Holcomb's great popularity among all classes of voters is well shown in his 1896 majority, which ran about 9,000 higher than Bryan's, and it may be safely assumed that he will draw heavily upon both the gold democratic and prohibition vote. Hon. T. J. Mahoney, the gold democratic nominee for supreme judge in 1895, and who polled over 18,000 votes, is out in a letter supporting Holcomb and everything points to a large return of the gold democrats to the regular democratic organization.

Aside from the personality of the nominees, which may be safely counted in Gov. Holcomb's favor, the attitude of the national administration upon imperialism is driving back thousands of voters of foreign birth, who in 1896 supported McKinley because they were dissatisfied with Grover Cleveland's administration. The Germans, Swede, Danes, Bohemians, and Norwegians everywhere are greatly agitated over President McKinley's attitude on the Philippine question; they see the drift toward militarism—and they know by bitter experience what that means. They are terribly in earest over this question, and no living man can say today just what the result of their final decision will be. If they decide to rebuke the republican administration—which now seems very probable—by voting against the republican party, Governor Holcomb's majority may run over 35,000. But this, of course, is as yet problematical.

With the foreign voters largely arrayed against us in 1896, Holcomb carried Nebraska by over 21,000; with their aid this year, it is hard to account on less than 35,000. In any event, with a full vote out, which now seems certain, we count on 20,000 to 25,000, giving our opponents the benefit of every doubt. Yours very truly,

J. H. EDMISTEN,
Chairman.

Holcomb in Plattsmouth.

The peoples independent and democratic conventions were held here today. Through harmonious action perfect fusion was effected. After the organization of both conventions was completed the delegates met together in Waterman hall to listen to an address by ex-Governor Holcomb. Dr. Wallace, chairman of the democratic convention, called the meeting to order and introduced the speaker who was greeted with enthusiastic applause and spoke for three quarters of an hour, receiving frequent applause. In the evening he again spoke at the Bryan meeting to a magnificent audience of four or five thousand people and was greeted with cheers.

The following ticket was nominated: O. H. Allen, judge; Jacob Tritch, treasurer; W. D. Wheeler, sheriff; John D. Tutt, clerk; W. G. Smith, superintendent; A. B. Smith, surveyor; John P. Sattler, coroner.

The ticket is conceded to be the strongest and cleanest ever nominated, and the fusion forces will go into the battle with an enthusiasm that has not been equaled since the campaign of 1896 and they will win.—Plattsmouth Journal.

LOTS OF THEM.

One of the Randolph republicans who heard Bryan at Laurel now says he "is a republican with Bryan principles." There are lots of them.—Randolph Reporter.

Slightly Absentminded.

"Does your husband ever help you about taking care of the baby?" was asked the wife of a young professor in a neighboring city.

"Not often, though sometimes he does. Last evening he said he'd take Willie for an airing as he was going to walk down to the postoffice. Half an hour later I saw my husband sitting in the parlor reading a scientific magazine, but I could see nothing of the baby.

"'Where's Willie? What have you done with him?' I asked.

"'Why,' said the professor, 'I forgot all about him. I think he is sitting in the postoffice.'"—Detroit Free Press.

Lots of These Socialists.

"No, my child, you cannot marry Ravenswood Plunks."

"But, papa, what is your objection to Ravie?"

"My child, he is one of the most objectionable socialists I ever met."

"A socialist, papa? Surely you are mistaken!"

"No, I'm not. He actually demanded to share my wealth with me!"

"Ravie did that? Why, papa, what did he say?"

"He said he wanted to be my son-in-law."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

FARM, FIELD AND GARDEN

AN UNEVEN HAY CROP.

Shorter Tonnage Than Usual and a Rank Growth of Weeds.

The hay crop is outlined as "unusually irregular and uneven" by the American Agriculturist, which says of the general conditions: The range is from almost complete failure to magnificent luxuriance, and when the view is narrowed to take in state conditions only the range is almost as great. Not only is there great disparity in state conditions, but within the state the same irregularity exists. It is thus difficult to summarize the condition for the whole field, but the careful returns of our country correspondents furnish abundant basis for the claim that the hay crop this year will be small in comparison with the abundant product of last year.

East of the Alleghanies and in the south the long spring drought came at a time when its full effect was apparent in the grass crop. Not only was the crop cut short, but on material areas no attempt was made to cut any hay, cattle being pastured on meadows in the absence of any nourishment on regular pasture areas. In New England the crop locally runs from one-fourth to one-half a crop. In New York and Pennsylvania only three-fourths of a crop is in sight. With such a situation in these important hay districts it naturally follows that the general average of condition for the whole crop is low.

