

NEBRASKANS WERE NEVER MORE IN EARNEST

THE SPIRIT OF LIBERTY—THE OPPOSITION TO OUR INDUSTRIAL TASKMASTERS—DETERMINATION TO BRING ABOUT A NEW ORDER OF THINGS NEVER WAS SO INTENSE

Mr. Bryan's Campaign Among His Home People, For Intense Interest, Large Gatherings and Masterly Addresses, Surpasses the loftiest Expectations of His Most Ardent Friends—These Extracts Are Taken From Mr. Newbranch's Accounts of the Meetings.

Seward, Neb., Sept. 25.—William J. Bryan's campaign in Nebraska opened its second week most auspiciously in Seward, the prosperous center of a thriving farming community, today. From the moment Mr. Bryan arrived this afternoon he has met an continued ovation overflowing with enthusiastic ardor.

Two thousand people met him at the depot, surging and crowding to catch a glimpse of the familiar features so well beloved; cheering his cause and shouting his name.

Mr. Bryan was driven through the principal streets of the city in a carriage that was one great mass of flags and bunting, the Tamora band, uniformed in white duck suits and caps, preceding the carriage. Heading the procession was a large body of veterans of the civil war, marching proudly, if with slow and faltering steps.

George Miller of the One Hundred and Eleventh Ohio and B. Chaddock of the Seventy-third Ohio carried an enormous American flag, and holding in the faces of those aging soldiers could be seen a determination to make that beloved emblem symbolize liberty today as it did when they followed it through war and blood and desolation to carry to the blacks of the southland the holy message of freedom and the rights of man.

The town began filling with people early in the day. Before noon the four sides of the block that forms the city square was packed with people, and the hundreds more were lined along the side streets. From twenty-five and thirty miles, from Butler county, from Lancaster, Polk and Fillmore and Saline, the farmers took their families and came to Seward to hear Bryan speak.

While Bryan, with Judges Thomas, Good and Sornerberger, Father Murphy, Fred Gerke and William DeBolt, was at dinner the great crowd began gathering in the square, listening to the music of the Beaver Crossing and Tamora bands. By the time Mr. Bryan reached the speaker's platform 5,000 or 6,000 people had gathered.

MOTTO TO BE REMEMBERED.
The pavilion was handsome decorated, encircled with great strips of bunting and gay with American flags. Above it a great stretch of canvas was erected, and on the canvas was the words—grown of late a little distasteful to republican ears: "All governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed." Just beneath these words were suspended pictures of three Americans whose lives and talents, hopes and aspirations have been dedicated to the doctrine: Washington, Lincoln and Bryan. Directly over the speaker's head was suspended a miniature liberty bell, the bell that rang out the glad tidings of independence in the days of 1776, tidings today contradicted by the actions of our outgrown American ideals of finance and government, and near the old liberty bell hung a cross of thorns and a crown of gold, emblem symbolizing the temptations of Mammon.

The chairman introduced Mr. Bryan, or went through the motions of introducing him, for so wildly were the thousands cheering that not one word he uttered could be heard. The crowd completely surrounded the speaker and before the speaker began numbered 1,000 or 2,000 people.

REPUBLICANS THERE.
Mr. Bryan was compelled to speak to his audience in sections, one at each of the four points of the compass. The speech, though over two hours in length, was listened to with the deepest attention and excitement. In Seward county, despite the fact that acting under instructions just issued by those in authority, the republican workers had made strenuous efforts to keep republicans away from the meeting, a good portion of the audience was composed of republicans. They accorded the leader so feared by their leaders a respectful attention and thoughtful hearing.

Mr. Bryan did not hesitate here in Judge Norval's home town to repeat the expense made by the World-Herald in the tax-shirking propensities of this distinguished republican leader and judge of the supreme court. Scores of Judge Norval's personal and political friends were present and written in impatient anguish as the clear cut language of the orator set forth the language of man whom the republicans have elevated to the supreme court to do justice between man and man. But none ventured to defend or deny. Silently they bore their sufferings, while the farmer who was paying Judge Norval's taxes and helping pay his salary shouted so loudly their approval of the orator's denunciation that the seats of republican notoriety in the supreme court must have shaken and quivered in Lincoln, twenty-five miles away.

ARE "GOOD TRUSTS" NOW.
Most happily did Mr. Bryan describe the change that in one short year in its some over the republican party in its attitude toward the trusts.

