

The Norfolk News

It is almost too cold to start the city political pot to boiling.

General Funston is cutting into the Tagalog ranks at home to an extent that is very disconcerting to the anti.

The Neigh Leader has discarded its blanket-size and now appears as a seven-column quarto with four pages of home print. It is a commendable improvement.

Winter has shown that it is still it and is entitled to all the honors accruing. It now has the common consent of the people to retire and give the radishes a chance.

Governor Savage will have more time to instruct in his idea of justice after his present term of office expires. Bartley should endow a school of their cult and establish the governor as president.

The house committee on coinage, weights and measures has favorably reported a bill to adopt the metric system of weights and measurements as the standard for the United States.

General Funston is just now the paramount issue with the democrats. The doughty little Kansas general has been successful in discomfiting the country's enemies in the far east and will undoubtedly hold his own at home.

There is no discounting March weather for variety. When the people imagine that they are in the midst of spring they are really on the verge of winter and when it is believed to be nothing but winter, spring is right at hand.

Others who have received Governor Savage's invitations to meet with him and discuss privately the Bartley pardon will probably wonder if there is back of it a similar attempt at exposure like that in the case of M. A. Brown of Kearney.

Senator Dietrich's bill, dividing Nebraska into two federal judicial districts, was passed by the senate Thursday. Now if the house will do the same and the president signs the bill the people of the state will appreciate it very much.

Those people who have a desire to criticize General Funston for his remarks concerning the Philippines and Filipinos should stop long enough to consider that the general probably knows more of what he is talking about in a minute than they do in a month.

A Missouri young woman kept a record of all kisses, promises and other marks of affection exchanged with her lover and now has them to back a \$5,000 breach of promise suit. It is a valuable tip for other young women who have reason to suspect that their lovers might not stick.

The Nebraska Independent asks: "Would Abraham Lincoln protect life by shooting 30,000 Filipinos?" He undoubtedly would. He shot more than many of his own countrymen—of his race—dearer to him by far than any Filipino could be, to protect—not life—but the liberty of an oppressed race.

The congressional librarian says that in 42 years he has had but two calls for the bible from national legislators. This may be taken as meaning one of two things, one is that the American lords have little use for this ancient book of laws and another is that they are so well posted on its contents that they seldom need to refer to it.

Some of the fusion papers are holding that Ex-Treasurer Meserve is a deeply wronged man, if not a martyr. They and Governor Savage, Bartley, et al., should organize a new party on that line of belief. They could hope for no support from the people, but could formulate a platform on which they could stand with consistency.

The officials of France are now considering the proposition to come a-courting to the United States. They are favorably disposed to accept the invitation extended by congress to participate in the ceremonies attending the inauguration of the Rochambeau monument at Washington. It is likely that high officials of that country will attend with one of their finest war vessels.

It is quite apparent that the country members of the republican party, represented by the country press, propose to exert an influence in the coming state campaign and it will not be favorable to Savage, Bartley, et al. There is scarcely a country publisher, if one, in north Nebraska, who does not favor the turning down of the entire gang and rebuilding with new and strong timber.

If the F. E. & M. V., while constructing the Verdigré extension, would now unite with the Union Pacific and the C. St. P. M. & O. in the construction of a union depot some place up town in Norfolk, as which all trains would arrive and depart, one great desire of Norfolk citizens would be realized. The Commercial club should endeavor to ascertain if it could be of any assistance to the railroads in attaining this end.

And to think that intrepid, St. George-like O. Justina J. Smyth whose

record as a trust-smasher almost equals that of W. J. Bryan himself, would be guilty of assisting Ex-Treasurer Meserve in evading the law and punishment. Really it is too much to contemplate, and the thought that these two saints of populism should fall as low as a common republican, is almost heartrending! The next thing we know the whole party will be as wicked as are the republicans.

The Nebraska State Record, of Lincoln, this week publishes the names of those who petitioned Governor Poynter to grant a pardon to Embezzler Bartley and among others is found the name of H. H. Wilson of Lincoln, who is being boomed by friends of the Savage-Bartley crowd for governor. Either one of the recommendations ought to be sufficient to defeat Wilson. The next candidate of the republicans ought to be a man who can be defended against all accusations of being aligned with the old ring.—Grand Island Independent.

