

The Norfolk News

The Kansas populists cannot but acknowledge the corn.

Over 1,000 children will be excluded from the New York schools this year because of lack of room.

In Russia, in a population of 125,000,000, there are only 743 newspapers. This is only one for every 170,000 people.

Mr. Bryan says that prosperity cannot last. That depends. With William Jennings Bryan president, it certainly would not.

With Hanna and McLean both rushing the anti-trust program in the Ohio campaign, what chance is there for ordinary men?

Amos Allen is the man who is likely to succeed Tom Reed in congress. Mr. Allen is unfortunate in having a very big place to fill.

Since he ran up against that 300,000,000 bushel corn crop in his trip through Nebraska last week it is no wonder that Col. Bryan looks worried.

To offset many of his better gifts, Andrew Carnegie has given \$2,000 to the Anti-Imperialistic League. Why not give it directly to Aguinaldo.

John R. McLean may not favor retaining the Philippines, but when it comes to personal ambitions Mr. McLean is a thoroughbred expansionist.

The Honorable Juan Jay Lentz, misrepresentative from Ohio, likens Aguinaldo to Patrick Henry. Mr. Lentz also likens Altgeld to Washington, Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln.

Li Hong Chang says Aguinaldo could be bought. Won't someone buy him then and bring him to this country and furnish his services to the democratic national committee next year.

The imports of manufactures in the fiscal year 1899 were nearly \$100,000,000 less than in 1890, while exports of manufactures were nearly \$200,000,000 more in 1899 than they were in 1890.

A Kansas editor (circulation upwards of 500 subscribers) announces that he will henceforth spell republican with a small "r." Party leaders should at once adopt some means of overcoming this influence.

The London Times, which, like all Englishmen, would like to see free trade in America, fears that our protective tariff has been found to be too good a thing to forego. This fear is well grounded.

Well does Senator Foraker say "As long as the Filipino war continues there can be but two sides to it, and only one is the American side. Where our flag and our soldiers are, there must stand the whole American people."

It was not many months ago that it was vehemently asserted that Americans could not live in the Philippines. Yet the returning volunteers for the larger part came back in splendid health and give the lie to such statements.

The shrieks for Dewey to become their presidential candidate by the leading democratic journals of the country is a frank admission that their outlook for success, unless they can get a war hero next year, is a very slim one.

They may come along palming themselves off as anti imperialists, but they will be found to be the same old free-trade objectors; not satisfied with the present prosperous condition of the country, but doubtless wanting a return to the delectable period under Cleveland and the beautiful Wilson low tariff law.

Jerry Simpson of sockless fame said at a G. A. R. reunion in Kansas the other day, "I believe John Brown's soul is marching with Aguinaldo," whereupon the soldiers rose en masse and hoisted him off the platform. Jerry has found that Americanism is very much alive in the sunflower state. He has probably joined the permanent ranks of statesmen out of a job.

The New York Journal, an ardent expansionist, fully supports Colonel Bryan. It says, however, that all democrats are united for expansion, and then makes the surprising announcement that Mr. Bryan will before the next nomination learn the difference between expansion and imperialism. This is the Journal's first admission since 1896 that Mr. Bryan could learn anything.

Nebraska fusionists express considerable unnecessary solicitude concerning the situation in Ohio, hoping that President McKinley's home state may not apparently endorse his administration at the polls. The thing for these same fusionists to worry about is the situation in Nebraska where Bryan's own state shows evidences of kicking over the traces and defeating for supreme judge the gentleman who a few years ago carried the state by 20,000 majority for governor.

That snow storm in the Red river valley this week reminds the writer

that when he was at Winnipeg, which is on the Red river, during the latter part of July in the present year, it was apparently the coldest place on earth, the thermometer standing 100 in the shade, and it can hardly be realized that in such a short time the atmosphere has been chilled by the frosts of a real winter. There is one consolation about it, however, and that is that the hordes of mosquitoes which made life a burden in that locality by their vicious attacks have probably been buried under the snow.