"Republicans," he said, "let me suggest something. A year ago you could not find a single republican who would defend the trusts. But go out and talk against them today. Oh, well, there are good trusts and bad ones. And you find the republican state platform more solicitous lest the people may do injustice to some good trust, than that the bad trusts may injure the people."

And he explained that the reason the republican party was defending trusts was that behind the trusts were the great financiers, the money trust, who possessed the American people in electing McKinley on a platform declaring for an American bimetallic and then construed the result as a declaration for the gold standard.

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speech and prevent public discussion, to hinder the words and thoughts from burning home. Above the din of hundreds of republican horns blown in concert, the orator's powerful voice arose, and when the crowd made a demonstration of anger toward the hired men, "Let them blow, my friends, let them blow," Mr. Bryan cried. "You'll find that's the only kind of blow the republicans have to rely on this fall."

REPUBLICAN HOBO METHODS.
And the crowd laughed and shouted so loudly and so long that for very shame the horn blowers were silent for almost a minute. But characteristic republican methods had to prevail, and the tooters had to earn their salaries, so the horn blowing began again and lasted to the end of the meeting.

Hundreds of decent republicans openly expressed their disgust. The fact that with brazen effrontery the organization which had in charge the scheme of interruption had dared to decorate its horn blowers with yellow ribbons but added to the general indignation. The good people of Seward county, without regard to politics, are outspurred by the condemnation of these cowardly and shameless methods, and declare that the plan was originated in Lincoln and not in Seward.

The closing sentences of Mr. Bryan's speech constituted a magnificent appeal to the religious sentiment and patriotic Americanism of his audience. The crowd was fairly carried off its feet. It followed the orator to his hotel, cheering all the way; followed him to the depot, congesting the platform and the tracks; crowding around Bryan to shake his hand and overwhelm him with congratulations.

ASHLAND MEETING.
Ashland, Neb., Sept. 25.—When Mr. Bryan arose to address from 2,500 to 4,000 of the people of Ashland and vicinity today he found himself interrupted and his audience disturbed by systematic and organized rowdism on the outskirts of the crowd.

It is evident that the republican organization of the state of Nebraska, terrified by the effects of the Bryan meetings last week, dismayed by their impotence to meet his arguments, have determined to substitute blackguardism for argument, and by constant noise throughout his speeches, endeavor to prevent the people from hearing Bryan promulgate the principles of the Declaration of Independence.

As the train pulled into the depot it was to dislodge Bryan into a sea of flaring torchlights, a fire and drum corps and a thousand of his eager fellow citizens cheering his name. A night procession with the drum and fire corps leading the way, Old Glory floating in the van, escorted Mr. Bryan to the residence of Mr. J. H. Snell, where he ate his supper.

The speaker's stand had been erected on the main business corner of the city, and was resplendent in bunting, flags, little flags and medium sized flags. Gorgeous bouquets added to the decorative effects, while likenesses of Washington, Lincoln and Bryan occupied positions in the forefront.

PRESENTS GOVERNOR POYNTER.
Dr. Meredith presided over the rally and introduced Governor Poynter as the speaker of the evening.

The governor was warmly greeted and said that he was present because he deemed it his duty as governor to speak for and defend what he conceives to be the best interests of the people of his state. He quoted Governor Roosevelt, who, in his speech in Ohio, declared that the campaign in that state this fall was national in its importance and must be fought on national as well as local issues.

"What is true in Ohio," said the governor, "is also true in Nebraska. The great basic principles of our government are at stake. Great questions of trusts and monopoly, of finance, of militarism and imperialism or republicanism are at stake. We are to decide whether in this republic each citizen is to be compelled to carry a soldier on his back."

"We are to decide whether the principles of the Declaration of Independence are obsolete, or whether they apply at all times and at all places. Shall they be applied to our government, shall they pass away, or shall we continue to hold them sacred?"

"You men who wear that little bronze button—the button of the Grand Army of the Republic," concluded Governor Poynter, "marched through blood to establish the principles of the Declaration of Independence to apply to all men everywhere, whether black or white. We are not willing today that your trials and struggles shall be nullified."

Mr. Bryan was greeted by cheers as he stepped to the platform. He was captured as they were long-continued. Continuously throughout his speech the man who had been the candidate of a great party for the highest office in the gift of the American people, was harassed and annoyed by the hired interlopers on the outskirts of the crowd.

"I am disgusted and disappointed," said a business man and republican, "that my party should think it necessary to stifle free speech and suppress arguments. I am a republican because I believe in the principles of that party—but if the republican managers are so desperate as to endeavor to prevent a public man from attacking and criticizing our principles, I confess their action shakes my confidence in the party in which I was born and bred, and which I have always supported with my money, my voice and my vote."