The rumor has been heard on the streets repeatedly since the republican city convention that Jack Koenigstein would not make the race for mayor. In conversation with Mr. Koenigstein last evening he positively assured THE NEWS that these rumors are without foundation. He has been made the regular nominee of the party and he does not expect to shirk the responsibility. While it was apparent that he did not court the nomination, and in fact tried to decline at the convention, now that he has been made the candidate he should receive the support of the party that placed him on the ticket, and if he does receive such support he will be elected.

Perhaps the Filley way is the quickest and surest way to take the romance out of this extortion business in which threats against persons and property are employed. Ever since Pat Crowe has been so thoroughly advertised there have been numerous daring imitations in all parts of the country. Few however, have been crowned with success and many of them with disaster, as in the Filley case. The remedy applied by the people of Filley may have been pretty severe but the case was undoubtedly one needing a radical cure and it is doubtful if a jury of his peers will permit the man who shot the Crowe imitator to be severely punished, if at all.

The rise of Colonel Cowry to the presidency of the Western Union Telegraph company, is further evidence that the boy and young man of America has a chance if he will improve it. He began his career as messenger boy for a telegraph company and by his energy and worth worked himself up step by step through the grades of operator, manager, superintendent, general superintendent and vice president until he is now at the head of the greatest telegraph service in the country. There is a chance for the boys if they will take it. They cannot jump into the highest position at one bound but they can get there if they have the determination and ability necessary.

The "anti" press feels itself highly insulted by the suggestion of General Funston at the Lotos club dinner that if they would shut up for a while the insurgents in the Philippines would quit their idiotic fighting and in fact would have quit two years ago had not they been constantly inspired by the perpetual yelping against the government policy in this country. It is now overwhelming (in its mind, at least) the gallant Kansan with such epithets as an "adventurer," or a filibuster pitchforked into high army command and all that sort of tenderness. Pretty soon they will be calling him "butcher" as their prototypes, the copperheads, called Grant.—State Journal.

Rainmaker Whitney of Rocky Ford, Colorado, who wants to produce an average of three-quarters of an inch of moisture in Nebraska for \$1,000 has come at the wrong time of year with his hold-up proposition. Nebraska always has plenty of moisture in the spring without the aid of any rainmaker. Now if July and August prove dry, as they have in times past, and Mr. Whitney would produce three-quarters of an inch of precipitation through the manipulation of his wet producing machinery, he might be able to collect from the appreciative people of Nebraska, who would feel so good that they wouldn't miss a small \$1,000 given most any chump.

Mixed in with his defense of the Bartley pardon and his efforts to convince the people that he is the best executive the state ever had and deserving of a nomination at the hands of the republican convention, Governor Savage occasionally does or says something worthy of notice. In line with this is his suggestion, in the annual Arbor day proclamation, that each observer of the day plant a tree commemorative of the late President McKinley. Arbor day, which is Tuesday, April 22, should be generally observed by schools, patriotic organizations and all property owners and in dedicating a tree to the late president additional significance will be attached to such observance. It is a good suggestion and should meet with popular approval.

Chairman De France of the populist state committee considers that a fusion

state ticket is a foregone conclusion. There are many who will agree with the populist chairman. The parties have grabbed that fusion battery and they can't let go although they grow weaker the longer they hang on. They will therefore probably keep hold until they are dropped by the wayside completely exhausted. This is the story of growing weakness the election returns tell. Holcomb was first elected governor by a plurality of something like 20,000. The other pluralities were as follows: 1896—Bryan electors, fusion, plurality 12,935; 1897—Sullivan fusion plurality 13,829; 1898—Poynter, fusion plurality 2,721; 1899—Holcomb, fusion plurality 5,107; 1900—McKinley, republican plurality 7,822; 1901—Seidgwick, republican plurality 12,659. If the future is governed by the past it is easy to anticipate a large republican plurality in Nebraska this fall.

