

The Norfolk Weekly News-Journal

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MAKING POLITICAL PREDICTIONS.

It is a wise man who knows when not to prophesy. Colonel Watterson issued a prediction a year ago that President Roosevelt would be forced to succeed himself in the white house.

A year has passed. Colonel Watterson, just home from gay Paris, gets off the boat, looks around the wharf and issues a new prediction. This time Governor Hughes is slated to win.

The colonel goes even further and says that Bryan will be nominated by the democrats. He says that nobody else is being seriously considered and nobody else wants it.

And so it is time to change your money from Roosevelt to Hughes, according to the colonel. Just how long it will be before another installment of his opinion comes forth, is not announced.

A CURE FOR BROKEN HEARTS.

No more broken hearts. It has all been figured out down in New York state, and it ought to prevent a lot of brainstorms. Instead of allowing him to suicide or grieve himself thin, a girl in Obenburg, Sullivan county, New York, has fixed up the wounded heart by remitting every cent that the fruitless courtship cost.

Joe Moser had been "goin' with" Barbara Rutz for fifteen years. This spring he popped the question. Barbara had no father but did own a stepmother. Joe insisted that the stepmother should not live with him and his bride.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes items like 'To expenses, North Branch fair', 'To merry-go-round rides', 'To pop corn', 'To candy', 'Sunday night', 'To maple sugar', 'To trinkets', 'Time lost on moonlight nights in haying season', 'Charge for buggy to Mrs. Frolic party', 'Repairing buggy reins', 'To Tennessean lake dances', 'Charges for buggy rides in busy season, no charge in slack time', 'Repairing roof of mother's house', 'Sundries, which does not include many things not charged for'.

GROUP TWO, BANKERS.

In speaking of the annual convention held Arbor day at Fremont by group two of the Nebraska bankers, the Fremont Tribune says: It is without flattery to say that Group Two is the largest and best of the several groups into which the state association is divided.

justice without a protest. Fremont is wrong about it. Next to group No. 2, the second group may be "the largest and best." Bankers of northeastern Nebraska, who have spent their lives in building up this great half of a great state, and who have co-operated with the farmers in overcoming obstacles without number so effectively that today northern Nebraska is recognized all over the west as the most promising section of the state in many ways, are unwilling, as are their neighbors and friends, to admit that the group which meets down at Fremont possesses, as the Fremont paper claims, a "superiority" over the association which met in Norfolk on Monday.

Settling down to real facts in the case, group No. 3 is the oldest sectional bankers' association in the state of Nebraska and it is the largest. The convention here had 151 guests registered when Fremont had, but eighty-five. This was the tenth annual banquet of group 3, while it was only the ninth meeting of group 2.

It might be well to call attention to the fact that group 3 has become so important that today it attracts financiers from three states—Nebraska, South Dakota and Iowa. And they come from parts of the west which are still doing the noblest kind of constructive work.

Fremont and the Tribune can't be blamed for being as cheerful as possible under the circumstances. Perhaps it does no harm to even claim "superiority" over other bankers in the state. But the people of northern Nebraska and the bankers of northern Nebraska can not thus be disregarded without a protest.

CO-OPERATING WITH NEWSPAPER

Complaint is made in the case of a certain northern Nebraska man who has been tried and convicted for a crime, that he was excessively punished because of a popular prejudice which was excited against him by the newspapers after the crime was committed; and that the newspapers never have given him fair treatment. It is possible that a prejudice may be formed against men through unfair reports in the public prints. The true aim of real newspapers is to treat all sides fairly. The complaint made of unfair treatment, therefore, carries with it a boomerang in that, sifting the complaint down to its foundation, we find that the person who is not fairly treated has only himself to blame.

The man who makes it a point to accurately inform the newspapers as to his attitude or his phase of a case in which the public is interested, generally has no complaint of unfair treatment to make. Many public men who always appear to be "in the papers," are the men who make it a point to take the papers into their confidence and to make it easy for the papers to get at their sides of the stories. The papers print what facts they can get. The result is that the man who declines to discuss the matter, or who attempts to mislead the public prints, gets only such fractions of his story presented as can be secured.

President Roosevelt has been a striking example of the man who has seen to it that the press was always supplied with his side of each question or controversy. He has taken the newspapers into his confidence by giving them advance copies of his utterances, in order that the reports might be correct. He has gone out of his way to make it easy for the newspapers to get from him the information sought. When he has a confidence that he wishes, for good reason, to be protected, he explains it in full to the correspondents who are after the news and, giving his reasons, asks that the story be withheld until opportune time. He treats the newspapers fairly and the result is that he is in the headlines all of the time without misrepresentation. In fact he has maintained his power over the country through this potent method of getting his views before the reading public.