But despite these hired rowdies of cowardly political managers, Mr. Bryan heard by every man, woman and child who desired to listen. The innate combativeness of his nature was aroused by these shameful attempts, and his voice rang loud above the blare of trumpets and cat-calls, contracted and paid for.

Here, as at York, Mr. Bryan struck a popular chord when he attacked the so-called circular of the Nebraska Federation of Republican Newspapers published in yesterday's World-Herald. That little circular has all day been the subject of general comment. Many republicans profess to believe no such address was ever signed by Ross Hammond and T. E. Sedgwick and are eagerly waiting for those gentlemen to deny its authorship.

The cunning, Mephistophelian scheme of "creating discord in the fusionists ranks" by commencing with denunciations, republished and silver republicans, according to the peculiar make-up of

each fusion county ticket, creates considerable merriment among the fusionists and a tired feeling among republicans.

"If Ross Hammond doesn't stop making these fool breaks," said an intelligent republican farmer tonight, "he'll have the republican party as hot on his trail as was the legislature last winter when he made his celebrated gallop down O street for the Burlington depot. D-n a fool who talks too much."

But even republicans are not disposed to take kindly to the instructions that they are not to be permitted to read fusion literature lest it proves disastrous to the g. o. p.

And Wm. Becker, the republican editor of the Ashland Gazette, always a staunch republican organ, is much worried lest his own paper be placed on the index expurgatoris. Mr. Becker is frankly and openly opposed to an imperialist policy and stated in his paper but recently that imperialism must be abandoned or the republican party would be righteously destroyed.

PARTY HAS LOST ITS CASTE.
South Auburn, Neb., Sept. 24.—Two large audiences, each composed of thousands of people, were gathered at the other two hours for Bryan this afternoon and evening, cheered him up rapturously on his arrival, received his speech with enthusiastic applause and sent him with Godspeed on his way.

Mr. Bryan was billed to speak at Tecumseh at 3 o'clock this afternoon. An audience of 4,000 people from Otoe, Gage and Johnson counties had assembled in the court house grounds to hear him. The hour of 3 o'clock came and went, but the people waited. At four o'clock came and still the great crowd waited, with no sign of diminution. It was 5 o'clock before Mr. Bryan arrived from Lincoln on a train two hours late.

RAPID-FIRE GUNS.
Mr. Bryan was introduced by Hon. E. H. Grist, chairman of the democratic religious committee, who spoke for three-quarters of an hour and his address was an oratorical whirlwind. The people had come from many miles around to hear him; they had stood for hours awaiting him, and Bryan was determined not to disappoint them. In the hour of five minutes he compressed a two hours' speech, rapid, impassioned and electrifying. And time and again the audience broke forth in rapturous cheers that could not be suppressed, but not heeding the applause Bryan kept right on talking. Forty-five minutes he spent in denouncing the position or lack of position of the republican party on every important issue of this fall's campaign.

He quoted the speech of Wm. McKinley, when in 1891 he denounced Grover Cleveland for attempting to debauch silver, and charged that he was attempting to make gold the master; all things else the servant.

"That was a terrific charge, my friends," said Mr. Bryan, "for one public man to make against another, and the world to be divided into two camps. McKinley is following in the footsteps of Grover Cleveland, attempting to debauch silver to make money the master; all things else the servant, and the republicans who cheered McKinley for his courage in denouncing Cleveland in 91 are cheering him now for doing today what he then denounced."

"Do you know what the republican party reminds me of? An association of athletes who turn somersaults in their public stunts, who are cheered by the crowd and the crowd cheering him now for doing today what he then denounced."

HURRIED TRIP TO AUBURN.
When Mr. Bryan concluded amid cheers so spontaneous and loud that even his powerful voice could scarce be heard, he was almost breathless, so rapidly had he talked. He was hurried off the platform, a beautifully decorated affair, with portraits of Lincoln, Bryan and McKinley, and a table set for a dinner. He was hurriedly disposed of. Then the long drive across country to Auburn, twenty-two miles over hills and through forests, began.

It was considerably past 9 o'clock when Mr. Bryan leaped from his carriage and entered the court house grounds in Auburn. There he found from 4,000 to 5,000 people, who, having listened to an eloquent address by Hon. E. O. Krelinger of Beatrice, were eagerly awaiting his arrival.

It was after 11 o'clock when he finished his speech, and the night air was chill and cold, but not a man or woman of all the 5,000 present left or thought of leaving until the last word had been uttered.