The fact that the American flag once more waves over slaves in Sulu does not prove that this government accepts the principle of slavery in the Philippine islands. Its attitude is one of protection to the people of the Sulu islands, and every effort will be made to educate those people along lines of freedom for all. No one can doubt that if the islands remain under the stars and stripes slavery will disappear. At present they are by the very necessity of the case merely under the military power of this government. It is for congress to say what shall be done with them. This congress will doat the next session.

The reply of Gen. Simon Buckner, who was the second money democratic candidate for vice-president in 1896, to Colonel Bryan's invitation to come back into the fold, and the latter's plea for harmony, cannot be very encouraging or gratifying to the young man. The general says: "Not until they shall cease to distinguish between principle and temporary expediency; between national faith and national dishonor; between the welfare of the people and the exaltation of aspiring political charlatans; between patriotism and party servility, will the national democracy consent to be merged with the motley supporters of that mosaic of populism, anarchy and public dishonor known as the Chicago platform of 1896."

The worst charge that the World-Herald has been able to bring against Judge Reese is that at one time he was not liked by the Bee. That paper must know that this is nothing against the republican candidate for supreme judge, as the Bee in times past has been opposed to many good men who have in some manner incurred its enmity. The fact that the Bee is now supporting Judge Reese should be taken by the World-Herald to mean that Rosewater is endeavoring to retrieve past errors. If this is the worst the World-Herald has against the republican candidate it had best subside and not disgust its readers by serving up to them a rehash of Rosewater's rantings when in a sulky mood. Rosewater's opposition to Reese hurt him as much as anyone and it will not strengthen Mr. Holcomb's chances of election to dig it up again when, as a matter of fact, all political parties agree that Mr. Reese is a good man for the position.

Bryan's grand triumphal tour of Nebraska last week resulted in a flat failure. At none of the places he visited was he received with anything akin to enthusiasm, and he did not draw as big crowds as an ordinary 10-cent show. A gentleman from this place who was at Laurel the day he was there says it was positively pitiful to see how lonesome the town was during his visit. A few people went to the train upon which he arrived, attracted by curiosity, but there was not even a single cheer to welcome him. He paraded about the streets awhile in a buggy but only silence awaited him at every corner. When he left town a few weak attempts were made to entuse but they fell flat and were soon given up. Similar reports come from other points, at some places the people going so far in showing their disapproval of the candidate as to follow him with cheers for McKinley. That was a sad tour for Mr. Bryan, and it has probably opened his eyes to the fact that the cause of 16 to 1 has been relegated to the rear in his home state.

The editor of the Quincy Ill. Journal, who took the trip to the Pacific coast with the National Editorial association, has this to say concerning Nebraska: "Let me say right here and once for all, and as plain as I can say it, that I am writing only of what I saw and not of what lay beyond my vision. It is fair for me to assume, however, that what I saw is a fair sample of what I did not see. Nor am I speaking of the mines or of the mining possibilities of the country through which we passed. Yet I know that all the miners in the mountains lying between Mexico on the south and the dominion of Canada on the north, the Mississippi river on the east and the Pacific ocean on the west, will not this year take so many dollars in gold from the mountains as the farmers in the new state of Nebraska will take from the soil of that state—nothing like it. Why, the corn crop alone, grown in Nebraska this year, will be worth \$100,000,000 in Chicago. Will all the miners in all the mountain country described get so much gold? It is doubtful. But this is just one crop in a new state, Nebraska. Besides this are wheat, oats, rye, barley, hay and potatoes, sheep, cattle, horses, hogs and fruits. When we measure the gold and silver output of the mountains by the agricultural output of the country it is but a trifle—a mere trifle."

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The Sultan of Sulu and Bryan each favor 15-cent dollars, though the Sultan probably does not know any better.

Mr. John R. McLean says there is a very bright prospect of his election. Unfortunately we loaned our telescope to a populist friend who wanted to look for calamity signs.

Last year fusionists were confident that Ohio would go democratic and thereby rebuke the McKinley administration, but it stood by the republicans to the tune of more than 60,000.