To refuse information to the press or to attempt to mislead, is putting a premium upon getting the facts from another source. The man who treats the papers fairly by giving them all the information they want about his side of the question, generally has no complaint to make about unfairness; it is the element which maintains silence, waiting for the newspapers to find out for themselves, and volunteering none of his viewpoint, who generally suffers when, having failed in their genuine efforts to get at all of the details which he might wish to see printed, the papers appear without the facts as seen with his eyes. To get itself in print just as it

would like, the public has a duty to perform in co-operating with the printer. And those who make it difficult to get at all sides of the story, have no right to complain when the final publication is not according to their liking.

NORFOLK AS CONVENTION POINT

Once more Norfolk's ideal location as the hub of a huge wheel of territory, and consequently as a business and convention center, has been written indelibly upon the new northwest.

The bankers of northeastern Nebraska met in this city Arbor day in an annual convention. The largest attendance ever known in the convention's history went down in the book. And it was pronounced the most successful convention—even more of a success, many of the visitors claimed, than the state meetings.

Norfolk as the logical convention point in this vast territory was so thoroughly stamped upon the minds of the guests that they determined, unsolicited, to come back again next year and to probably make this the permanent meeting point. The Norfolk bankers took the attitude that the convention should determine for itself where the next meeting should be held. They took no part in the discussion. They explained that they did not wish to appear in the attitude of seeking the next convention or in any way to seem to act selfishly. They wanted no more attention than their share, no more than the bankers genuinely wished to bestow.

Norfolk wishes in no way to appear to want more than its share. As Mr. Durland declared, Norfolk has learned, first of all, that it must be neighborly. For that reason the convention was not solicited to return next year. It was stated that, if the convention wished to come back, they certainly would be given a cordial welcome and Norfolk would be glad to see them. They came back because they believed this is the logical convention point in northern Nebraska. And the judgment of bankers is generally sound.

BRYAN'S LATEST UTTERANCE

Mr. Bryan has thrown another bombshell into the national democratic party's camp. This time he has burned his bridges behind him and has left no loophole for retreat, as he did in his Madison Square Garden speech declaring for government ownership of railroads. Mr. Bryan's latest theory is the old populist doctrine of the initiative and referendum for the nation. He has declared that unless the doctrine is accepted by the national democratic party without reservation he and the party will have to separate.

Mr. Bryan has made his new declaration in a speech in Brooklyn. It was a midnight speech, made after all others had finished. Speakers of prominence throughout the evening had bestowed praise upon the Nebraskan and had declared that he was the unquestioned leader of the party. Then he got up and created the panic. Unlike his Madison Square Garden address, in which he declared for government ownership of railroads, and from which he receded when he found it to be unpopular in his own party, Mr. Bryan cannot this time crawl out of his doctrine. In the Madison Square Garden instance he came home from Europe to declare that he was in favor of government ownership. Then he waited for a little while. When he found that there were serious objections to the theory among conservative democrats, he flopped back by declaring that he had simply given the utterances as his personal views, not as a representative of the democratic party, and that if the party did not see fit to accept the doctrine he would not insist upon it. He has since declared that the government ownership idea is not paramount, and the other day he issued a letter to the Wall Street Journal in which he qualified his position. But in this instance Mr. Bryan has said that sink or swim, sur-

vive or perish, live or die, he is in favor of the initiative and referendum and if the democratic party is not for the same compound principle, so much the worse for the democratic party because, unless the doctrine is accepted, the democratic party will be called upon to do without William Jennings Bryan forthwith and forevermore.

And the conservative element of the party has taken serious exceptions to this populist doctrine, which was planted in Kansas and Nebraska in the days when populism held full sway. The doctrine is declared to be a ridiculous one by the conservatives. And there's trouble to pay.

It seems to be an accepted fact that Mr. Bryan believes he must have some paramount issue in order to maintain his hold upon his party. When he was in congress his speeches were dramatically in favor of tariff reform. Then he went to free and unlimited coinage of silver at sixteen to one. So strongly did he cling to this that the national party, in St. Louis convention, when naming Gold Democrat Parker for the national candidate, was forced by Mr. Bryan's personal influence to remain silent with regard to gold or silver. All during these days of silver talk, Mr. Bryan kept quiet about everything else. Silver was his paramount issue. Today, however, he claims that Roosevelt stole his clothes in railway regulation and, to go one better, he came home and launched his government ownership dream. This met a cold reception and the very next day prominent democrats began to deal it hard blows. So Mr. Bryan retreated. But he has left no road for retreat in the initiative and referendum doctrine. This is what he said:

"You may differ with me in many things in regard to party doctrines, but if you do not believe in the capacity of the people to govern themselves, which is what the initiative and referendum means, I will drive you out of the democratic party. I repeat that I will drive you out of the democratic party, because if the democratic party does not believe in the rule of the people it will have no trouble in driving me out."