An Object Lesson. A poor Chicago washer-woman has seven children whose food and clothing she provides by ceaseless toil, yet she finds time to teach them the great truths which every child should be taught and to a lady who offered her \$5,000 for one of them, she replied with pity in her voice: "I am very sorry for you, but I could not trust one of them to the care of another; I would not take \$1,000,000 for him."

Here is a lesson for those who lecture and write upon the duties of motherhood, the art of home-making and kindred topics. Poor, obscure, isolated from all that the world is pleased to call pleasure, daily toil at the tub her never-changing vocation, each day a trifle grayer, slow in step and bent in body; yet, when she hears the childish prayers whispered at night, far richer than the bejeweled lady whose carriage halts at her humble door that its silken-clad occupant may plead tearfully for just one-seventh the joy of the woman she had once thought poor. This humble toiler's sphere is large enough to hold a wealth of love, a mine of contentment.—The Conservative.

The Savage-Bartley Hand.

Governor Savage has made a characteristic effort to shut off the opposition of M. A. Brown of the Kearney Hub to his nomination as candidate for governor, which again discloses the Savage-Bartley hand toward forcing the issue. It must be admitted that it is a cleverly constructed, but most undignified attack, coming from the state executive office, and it will be surprising if it does not call out a vigorous defense and counter-attack on the part of Mr. Brown and his friends. It appears that the governor seeks to convey the impression that Mr. Brown is one of the Bartley beneficiaries inasmuch as he had borrowed from the Kearney National bank \$14,000 and the bank failed, owing the state \$6,000 which the governor claims it would have been able to repay had Mr. Brown and other creditors paid, in their turn, what they owed. Until the governor shows that the money Mr. Brown received was loaned as state money and known as such to the borrower, his attempt at revenge is very weak. Everyone knows that the general reason for the failure of a bank is that it is carrying too much paper on which it cannot realize at the proper time, but unless money on such loans is obtained fraudulently or illegally there is no blame to attach to the borrower unless it be that of poor business judgment. If this exposition indicates anything, it is that the bank officials did not use the best of business discretion in making loans and indicates that Bartley as treasurer was not careful in inquiring into the solvency of the bank before depositing money therein. Developments have proven that this particular bank was overburdened with paper on which it could not realize, a fact of which Bartley should have been cognizant before he made it a state depository. Furthermore Bartley was charged and convicted of embezzlement, a charge that could not have rested on the proper deposit of money in a bank that had been determined in a solvent condition by a careful examination. If Governor Savage, through his intercourse with the defaulting ex-state treasurer, has learned that there are direct beneficiaries of his defalcation he should not hesitate to disclose them, but no sort of politics would justify him in exposing a man's poor business judgment, while direct beneficiaries are shielded by truckling to the Savage-Bartley cause.

The pardon of Bartley cannot be classed as a mistake, neither as the result of poor judgment on the part of the executive, but as a deliberate outrage on justice and on the good name of the republican party and people of the state. By attempting to tear others down, Savage can never build himself up and his opposition will be more intense and vigorous the more frequently he tries such tactics as in the Brown instance. The governor does not plead ignorance or error, but insists that he was doing right in the face of the opposition of his party and it is sublime presumption on his part to ask that party to endorse an act which it has disapproved in state convention.

Bartley was convicted of embezzlement for converting to his own use a warrant for \$181,000 and not for the sums lawfully deposited in the banks of the state [which, they through failure, were unable to repay.

Robertson for Governor.

As long ago as last fall, friends in various parts of the state began to urge Hon. W. M. Robertson of this city to allow the use of his name as candidate for governor before the coming republican state convention. For a long time he withstood these flattering propositions, as he had very little inclination to go through the trials of a long campaign, but now that it has become apparent that they are being made in earnest, that the desire to have a candidate from the northern part of the state is sincere, he has at last consented to enter the race. Mr. Robertson will be a strong factor in the gubernatorial contest. He has lived in this state since the pioneer days, and he has friends and acquaintances all over Nebraska who will be glad to support him for the position, which they know he will fill with honor and ability. "Rob," as he is familiarly known among personal friends and in political circles, has lived in this county during the past 28 years and during all that time has been closely identified with the republican party. No call of his party has been neglected and he has served faithfully and well its every demand, doing valiant work both on the stump and in an executive capacity for the party whose principles he believes are right. He has been national committeeman for this state and has served in a number of minor positions.