Senator Foraker denies that the tariff is the mother of trusts, but sentimentously adds, "If it were, the tariff with its attendant prosperity and trusts is better than free trade and idleness, want, hunger, soup houses and rags."

The opponents to President McKinley's foreign policy are raising a fund to send Congressman Lentz of Ohio to the Philippines. Now, if they will raise another to keep him there, they will really be entitled to the thanks of their countrymen.

John R. McLean, the democratic candidate for governor in Ohio, has wisely purchased, for the purpose of suppression, Allen O. Myer's famous production, "Bosses and Boodle," in which the dubious political methods of John R. are interestingly described.

Speaking of ideas Mr. Bryan says, "We never know when we are going to get them." He also sagely remarks that "sometimes we get them when we do not want to get them." A bright contemporary happily adds, "and that is also true of fleas and presidential candidates."

The republican party has redeemed its pledges. It has maintained sound money and enacted a protective tariff. Its leaders told the people that this would restore confidence and it has. Prosperity is visible on every hand. The people will not forget. They are not blind to their best interests.

Secretary Root has promptly adopted one of the recommendations of the Porto Rican commission by directing the commissary general to buy Porto Rican coffee for use in the army. A large part of the product will be immediately purchased and the money for it will go to those badly in need of it.

Mark Twain is going to Princeton to live. But before he goes will Mr. Clemens promise not to make fun of Grover Cleveland? Whatever we think of them, we must not make light of our ex-presidents, though as a matter of fact it might be difficult for even Mark Twain to make light of Mr. Cleveland's 310 pounds avoirdupois.

Data received by the New York bureau of labor shows that the percentage of labor unemployed in the state is less than one per cent and in some trades none at all is reported. Since the state bureau of statistics was first organized, there never has been a time when the number of unemployed workmen was anything like as small as at present.

The reviling Kentucky democrats were willing to keep silent last year when Goebel was laying his plans for counting out republicans, but now that he has undertaken to count out opposing democrats as well, their virtuous indignation breaks the bonds of silence and they are making very interesting disclosures of Kentucky democratic methods.

If Great Britain allows herself to go to war with the Boers (all the indications are that she will find it no holiday procession. Oom Paul has behind him 80,000 men armed to the teeth, who are among the bravest of fighters and will fight with the desperation that comes to men when they are battling for home and native land. It is sincerely to be hoped that conflict will yet be avoided.

It must heartily disgust the assailants of the administration to see that most of the new appointments of officers are those who served in Cuba or Porto Rico and that according to Secretary Root's report a large majority of the commissioned officers who served in the Spanish war are now applicants for these positions. Thus is the lie given to the traitorous statements of the Atkinsonists to the effect that the administration is forcing a war to which the bulk of the people are opposed.

Mr. Havermeyer is the personification of iniquity in trust management. Under the democratic Wilson act he was enabled to make more money than ever before. He has been the means of closing more sugar factories and throwing more men out of employment than any other man, so that now his hypocritical solicitude for the workmen is entitled to about as much consideration as his denunciation of the republican tariff, which cut his earnings down to a reasonable basis of profit.

Mr. Bryan says that when a new baby is born into a household the parents do not expel the other children. The democracy he says, should gather all the new babies—imperialism, militarism and trusts, as well as free

silver, into its arms, and fight them. But still, as we hear the first sounds of the wicked onslaught, we fear that one child has been forgotten and left out in the cold, hard world, too weak to even cry for help—Forgotten! Forgotten! Mr. Bryan's poor little first born—Free Trade.

Edgar Howard of the Pappilion Times says he never did and cannot now regard Judge Reese, the republican nominee for supreme judge, as dishonest. It is safe to say this is not alone the opinion of the Times editor but of every editor in the state regardless of political affiliation. They are compelled by a losing cause to assume that he might be dishonest and cast slurs and insinuations at him but they are unable to bring a direct charge against him nor even trumpet up one that will stand the test of investigation. Judge Reese is a clean man and there is no gainsaying it.