West of the Alleghanies the season has presented radically different conditions. Instead of drought the whole spring and summer have been marked by a great excess of rainfall, and not looking beyond the bare records of precipitation the public has been convinced that the grass of the west would make good any deficiencies in the east. But such is not assured. Instead of a great hay crop as a result of the unusual rainfall in the central valleys, the crop is inferior to last year for the belt as a whole, and in many localities it is decidedly smaller than the average for a series of years.

While the partial failure in the east is the result of the drought entirely, the uneven crop of the west is due to a cause which is apt to be more lasting and farreaching. The severe winter weather which so nearly destroyed the winter wheat crop over a large district left a heavy mark on the meadows as well. Clover suffered to an extent almost beyond precedent, and meadows were left in such shape in many sections that the plow was the only remedy. On this account there was a larger area of grass land put to corn than for many years, and much of what was spared will another year be plowed. The crop promise of the west is not up to the usual standard. Not only will there be a shortage in tonnage, but the usual rankness in weed growth this year will lower the quality of the crop. In portions of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois the complaint of white top is greater than ever before, and this pest will necessitate further plowing up of grass land.

Alfalfa For Hog Pasture.

An Ohio Farmer correspondent asks whether alfalfa can be sown in an orchard for hog pasture which has been in timothy and clover and is all heaved out, and Joseph E. Wing answers: Alfalfa undoubtedly makes the best hog pasture of any plant that can be grown. Whether the soil of this orchard will grow it or not is another question. The clover having frozen out may simply be the result of its having died from old age, or it may be that the soil is undrained and apt to heave things. If the soil is really rich and dry, I should sow the alfalfa without any hesitation. Plow the land deep, throwing up an inch or two of new soil and sowing the alfalfa along about the middle of April or later. Cover by rolling. Be sure the land is smooth, so that the mower can run over it easily, for keeping it, mowed off two or three times the first summer to destroy the weeds and to invigorate the alfalfa by the close clipping is the secret of successful alfalfa growing. Do not pasture it the first year, and do not pasture it the second year too close, and never allow the hogs to run on it when the alfalfa is frosted, or the plants will be destroyed.

Harvesting Soja Beans For Seed.

Cut as soon as first pods turn yellow or become a light brown. If left too long to ripen, the leaves will drop off, thus injuring the value of the hay and straw. The stalks will also become too hard and tough to cut with a mower or reaper. An old fashioned self rake or dropper is the best. Put the beans in small piles, containing a good forkful each, and allow them to cure. They are best thrashed from the field, as this saves extra handling, the shelling of the seed and prevents beating if stored when not perfectly dried. Care must be taken in feeding the hay like corn fodder, for it is a rich condensed food, advises American Agriculturist.

Scientific Aids.

The secretary of agriculture has announced that any graduate of a college receiving aid from the United States has the chance, on certain conditions, to be learned from the United States civil service commission, Washington, of becoming a "scientific aid" in the United States department of agriculture for a period limited to two years at a salary not to exceed $40 per month. The minimum age limitation for entrance to examination for the position is 20 years. There is no maximum age limitation.

THE HESSIAN FLY.

What May Be Done After Wheat Harvest—Sowing Decoy Crops.

The Hessian fly is giving trouble in various sections of the country. In a bulletin of the department of agriculture on this fly the remedies discussed at length are burning the stubble, plowing under the stubble, destruction of volunteer wheat, planting decoy strips, rolling, late sowing of fall wheat, intermittent wheat culture, pasturing with sheep, mowing and selection of resistant varieties. Mr. H. Osborn, the author of the bulletin, says that a little thought concerning the measures discussed, with a recognition of the life history facts upon which they are based, will suggest that the best practical results will be obtained not by reliance upon any one method, but by an intelligent adaptation of two or more, according to the conditions prevailing for the season. These will constitute a practice which can be modified for each year as the conditions will indicate.

With the harvesting of grain there is open the policy of burning the stubble or plowing it under or allowing it to stand for the exclusion of beneficial parasites. If the weather is very dull, it will be best to defer burning, to allow the issuance of as many parasites as possible, but if burning is to be adopted at all it should be done before fall rains set in or the field has grown up to weeds. If rains occur early, burning will be best, and in any case the stubble should be plowed under and rolled as soon as there is any appearance of a volunteer growth of wheat. The chaff from thrashing should be burned and the screenings burned or fed to stock as early as possible, and care should be taken during autumn to plow under and roll the volunteer wheat that springs up in the stackyard. If winter wheat is to be planted, strips of decoy wheat may be put in to be plowed under at the end of three or four weeks and finally the crop planted at as late a date as practicable, according to dates given in the paragraph on late planting. This practice can be duly combined with the selection of resisting varieties of wheat and the application of fertilizers.