He has more ability than any man who has occupied the gubernatorial chair for years, and if nominated and elected he will give the people of this state an administration to which they may point with pride, not apology, when he is mentioned. That he is a man of conviction and not afraid to enforce what he believes is right, was demonstrated the year he served as mayor of the city of Norfolk, when he took the position under most trying local conditions and gave the city one of the best administrations it ever had—clean, conscientious and honest.

That he will receive the loyal support of Madison county for the nomination and election, goes without saying, and from the number of letters received and favorable newspaper mention made, even in advance of his announced candidacy, there seems no doubt but that he will be heartily endorsed by most of the counties of north Nebraska. Following are among the newspaper clippings concerning Mr. Robertson and his candidacy for governor, showing that the trend of public sentiment is strongly toward him:

Columbus Journal: W. M. Robertson of Norfolk is being mentioned by republicans for nomination as a party candidate for governor. Mr. Robertson is certainly an able man, a strong republican, and has a host of political friends in Nebraska.

Madison Mail: Hon. W. M. Robertson and F. W. Richardson are prominently mentioned in connection with the republican gubernatorial nomination. If we are to have a republican governor either of these gentlemen will be satisfactory.

Bloomfield Monitor: The Monitor notes that Mayor W. M. Robertson, of Norfolk, has been mentioned as a possible nominee for governor of Nebraska. And why not? Mr. Robertson can fill the bill ably and well and would make an ideal candidate. North Nebraska must have a candidate this trip.

Neligh Leader: Among the candidates for the position of governor on the republican ticket is mentioned the name of Hon. W. M. Robertson of Madison. He is a clean man of fine executive ability, and would make a governor of whom the whole state might well be proud. In Antelope county he is popular and would poll a large vote.

Pierce Call: The Madison Star says that Hon. W. M. Robertson, of Norfolk, is liable to be a candidate for governor on the republican ticket. No better selection could be made. Mr. Robertson is a north Nebraska man and would make things hum if nominated. If north Nebraska republicans will only hang together Mr. Robertson can be nominated.

Pierce Call: Burt Mapes and Major E. H. Tracy were up from Norfolk Tuesday on legal business. Mr. Mapes informs us that Hon. W. M. Robertson, of their city, has announced himself as a candidate for governor before the republican state convention and his request is meeting with encouragement from all parts of the state. If this part of Nebraska will go to the convention solid for "Rob," as he is familiarly called, he can be nominated easily.

Schuyler Sun: News comes from Norfolk, that Judge Robertson is smiling at his friends who mention his name in connection with the nomination for governor. There is not a man in this part of Nebraska the Sun would rather support for the place than Judge Robertson. The judge is not a big man physically but he has plenty of gray matter in the cranial cavity. He is intellectually and morally fitted by nature and experience for the governor's chair.

Bixby was up at Neligh the other day and he writes as follows to the State Journal: Having a little spare time yesterday, I talked with some of the leading republicans concerning the gubernatorial situation. There is a strong feeling that the north Platte district should furnish the man, and Hon. W. M. Robertson of Norfolk is the favorite. There are no objections on personal grounds to H. H. Wilson, but subtle influences are felt in these parts, and crop out in an ill-disguised prejudice against anything or anybody politically associated with Lancaster county.

Columbus Times: No abler or better man in all Nebraska can be nominated for governor, than Hon. W. M. Robertson of Norfolk. The Times editor has been honored with his intimate acquaintance during his entire residence in Nebraska—and was ushered into this world within "a stone's throw" of his birthplace in the old Empire state—and a truer man, a more accomplished gentleman, a better lawyer or a more loyal republican never lived. If he can be in-

clined to accept it, nominate Robertson and he will not only score a big victory, but will be an honor to this great commonwealth.