Mr. Bryan's exposition of the republican position on trusts was especially lucid and convincing. He then went on to propose his own remedy for trusts and the increase of 300 per cent. in the size of the regular army. "If the election this fall shows a republican gain I believe the president will again ask for a large standing army," he went on, "and congress republican both will be easy to double it and double it again. We will then find our nation suffering under the same burdens as do the European powers; that of a large military establishment."

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R. Barton, pure white, and standing eighty-five feet high, vertical and erect as the party for which it stands, in striking contrast across the street stood the republican party, with a banner, with a noticeable leaning in the direction of Wall street and England, true to the best of its party as the needs to the pole.

RAISING THE OLD FLAG.
Mr. Bryan and the crowd stood with bared heads, bent in silent reverence while the brave old flag went up, the band playing, "Oh, say does the Star Spangled Banner yet wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?"

When the colors had been secured firmly aloft and were bravely floating in the breeze a spontaneous cheer went up for the loved emblem of liberty and freedom, after which the procession formed once more and wended its way to the speaker's platform, where Mr. Bryan was introduced by Mr. Curtis Smith, where Mr. Bryan and Governor Poynter took dinner.

The scene at the depot was one of indescribable enthusiasm. Over a thousand people gathered there and each individual one was determined to shake Bryan's hand, shake it at once, and shake it first. Amid cheers he reached his carriage in company with Governor Poynter, Judge Stubbs, Nels Anderson, W. H. Taylor, George W. Smith and J. A. Hollister. An immense procession, led by a large American flag, escorted the distinguished visitors to the downtown district, Sheriff Bright acting as marshal.

FARMERS WHO KNOW.
The procession marched thro' streets lined and packed with cheering people. Business houses and private residences were gaily and patriotically decorated. From all parts of Fillmore and Hamilton counties the farmers and their families had gathered at Geneva to hear the leading orator and favorite statesman of America present the issues of the campaign. Many of them were Swedes and Germans, who, knowing by bitter experience gained in the hands of the evils and burdens of the large standing army, had come many miles to learn the truth about the new issues which are confronting the American people.

The crowd gathered early on the court house grounds. When at 2 o'clock P. M. Wilson introduced the Geneva male quartet between 5,000 and 6,000 people, including many women, were in the audience. The quartet sang "America," and sang it with spirit and feeling. American hymns are this year sung with spirit and feeling. Men gathered at meetings gathered in defense of the Declaration of Independence.

Governor Poynter was introduced and acknowledged the general applause which greeted him by saying that he had come down from Lincoln to Mr. Bryan's meeting, the support of the state administration.

After touching briefly on the issues of the day he concluded by saying: "I now take pleasure in presenting to you William J. Bryan of the United States of America."

Mr. Bryan was greeted with round after round of cheers and tumultuous applause. Above him were mottoes reading: "All governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed" and "A government of the people and for the people and the people shall not perish from the earth." What wonder that the people who had been taught these doctrines since early childhood cheered the most eloquent defender those doctrines have ever had the first they have required since the days of Abraham Lincoln.

WOMEN ARE ENTHUSIASTIC.
In speaking of the income tax Mr. Bryan said: "If you republican men cannot see that your party is putting the dollar above the man, I'm going to appeal to the republican women. In an hour of peril this nation can take its son from his mother, the husband from his wife, the father from his children and stand them up in front of an enemy's guns, but in the hour of peril it cannot lay its fingers on the accumulated wealth of this country and make it bear its share of the burdens of government."

And the mothers and wives and sweethearts in that audience cheered and applauded in token that the women who are attending Bryan's meetings this fall are taking a personal and immediate interest in the policies that so nearly affect their happiness and their homes. The audience throughout the speech was enthusiastic to a degree seldom witnessed. Its applause was frequent, long and loud.

Mr. Bryan's every sentence was a sledge-hammer blow to the republican effect. But the climax came when in discussing imperialism the republican party was knocked out and carried away on three cheers by the following quotation from Wm. McKinley himself:

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"In 190, speaking at a New England dinner at Philadelphia," said Mr. Bryan, "William McKinley used these words:

"Human rights and constitutional privileges must not be forgotten in the race for wealth and commercial supremacy. The government of the people must be by the people and not for the people; it must rest upon the free consent of the governed and all of the governed. Power, it must be remembered, which is secured by oppression or usurpation or by any form of injustice, is soon detested and repudiated."