The idea of the initiative and referendum is a preposterous one and is recognized as such by prominent democrats as well as republicans. The absurdity of submitting every important measure that comes along to a vote of the entire country is not only highly impossible but is against the spirit of our constitution. It was in order that impulsive action, in the heat of passion, might not control the government that the constitutional forefathers gave a senate between the lower house and laws, and gave to state legislatures the right to elect United States senators. Even at that, state legislatures only elect one-third of the senate every two years.

Until this last speech of Mr. Bryan's there seemed little doubt but that he might have had a unanimous nomination by the democratic party for the presidential race, but old timers, who had forgiven his head silver issue and government ownership theories, now realize that, even if nominated, he would be beaten by anybody if he persists in this initiative and referendum doctrine, as he says he will.

A RULING ON PASSES.

A ruling has been given by Attorney General Thompson of Nebraska in which he interprets the new anti-pass law with regard to attorneys and physicians. The new law requires that passes and free transportation may be granted only to attorneys and physicians who devote a majority of their time to the service of the railroad. Attorney General Thompson has declared that under this provision, an attorney or a physician may be given free transportation for use when on a mission for the railroad company. In other words, if an attorney or physician is employed for one day on railroad business, he may be given trip passes for that day. And, while the interpretation says that passes may not be given for use on private trips, it is not at all impossible that the lines between private trips and company trips may not be sharply drawn.

WESTERN WOMANHOOD.

Western women are not alone courageous. They have resourceful wits as well as pluck—wits sharpened in a land of activity that accompanies constructive development. In cases of emergency the western woman, self-reliant and looking situations squarely in the face, ever know the delicate art of resorting to good strong bluffs—and then playing the game through. There is a deal of wisdom required in knowing when to bluff and when not to bluff and no small bit of credit is due to the western woman in her keen ability to assume a bold stand at the critical moment and then trust to a convincing calmness to carry the day. It is out

of the west that comes womanhood which can take care of itself in case of necessity.

Three despicable tramps entered a Norfolk department store. A little woman was in charge, with no men about the place to lend assistance. The tramps stole three pairs of trousers and started out. But they had a factor to reckon with which they had not counted on. With admirable courage and self-confidence the little woman seized the stolen property from one of the thieves. Then, grasping a gun from behind the counter, she lined them up against the wall and held them there till help arrived. The more pluck attaches because the gun was empty. It was just a bluff of the right kind made at the right time and in the right way. It was a bit of action typical of the west and of western womanhood. It was an act that required quick thinking, self-possession, and rare resourcefulness; an act of the west—and of America.

CHEAPNESS OF HUMAN LIFE.

The recent lecture of Dr. McCormack in this city, who is conducting a campaign of education under auspices of the national medical society, impressed more vividly upon his hearers the fact that the cheapest commodity in the world today is human life. Few people realize that the 250,000 persons who die annually in the United States of consumption could be saved and with less expense than the cost of their burial. Not many realize that the white plague could be banished from the land. A meager few stopped to consider that it is a disgrace upon a city to allow typhoid fever germs to spread an epidemic. Not many mothers realize that a majority of their babes who succumb to summer complaint, are killed by unsterilized milk.

We are passing laws to compel the feeding and watering of cattle in transit to market and to prevent their being overcrowded in cars, but as lawmakers we give little thought to the fact that one-third of the human lives lost by disease, could have been saved.

It is apparent from the facts driven home by Dr. McCormack that a reform in health is needed and that co-operation between the masses and the medical fraternity, as well as among physicians themselves, can alone accomplish the desired end.

AROUND TOWN.

Hasn't anybody seen Small's small pup?

Indians up at Niobrara pay their bills!

Butte has a band that is said to be a "beaut."

Never mind the draft. The bankers are in town.

There is no time lock on the bankers' convention.

There is a peculiar jingling in the Arbor day air of Norfolk.

There is no use denying that bankers' conventions are replete with interest.

We no sooner get rid of the measles than the tramps set in.

It is human to envy a Niobrara merchant when Santee Indians have coin.

St. Edwards, according to the Sun of that place, has a "ladies' day" at the barber shop.

A man could gain no more distinction under present conditions than by being out of work.

An empty gun serves the purpose of a loaded gun if you're artistic enough to carry conviction with your eye.

Keys to the city's gates are a back number. Norfolk gives the lock combination to visiting financiers.

Don't neglect to fill up the tubs with water before 7 o'clock in the morning. And if you do forget, don't blame the water commissioner.