Albion News: Among the names mentioned for candidate for governor on the republican ticket this fall is that of Hon. W. M. Robertson, of Norfolk. Mr. Robertson is well and favorably known in Boone county as well as all over north Nebraska, and would make a strong candidate. It is pretty near time that this section of the state was recognized by the republican party. We have been making the most rapid strides in increasing our population, as well as in republican majorities, and if Mr. Robertson we can force recognition. The republicans of north Nebraska will never submit to having Savage rammed down their throats by the B. & M. railroad syndicate.

The Denver Republican of March 14, contains an article of considerable interest to the people of Nebraska in that it concerns the governor, an ex-state treasurer and others who have taken part in the politics of this state. It states that a party of Nebraskans then in Denver, contemplate the erection of a large beet sugar factory near Sterling, at the upper end of the Platte valley. Those said to be interested in the investment are Governor E. P. Savage, George A. Mead of Omaha, Ex-Treasurer Joseph Bartley, Thomas Foley of Omaha and Attorney Frank E. Munn. With this to guide them the people are now beginning to see the incentive for the governor's clemency toward Bartley. They mean to build a factory and the ex-treasurer will pay back to the people in sweetness what they have lost through his incumbency. Any who are soured over his steal will be liberally served with sugar until their sweetness of disposition will be unrivaled. The question naturally arises, where do Savage, Bartley & Co. get the money to erect such a plant in Colorado? Could it be possible that a part of that half million which Bartley stole from the state, is going into that factory, and that the governor will get a sugar factory, while the people of Nebraska have a gold brick?

The Chicago Chronicle points out the imperative need of a democratic leader in congress and winds up an impassioned plea for such a leader with the following: "How much longer is the fantastic Barnaby Rudge of Lincoln, Neb., to remain even nominally at the head of what was once a party of ideas and principles? How much longer is his raven croak of "Never say die" to resound over the last ditch of party paralysis and incapacity? Is there no democrat anywhere who is man enough to insist that the democratic party shall be democratic and not populist?"

Members of the Fremont fire department appear to have a keen sense of justice as well as of duty. On account of the service they rendered during the recent fire, Hammond Bros. sent them a check for \$100. They undoubtedly earned that, and more, but the chief returned it, explaining that the department would prefer to look to the firm for favors when their fortunes were on the up-grade, than when they were suffering from the severest misfortune. He expressed thanks for the acknowledgment of service but considered that the firm might put that sum of money to good use in making a fresh start.

Everyone who comes back from Oklahoma lately has a roast for it. Dust ankle deep, no business, everyone panic stricken—these are the reports. In some parts of Oklahoma wheat that was put in the ground last August has had no moisture to start it to growing. It is said that should there be plenty of moisture from now on, the wheat crop of that territory will not be a third of what it was last season.—Superior Journal.

General Funston is well convinced that those who have been comparing Aginaldo to our own immortal George Washington have slandered the name and fame of the father of his country. He could not imagine, for instance, that George Washington would deliberately murder one of his generals with the explanation that: "I had him killed simply because he would have been dictator instead of myself."

The democrats are already beginning to find those sure signs of victory for 1904. These signs will continue to multiply as the road nears the campaign and when election is at hand the success of the democratic ticket will be loudly and enthusiastically claimed even though the returns will show that the vote for that ticket is no larger than that received by the prohibit onists.

It is claimed that Ex-Treasurer Meserve's acquittal is another of those jokes on Nebraska justice and the people of the state and the moral is as plain as that Savage will not be the next governor: If you have a hankering to appropriate something that doesn't belong to you get into the state treasurer's office as fast as you can and be certain that a Savage is in the executive chair.

A North Carolina paper would like someone to recollect if they ever heard the cry, "Let well enough alone," during the days of Cleveland rule, Coxy armies and free soup houses. It was certainly not a campaign cry and may have been uttered under the breath and in remote localities.

Mark Twain has added two new

maxims to the world's stock. They are: "We ought never to do wrong when people are looking," and "No real gentleman will tell the naked truth in the presence of ladies." To which may be added Mark's tribute to a deceased friend, "He didn't possess an interesting vice to brighten his somber virtues."