It will be observed that the modifications are based primarily on the weather—whether dry or moist, a condition apparent to every one, and that the suggestion amounts to postponement of burning or plowing if dry, or the early adoption of one or both if wet.

The proper time for sowing decoys will vary with the latitude. According to Webster, for northern Indiana they should be sown during the latter part of August, and in the southern part of the state not later than the first week in September. To the north and south of this he does not undertake to give dates, but it would depend upon the date of appearance of the fall brood of flies, the wheat being planted early enough to attract the flies at the time of their emergence. A decoy crop should be destroyed within four weeks at the utmost, and turned under so deeply that any insects maturing would be unable to escape.

Cover Crops.

Where a nitrogenous fertilizer is not desired, rye is a good cover crop. It is also useful on very light, sandy soils and on very hard, lumpy soils, where other crops are not easily grown. A few years of rye may improve such soils sufficiently to permit the use of other crops. Turnips have been recommended for use on hard, dry land, where other crops do not start readily. Rape may serve a useful purpose as a cover crop. Corn sown thickly 1½ to 2 months before frost is said to make a good winter cover for orchards, though quickly killed by cold weather. Buckwheat is good for the same purpose, if sown so as to reach its full height, but not to produce seed before winter. Among other plants of more or less value as cover crops are oats, wheat, barley, millet and spurry.

News and Notes.

In commenting upon the complaints of consumers that sweet corn on the ear as found in city markets is entirely devoid of sweetness and flavor, although it seems fresh and juicy, The Rural New Yorker says that no other farm product loses flavor more rapidly after gathering than green corn, and if it could be sold more promptly to the consumer we should hear no more complaints of its deteriorated quality.

In a Canadian experiment burning the wheat stubble, then disking and drilling in the seed gave a better result than drilling the seed on burned or unburned stubble or on disked unburned stubble.

In answer to the question whether manure, where sawdust has been used for bedding, is injurious to soil, American Gardening has obtained the opinion of such good authorities as Professors Day of Ontario, Canada; Clinton of Cornell university, Voorhees of New Jersey, Fields of Oklahoma and Dr. H. M. Wiley of Washington, from all of which it appears that, upon the whole, there is no valid objection to the use of sawdust. Professor Day thinks an excessive amount on light land might possibly injure the texture of the soil.

It is said that in oil regions, where roads have been oiled by leakage or otherwise, they are firm and dustless. The estimate of expense of oil for road improvement, according to a government civil engineer, is not to exceed $141.50 per mile, one barrel being enough for 50 feet of roadway 12 feet wide. It is reported that an experiment in this line is to be made by the department of agriculture in conjunction with the local authorities of Des Moines on country roads connected with that city. Everybody, whether skeptical or confident in the project, will await the outcome with interest.

FARM, FIELD AND GARDEN

THE CABBAGE WORM.

Timely Measures Will Reduce the Troublesome Fall Broods.

The adults of that troublesome pest, the cabbage worm, are little white butterflies, which issue from the chrysalids during the latter part of April and May for the first brood. The females lay their eggs upon any suitable plants which may be found at this season. Their eggs are deposited upon the lower sides of the leaves, where the worms feed until about half grown. The worms usually become most troublesome the latter part of the season, during September and October, when they may be found feeding not only upon the cabbage, but also upon cauliflowers, ruta bagas, mignonette and several other plants.

This pest is most susceptible to treatment when in the larval stage. The larvae may be killed either by poisoning or by materials which penetrate the skin. One of the best remedies of the first class is the lime-resin mixture, but it must be used only upon young plants, as there is danger of poisoning the human consumer if applied after the heads are more than one-third grown. Hellebore may be used until the plant is nearly fit for use, as it soon loses its strength upon exposure to the air.

Of the contact insecticides, one of the emulsions will be found most useful; but, as with the arsenites, only the young plants should be treated.

If proper precautions are taken to destroy the few members of the first brood which appears, whatever remedy is used, the chances of damage from later broods are greatly diminished. All treatments should be repeated as often as necessary.

The resin lime mixture alluded to in the advice given, as precedes, by the Rhode Island station, is a preparation for which the New York station has published this formula:

Stock solution, pulverized resin, 5 pounds; concentrated lye, 1 pound; fish oil or any cheap animal oil except tallow, 1 pint; water, 5 gallons.