It is hoped you will read this notice that the city water supply will be cut off Tuesday. If you fail to see this paper, ask your neighbor about it.

Don't use water from the city pipes during Tuesday, if you have the interests of Norfolk at heart. A fire will call for every drop of water stored in the standpipes.

If Klaw & Erlanger or the Shuberts only knew of the Norfolk band minstrel troupe!

Good uniforms will complete the Norfolk band. It has the music all ready to deliver. Good music, too.

Ross Hammond of Fremont has this to say with regard to the report that he is a candidate for internal revenue collector:

Dr. McCormack, paving meeting, alumni meeting—it's a three ring circus for Norfolk tonight and you may take your choice.

There were plenty of eye witnesses to corroborate the assertion that some of the bankers who had been in town,

bought railroad tickets for the return home with cash.

A young banker who was spotted by his wife when he came out of a refreshment resort, after taking a little nip, wouldn't have cared at all, he said, but for the guying he got from other bankers.

The only difference between a battle royal and a mix-up of women who have put their silverware together to serve a banquet, is the fact that principals in the ring are after a reward and participants in the banquet aftermath are trying to recover what belongs to them.

One visiting physician suggested that Dr. McCormack, Kentuckian, came first to Omaha and then to Norfolk because he thought Norfolk was the second city in Nebraska needing redemption.

There was this much demonstrated by the slim audience at Dr. McCormack's excellent lecture: Cheapness is no selling point for any commodity under present prosperous conditions in Nebraska. The admission was free, but it had no effect on the attendance.

This problem has come up in Norfolk: When a person is invited to visit a friend for a certain period, the code says that the guest shall remain exactly the length of time she was invited for, and no longer; when a guest comes by her own invitation, what is the time limit?

The newspapers are doing a good deal of guessing about the appointment of a collector of internal revenue for Nebraska. Senators Brown and Burkett are no doubt interested in the comment but, after all is said, they will be the ones who will settle the matter in good time.

Dr. McCormack, the physician of national reputation whose address here tonight has attracted dozens of out of town medical men and some of them from a hundred miles, spoke last night in Omaha. That was his first stop in Nebraska. His second address is in Norfolk and the third in Fremont. People even as far away as Kentucky know the order in which Nebraska cities are to be ranked.

There was this unfortunate circumstance in connection with Dr. McCormack's visit to Norfolk: The town had been up late the night before taking in the band minstrel show and the bankers' banquet. A town can be expected to stay up beyond its bedtime one night, but two nights hand-running of such dissipation is getting pretty strong and the town slowed down by going to bed on just the night that Doc McCormack happened along. He was well worth hearing and if he would stay over to repeat the lecture he would unquestionably get a house.

NEW LAW AFFECTS COURT

JUDGE HARRINGTON CAN NOT PRESIDE AT BUTTE.

PAPIK ADMITS SHARE IN FIRE

Monowi Man Pleads Guilty to Complicity in Burning Saloon Last Spring. Oscar Wagner Case Goes Over on Account of New Nebraska Law.

Butte, Neb., April 24.—Special to The News: After a one day session in district court adjournment was taken until Monday, May 29, when the term will reconvene with Judge Westover on the bench, Judge J. J. Harrington being unable to preside on account of the late law which prohibits a judge from hearing a case wherein a relative is retained as counsel. Attorney M. F. Harrington of O'Neill, brother of Judge Harrington, is retained in the case of the state vs. Oscar Wagner, who is charged with burning the saloon at Monowi. The case will therefore come up before Judge Westover.

The only case disposed of at this session was that of the state vs. Charles Papik, the defendant pleading guilty to implication in the burning of the saloon building at Monowi last spring. Sentence has not yet been pronounced.

Butte, Neb., April 24.—Special to The News: Judge J. J. Harrington and Reporter C. B. Scott of O'Neill arrived here to resume the adjourned term of district court. The most important case will be that of Oscar Wagner, formerly of Norfolk, charged with burning the saloon at Monowi. Wagner's attorneys tried hard to get a change of venue.

Resolutions.

Whereas, it has pleased our Heavenly Father to take from us our sister, Mrs. Jennie Dudley, and

Whereas, the W. R. C. has lost one of its well beloved and faithful members, therefore be it

Resolved, That we tender to the afflicted family our sincerest sympathy in their great sorrow.

There is no death! An angel form walks o'er the earth with silent tread;

He bears our best-loved things away, And then we call them "dead."

And ever near us, though unseen, The dear immortal spirits tread; For all the boundless universe is life—There are no dead.

Mrs. Matrau, Mrs. Byerly, Mrs. Musselman, W. R. C. Committee.