The Genoa Times thinks the ten per cent cause was neither advanced or retarded by the visit of Mrs. Nation to that city, but that the cause of Mrs. Nation was advanced about \$30 worth by the sale of hatchets, besides the regular admission fee in which David will have no share.

The Filley coroner's jury decided that the man who killed the imitator of Pat Crowe at that place was guiltless of any wrong in the eyes of the law. It is sufficient warning that extortion of that sort will not be countenanced there.

The czar's government is getting in a rather serious condition when the government troops cannot be trusted to suppress riots, and refuse to fire on their countrymen.

THE JAPAN CURRENT.

Kuro Siwo Piles Great Loads of Driftwood on Alaska's Shores.

In one sense the Kuro Siwo, or Japan current, is the most interesting in the world because many oceanographers believe it was the direct means of peopling America. This much at least is certain: If a boat were to be set adrift on parts of the Asiatic coast and survived all storms, the Japan current could be depended upon to carry it across the Pacific and deposit it on the American shore. Such a thing has happened. In 1832 nine Japanese fishermen were left derelict and unable to find their way back to shore. They went with the current, and after a drift lasting during several months they were carried to Hawaii.

Trees torn by storms from the banks of Asiatic rivers frequently float across the Pacific to the American coast. Between Kakatag and Kyak islands, about 1,200 miles northwest of Seattle, enormous piles of this driftwood cover the beaches. There can be no question of the Asiatic origin of the timber. They are the trunks of the amphora tree, the mango and the mahogany. Logs 150 feet long and eight feet in diameter are frequently found. Many of them are seen floating shoreward, with fantastic roots standing high above the waves. In places the logs are piled twenty feet high. They are generally without bark, which has been peeled off by the waves, and most of them have become white and heavy from impregnation with salt water. As they pile up the sands drift over them, and gradually they sink out of sight, and new beaches are formed. This process has been going on for ages, and the shore line is being steadily extended. Excavations along the beach show that texture of the buried timber gets harder and harder the farther in you go, until in some instances petrification has taken place. Other excavations show logs that have turned to coal.

The presence of Siberian driftwood on the shores of Greenland convinced Nansen that his idea of drifting across the Polar sea in the Fram was logical. Great quantities of the wood are annually cast on the coasts of Spitzbergen and Nova Zembla, and there are tribes of Greenland Eskimos who depend for sledge runners and other wooden implements on the drift from Siberian forests. For years they depended for iron implements on the hoops of casks which came to them over seas.—Theodore Waters in Ainslee's.

The Willing Worker.

"Why is it," asked a modest young breadwinner, "that when I stay at the office after hours to voluntarily do an extra amount of work somebody who is in charge pounces upon me as his justifiable victim and gives me still more to do?"

"That has happened to me time after time in my business, and at each repetition I have taken a vow that if I am ever in charge of an office I shall give any one of my subordinate who sits down and does work which isn't specifically required of him credit for what he does do and let it go at that, without adding insult to injury, as it were, by giving him something further to do. "Of course it's an old saying that the man who does the most work is the man usually 'worked'; but it's discouraging enough, though, he goes ahead and lets himself be 'worked,' with only a weak objection to ease his feelings."—New York Mail and Express.

Mushrooms Are Filling.

One virtue of the mushroom that oftentimes is not realized by its champions even is its nutritive qualities, for it is often considered fit only for a sauce or a side dish. Recently I ate dinner with a friend who is a bon vivant and gifted with an abnormally large appetite. To my surprise, he ordered nothing but mushrooms, bread and butter and, of course, drinkables. We had mushrooms raw, stewed, fried and broiled on toast. It was my first experience, but I found them excellent. I certainly thought they would not "stay by me;" but, to my surprise, for many hours afterward I had a complete sense of fullness as rare roast beef or juicy steak ever imparted.—New York Telegram.

A Change.

"We must economize," he said emphatically. "I'm so glad!" his wife exclaimed. "You take the announcement more good natured than usual. "Yes; it's pleasant to hear you use the plural pronoun. Ordinarily, when there is any economizing needed, you expect me to do it all."