It takes about two hours to prepare this mixture. The oil, resin and one gallon of hot water should be placed in an iron kettle and heated until the resin is softened, after which the solution of concentrated lye or potash should be carefully added and the mixture thoroughly stirred. After adding the lye, add four more gallons of hot water and allow the whole mass to boil until the mixture will unite with cold water, making a clear, amber colored liquid. When through boiling, if there are not five gallons of the mixture, add water enough to make that quantity.

Solution for use: Resin mixture (stock solution), 1 gallon; water, 16 gallons; milk of lime, 3 gallons; paris green, one-quarter pound.

Resin lime mixture should only be prepared as used. If milk of lime is added to the undiluted resin mixture, a heavy precipitate is formed. This not only settles rapidly, but it also gums up the valves and plunger of the pump and clogs the nozzles.

This is for use upon plants which have smooth leaf surfaces to which the common spraying mixtures will not readily adhere.

Silver Hull Buckwheat.

The variety of buckwheat is comparatively new, but it is growing in popularity, as farmers say it is earlier than the variety commonly grown. It has the great disadvantage, however, of ripening very unevenly, so that it is impossible to leave the later blossoms to perfect their seed without losing some of the earliest by shelling. It has a very thin hull, and millers report that it will make more and better flour from a bushel than the old fashioned buckwheat usually grown. If any one is sowing buckwheat late and fears that frost will catch it, we would advise him to sow the silver hull, says The American Cultivator. A half bushel of seed per acre is sufficient, and a good seeding of timothy may be got with buckwheat sown thus thinly. The grain is off early and rather helps the grass during the heat of summer by shading it from the hot sunshine and winds.

Care of Asparagus Plants.

When the cutting of asparagus is discontinued, an American Gardening correspondent recommends to encourage growth by giving plenty of cultivation and protect the plants from insect attacks by dusting with lime or plaster with a little paris green mixed with it. If the plants are encouraged to make healthy, strong growths now, they will pay for it next year with a heavy cutting of thick succulent shoots. Where the ground is not rich it should be given a dressing of bone dust or a few good waterings with liquid manure, as the asparagus is a gross feeder. Should there be any blanks in the beds mark them with sticks with a view of filling them with plants next spring.

Programme For Fighting Horn Fly.

Brief and to the point are the Iowa Homestead's directions for ridding cattle and pastures of the horn fly. Kerosene emulsion used to spray the cattle is effective, but must be frequently repeated. Fish oil, to which two tablespoonfuls of carbolic acid to the quart has been added, applied to the backs of the cattle with a broad, flat paint brush, furnishes a protection that lasts about six days. The droppings of the cattle should be broken open as soon as they become somewhat dry and sprinkled with lime. It is here that the eggs are deposited and the new broods hatch which keep up the succession during the horn fly season.

SECRET OF BRIGHT COLORS.

An Englishman Pays Dearly For a Sunshine Trick.

In speaking to the writer about the favorable influence that fine weather has upon the production of bright and delicately shaded dyes and colors, a famous English manufacturer of carmine recently said:

"Some years ago I was aware of the superiority of the French carmine, and, being anxious to improve upon my own process, I went to Lyons and bargained with the most celebrated manufacturer in that city for the acquisition of his secret, for which I was to pay $5,000.

"Well, I was shown all the process and saw a most beautiful color produced, but I noticed that there was not the least difference in the French mode of fabrication and that which I constantly adopted myself. I thereupon appealed to my instructor and insisted that he must have kept some secret concealed. The man assured me he had not and asked me to inspect the process a second time. I accepted the invitation, and after I had minutely examined the water and the materials, which were in every respect similar to my own, I still felt so much in the dark that I said, 'I have lost both my labor and money, for the air of England does not admit us to make good carmine.'

"'Stay!' said the Frenchman. 'Don't deceive yourself. What kind of weather is it now?'

"'A bright and sunny day,' I replied.

"'And such are the days,' said the Frenchman, 'on which I make my color. Were I to attempt to manufacture it on a dark and cloudy day my results would be the same as yours. Let me advise you, my friend, only to make your carmine on bright, sunny days.'

"The moral of this," continued the Englishman, "will apply quite as well to the making of many other colors used in manufactures, and also in the fine arts, for it illustrates in a practical way the chemical influence of light upon certain coloring compounds or mixtures."—Washington Star.

"In India only one woman in every 160 is able to read."

"Well, I don't believe more than one in every 160 of our own women is able to read anything besides the dry goods ads."—Chicago Times-Herald.

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