"We have no right in law or morals to usurp that which belongs to another, whether it is property or power. You say we are stirring up an insurrection in the Philippine islands," asked Mr. Bryan, "what do you think of this language of Mr. McKinley himself?"

And then the audience yelled and cheered until it was hoarse.

"Republicans," continued Mr. Bryan, "who want to settle this question on the money basis, you who think this nation is great and strong and can do as it pleases, read these words of William McKinley and blush for your position." (Cheers and loud applause.)

SOME POINTED QUESTIONS.
"You tell me that we're in the Philippines and can't get out? Weren't we in Cuba and did we have any trouble in getting out? Didn't Schley sink a Spanish fleet at Santiago as Dewey in Manila bay? Didn't we have a battle on the earth's surface at Manila bay, giving assurance of independence to the Cubans. Why not give the assurance to the Philippines?" And then again the cheering began.

MEETING AT HEBRON.
Hebron, Neb., Sept. 24.—After four hours driving over thirty miles on dusty roads, Mr. Bryan, accompanied by Judge G. A. Stubbs of Superior, reached Hebron at 9:30 o'clock tonight. The drive was made in relays, the first stop being made at Bruning, in the heart of a German-American community, where Mr. Bryan had spoken for fifteen minutes to several hundred farmers who had gathered in expectation of a speech.

Supper was eaten at the residence of C. Carleton. Mr. Bryan was driven from Bruning to Belvidere by Mr. Smith, an old schoolmate of his at Jacksonville, Ill. At Belvidere another brief address was delivered to a large

William J. Bryan this afternoon addressed one of the largest and most enthusiastic audiences that has thus far assembled to hear him in Nebraska this fall.

Mr. Bryan and Governor Poynter were met at Fairmont by Hon. George W. Stubbs, fusion candidate for judge in the Seventh district, by the Fairmont band and a large reception committee from Geneva and surrounding towns.

The Fairmont platform was packed with people, come to catch a glimpse of Nebraska's great statesman as he transferred to the train for Geneva and hundreds of them by dine of indescribable perseverance succeeded in shaking his hand.

At Geneva the Exeter band, the Grafton band, the Geneva ladies' band and the Fairmont band, which accompanied the train, lined up to lead the procession to the residence of George W. Smith, where Mr. Bryan and Governor Poynter took dinner.

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crowd, after which Mr. Bryan was rapidly driven to Hebron in the handsome, light-colored carriage of W. R. Talbot of Hebron. The carriage had no sooner entered the city limits than the news spread like wildfire that Bryan was in town. With a rush and a roar hundreds of the crowd made for the hotel, all anxious to be first to cheer the chief.

The meeting tonight was held under the shelter of a large tent secured from Omaha. Some idea of the size of the crowd may be gathered from the fact that seats had been provided for 6,000 persons, and at least 1,000 could not find seats. And a notion of its loyalty and enthusiasm is conveyed when it is known that every seat was taken at 1 o'clock, and that for almost two hours and a half those people sat and waited for the coming of the man they love.

When Mr. Bryan entered the tent, a prodigious shout and universal cheer went up and was uproariously continued until the audience was fairly exhausted and was performed obliged to relapse into silence.

Among those present were hundreds upon hundreds of women and none were more carefully attentive, more discerning and more earnest than the plause than they. The audience was manifestly a most friendly one. It hung in rapt attention on the orator's every word, responded to his every appeal, and fairly went off its feet in volleys upon volleys of cheers as Bryan hurled denunciations and defiance at the republican party of Mark Hanna and its vicious, dangerous and un-American policy.

PLATFORM A CURIOSITY.
The meeting was presided over by Hon. M. H. Weiss, who briefly introduced the president. Mr. Bryan labeled the platform "imperialism," recently adopted in Omaha as a curiosity that ought to be preserved in alcohol. He put it to a vote of the audience whether or not the election of 1896 had been an unequivocal endorsement of the gold standard. He asked those who believed in it to hold up their hands. There were 14,000 hands present, free and untrammelled, but not a one of them went up.

Mr. Bryan said he was glad at this evidence that the people were not so badly fooled by that platform as the man had been misled and misled, who wrote it. When the gold standard reduces the everything the farmer sells, said Mr. Bryan, and the trusts are increasing the price of everything he buys, he is burning the candle at both ends, and the republican farmers will realize the danger and distress and suffering that republican policies have in store for them.

IMPERIALIST IN BRIEF.
The arguments in favor of imperialism Mr. Bryan thus epitomized: "First, there's the financial argument that there's money in it; second, the religious argument that it's in it; and third, the political argument that we are in it and can't get out."

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