The fusionists have abandoned the "wheat-silver" proposition and all calculations concerning prosperity are now based on the value of "corn vs. lumber and nails." Strings of figures are now published to show the farmer how he is being ground into the dust by the iron heel of oppression—meaning, of course, the republican administration. These figures go to show how many bushels of corn it took several years ago to buy so much lumber or nails and how many it now takes, believing the comparison to be convincing proof that there is and has been no such thing as prosperity. It is undoubtedly an awful condition of circumstances and those who are charitably inclined will do well to emulate the example set during the famous Cleveland administration and establish free soup houses, setting forth as the menu lumber with nail dressings, with wire fence and staples as a relish. The campaign cry next year should be not free silver, but "free lumber and free nails" or most anything so it has "free" in it.

"The Last Hope of the Republic" is the name of the straight populist paper of Lincoln, which however is not able to stand the combination put up by the fusion forces at Omaha. As indicating the way it feels about the head of the ticket the following clippings will show: "Silas A. Holcomb has twice been elected to office on anti-pass platforms, and each time he proved to be the worst pass grabber on record. That's the kind of business that discredits a reform party and a good turning down is what the traitors need." "Silas A. Holcomb has been false to every plank in the Omaha platform. The chief of his sins is the sell-out on the free pass question. Next comes his connection with Bartley. And think of the size of a man who would swear to vouchers drawing \$50 per month house rent, when he was paying \$30 a month for the house. You may say this is a small matter, but it amounted to a steal of \$250. Would a man of this sort respect the oath of office as supreme judge? Would it be safe to allow him to pass on questions of property or money? If the populists of Nebraska cannot meet and nominate a better man than Si Holcomb for supreme judge, they had better take to the woods. If the honest populists of the state desire to perpetuate their party they will call a new convention. And they will name their party the "populist party." The term "people's independent" as used by the fusionists is a fraud."

If one wants to gain an idea of the immensity of this country he can do it in no way so quickly as by dwelling briefly on the railroad figures compiled by Poor's Manual, which is accepted everywhere as authority on statistics of this kind. These for 1898 have just been made public. They show that on December 31, 1898, the number of miles of railroads in the United States was 186,809. The total value of these roads, with their stock and equipment, reached the enormous sum of more than twelve billion dollars. During the year more than 500,000,000 passengers were carried and 900,000,000 tons of freight. This tremendous business is the outgrowth of less than three-quarters of a century. The first railroad in the country was the Baltimore and Ohio, begun in 1826. Since 1865 more than 4,500 miles of new railroads have been built every year. As an addendum to the figures given in Poor's Manual for 1898 comes the startling fact that the railroads are at the present time suffering from a car famine. There are owned by all the roads in the United States something over 1,300,000 freight cars, and yet with this great number at their command the roads cannot handle the traffic that is crowding upon them. This shortage of equipment is affecting the western roads more than the eastern lines, but every road is suffering more or less. Not only are cars being rushed east with the great crops of the prosperous farmers of the west, but they are returning filled with merchandise supplied from factories that are working overtime. Some of the trunk lines say that they could use 10,000 more cars if they could get them. The lack of cars for passenger service is proportionately as great but is not so severely felt. The railroad is a vital part of modern commercial life and the fact that they are prospering is an unerring index of the country's condition.

The political pot will soon have to be lifted from the fire in order to prevent it from boiling over.

The republicans of Madison county have a splendid ticket to present to the voters this fall and there can be no mistake made in voting it.

There is no question as to the fitness and ability of Judge Reese for the supreme judgeship and there should be no question with the voter as to whom he should cast his ballot for.

The republic of Columbia has adopted the gold standard. Again has a crime been committed. We wonder who has bought and paid for this? Why not blame Mark Hanna? He is responsible for everything.

What an incongruous spectacle is presented by the Ohio democrats with their platform appealing to the masses against capitalists and trusts, and John R. McLean, millionaire, banker and corporation president, heading the state ticket. "Consistency thou art a stem-winder set with diamonds."

The new condition that confronts candidates in regard to spending money and treating in Nebraska will no doubt result in less hilarity and corruption than that which has marked preceding campaigns. No doubt the canvass for votes will seem rather tame both to candidate and voter, but that it is a step in the right direction all will concede. No effort should be made to evade the law, even if such an effort were possible. To rid campaigns of corruption should be the desire of all, and the law passed by the recent legislature should be strictly adhered to.

General Otis has been much criticised for his conduct of the campaign in the Philippines but when compared with that of the Spanish General Rivera, who commanded in the islands, there does not seem to be much cause for complaint. The first year of his campaign Rivera lost 8,000 prisoners, 1,000 killed or mortally wounded and 2,500 disabled by disease—a total of 11,500 or 46 per cent of his entire command. Gen. Otis in the eight months of his campaign has lost 223 men killed, 92 deaths from wounds, 170 incapacitated from disease and no prisoners—a total of 575 or about 2 1/2 per cent of his command.

It is interesting to speculate as to what the horse really thought of the bicycle, if he thinks at all, and how he regards the automobile, which is relegating him to the state of "innocuous desuetude." Some light has been thrown on the question, which indicates that the horse is not an indifferent spectator of his dethronement, but experiences all the varying emotions of rage, hate, grief and despair. Recently a festive cyclist in a western town amused himself by riding in circles around a slowly ambling horse. The animal lured the wheelman on by pretended indifference until at last the hated machine was within reach of its heels, and then it lashed out with all the force of pent up rage and hate, landing heavily on both wheelman and wheel. As an isolated case this is perhaps not alarming, but what if the incident marks a new attitude of the equine family all over the land? It may be that they propose to adopt this plan of getting even and inaugurate an aggressive campaign of demolition against the bicycle and the automobile.

It is strange with what persistence the supporters of free trade theories work. It would seem that the experience of the country with the recent low tariff Wilson law, bringing with it distress and desolation, and the immediate subsequent improvement in conditions upon the enactment of a protective measure, should be convincing proof for any man who is honest in having the welfare of the nation at heart and not a drivelling idiot; and yet free traders are just as ready to assail the tariff and foist another free trade era upon the country as ever. The attempts to saddle the trust evil on the protective tariff, and thus demand a return to free trade, show this. But the Wilson free trade law and the corresponding depression and distress in manufacturing, and the fields of industry generally are not the first experience of this country with low tariffs, nor will it probably be the last. The tariff history of the United States shows the untiring persistence of free traders. By constant pounding, every certain period, they have worked the country up to adopting a low tariff law and then as certainly as clockwork, has followed a period of depression and strikes and starvation until a change again in the tariff. A mere glance at the pages of tariff history throws into confusion all the specious arguments of free trade, for there are facts. But people forget, and new generations will not believe and each time the democrats have come forward with demands for free trade legislation they have urged some peculiar condition of the country—some great change in the commercial affairs, which placed the country in a different position; entirely different from any previous time, and so they have always brought the old issue of free trade forward each time redressed slightly, as a new policy and a remedy for any supposed existing evils.

MR. EPIZOOT WILKINS.

He Hears the "Onwelcome Noose" That the Laboring Men Are Deserting the Democratic Party, and a Visit to Pittsburg Confirms It.

BUREAU OF INFORMATION, WASHINGTON, D. C.

To the Editor: The onwelcome noose that the laboring men of the country are deserting the Democratic party has been coming into these headquarters as fast as the mails could bring it. From all the great manufacturing cities of the Yonited States we have been getting letters from leading Democrats telling us of the situation, and begging for help to stay the tide. It was finally decided that I should make a tour of sum up the manufacturing establishments and see what the matter was. I concluded to visit the iron mills of Pennsylvania first, and constituted myself a walking delegate to tell the men employed what their duty was. I went to Pittsburg, where everything and everybody was black as benedict in contact with so much smoke, and I ask a policeman how it was that all the smoke in the country had been collected and brot to Pittsburg.

"It is the result of better times," said he. "We air makin more smoke by burnin more coal, and that means more iron being made into steel and more men employed to do the work. We hev more men employed than ever before, and all uv em put together workin nite and day can't supply the demand for structural steel and railroad material."

"Do you mean to tell me," said I, "that prosperity hev hit you?" "It hev," said he, "and hit us hard. Three or four years ago, doorn the Cleveland administration, we had thousands of men out of employment, their families were nearly starvin, and strikes and rioting wuz goin on everywhere. Now, all the men who nint to lazy to work kin git all the work that want, at good wages, nobody hev to go hungry, and peace and contentment seems to be the lot uv the laborin men in this vicinity at least."

"It is a gosh-durned lie," said I. "There ain't no real prosperity. It's nothin but a fictitious delusion. We air all uv us at the mercy uv the robber barons who air ridin rick shod over us, and deprivin us uv liberty to do ez we dum please by high handed and unconstitutional methods uv oppression."

"You hev better go and talk with sum uv the men who air employed in the rollin mills," said the policeman, grinna like a man daz wuz he iz gittin the best uv an argument.

"That's jest what I've cum here for," said I. "I hev cum to this durned Republican city to see and talk with the victims uv the Trusts, the tariff robbers, and the bankers, to tell em how they air being plundered, and what oppressive legislation hev been enacted by a Republican Kongress to grind em down to starvation wages."

"That nite I met a big crowd uv the workmen at a hall where the wuz hevvin a meetin to perfect an organization fer gittin up an exhibit uv their work for the Philadelphia Industrial Exposition, next fall. I concluded I should be a welcome guest, and invited myself to take part in the proceedings. After the business part uv the meetin had been finished, I got up and sed:

"Mr. Cheerman, I am a Democrat from the State uv New Jersey. I am a 'perambulating missionary' sent by Grover Cleveland into ferrin territory to spy out the political situation. I am the manager uv the Bureau of Information, recently established at Washington, and in pursuance uv an organized plan, I hev consented to cum before you ez a walking delegate uv the Democratic party to help reorganize the laborin men fer the next presidential campaign."

"Such a statement ez that uv mi high position, I concluded, wud set me all right, and I wuz expectin to have a very enthusiastic reception. I wuz, therefore, teetotally dumfounded wen I wuz roodly interrupted by insulting remarks and greeted with coarse and vulgarous laughter."

"How is he?" sed one big fistful feller. "Whut dux the old jay want?" sed another. "Noo Gersey hev taken an emetic," sed a young man who looked like a clerk. One after another uv em kept on makin sich depressed remarks, amid tumultuous and unrestricted hilarity, until I wuz inflamed and excited beyond endurance."

"I hev to go," shouted I, in defiance uv their exasperating insults, "that uv air a nice set uv fellers hoo don't know uv air trot out to bi the monster combinations uv kapital that air being organized to crush us all into the earth. It is yure duty to organize agin em and I am here to help you do it. Ez laborin men you should hang together and vote the Democratic ticket next year, restore order and prosperity to the country, and bring the government back to the principles uv our fourfathers."

"Oh, cheerru it, old man!" sed a feller agin interruptin me. "We've heard all that before, for the last dozen years. We've had a simple uv Democratic prosperity, doorn Old Cleveland's time, wen half the shops in Pittsburg wuz closed and wen our wives and children wuz half clothed and half fed, and there wuz no work fer us to do. It wuz the same all over the country. Now we air all at work gittin good wages, feedin and clothin our families, and layin up sumthin besides. A good munny uv us wuz Democrats, but we air now Republicans, and likely to remane so under the influence uv better times. A walkin delegate uv the Democratic persuasion iz out uv place in a beehive uv industry sich ez Pittsburg iz at the present time, and I wud advise you to go back to the men hoo sent you here and tell em that it iz a poor place for Democratic agitators hoo want to upset things and bring us back to a condition uv affairs that we don't want to see restored."

I left the place in disgust at sich plain talk and such homidiarin treatment. I am all torn up bi sich a rowlusion. If it iz the general sentiment uv the laborin men throout the country, our sheet anchor is gone. Our balloon iz busted."

Epizoot Wilkins

From Applejack Farm, wich iz next to Grover Cleveland's, in the state uv Noo Jersey.