

The Norfolk News

The triple-expansion convention meets today at Lincoln, when fusion will again fuse—not counting the middle-of-the-road populists.

To the Secretaries of the State Board of Transportation: "If you are too busy to write, please make signs—Norfolk Business Men."—Omaha Bee.

A Texas farmer recently threw a heavy stick at a vicious dog and killed his 18 months old girl baby. From this it appears that women haven't the exclusive right to the record of throwing badly.

This is an "era of raising prices" and yet Mr. Bryan is not satisfied. Why? Simply because he is not in the presidential chair. This is also the cause for dissatisfaction on the part of his supporters.

Even Pitchfork Tillman appears to have lucid intervals and may some day come to his senses. In the senate Friday he said, "I am always willing to trust Wm. McKinley. He is a patriotic man."

The democrats think they can carry Ohio this fall. They have thought so for years but have not done so. It is their old scheme of counting their chickens before they are hatched and afterward devoting columns of space to explain how it happened.

Imitators of the Rev. Charles M. Sheldon are bobbing up in every community. The Fremont Tribune states that it has received overtures from a couple of gentlemen who desire to run that paper for a week as a populist would run it. This, it would seem, is an unnecessary and uncalled for offer. There are now many horrible examples of how populists run papers throughout the state.

The recent lowering of freight rates on grain and the increase in prices on the markets are responsible for a rush of grain from western points to the market, and the railways are finding it a difficult matter to supply the cars demanded in the movement. It is another indication of the fact that farmers have been able to hold their grain for their price more successfully than for a number of years past.

Parisian hotels are tuning up their rates to meet the anticipated rush of American visitors to their great show. Not that these rates will apply to Americans alone, but because the American tourist offers the best plucking when abroad. Your American who would be satisfied with a saloon lunch at home must have the best the land affords while traveling abroad, and the foreign caterer long since became familiar with our American weakness for show.—Hastings Record.

The appointment of a board of fire and police commissioners for Omaha by Governor Poynter is a long way from approaching the referendum in politics. It is also a near approach to that despised McKinley "imperialism". The governor was not elected to control Omaha any more than the balance of the state and he would certainly have shown good judgement if he had refused to accept the first opportunity offered to take a step of that kind. If Omaha finds itself unable to govern itself it is time enough for the state to take a hand.

It doesn't make a bit of difference what the administration does, the opposition is able to concoct a story opposed to it that would scare an ignorant person out of seven years growth and induce a spontaneous growth of gray hair. That is their stock in trade and if they can make a calamity story with a semblance of truth about it that will attract the people's attention they are highly delighted. The really sensible person will rather pin his faith to past achievements rather than be influenced by stories with no foundation whatever on fact.

For ten years prior to 1899 there was practically no railroad construction in Iowa. Last year, however, under the existing gold standard, "imperialism" and other iniquities of the present administration there were 682 miles built, giving employment to a large number of people and stimulating activity in the places affected by these newly constructed lines. There are some people who desire to change these conditions—who hope for an administration with panics, failures and non progress as features. The News would be much surprised if the majority of the people should desire such a change.

In all their opposition to United States control of the Philippines the insurgent representatives give it out that they do not hope to win against the United States forces, but carry on a show of resistance in the hope of influencing legislation in congress. They depend on the Filipinos in this country to accomplish that which they are unable to do, and were it not for the support they receive in America the insurrection would have been over long ere this. If it is the real desire to locate the people who are responsible for the war and the deaths in the Philippines, the people are respectfully referred to Pettigrew and

other politicians of like character, who would rather see the United States government and her soldier boys punished than to relinquish their vagaries.

A large portion of the Philippine archipelago is as yet unknown and unexplored. This statement is somewhat surprising when it is considered that it lies so close to China, the most thickly settled and oldest country in the world, and it only goes to show that the people of the far east are unprogressive, uncivilized, and would scarcely develop a gold mine lying at their very door. It will take anglo-saxon enterprise to show what these islands are really worth and to develop their resources. It will some day be acknowledged that the best thing that ever happened to the Philippines and the entire orient was Dewey's victory and the results following it.

The people of the east may have some excuse, from a commercial point of view, for opposing the United States' control of the Philippines. Such a movement will undoubtedly have the effect of building up markets on the western coast that will in many respects prove formidable rivals of the Atlantic ports, but at the same time this will be of immense benefit to the transmississippi country. With a market on both sides the people of the middle west will be in the center of such competition and be able to take advantage of it both going and coming. To refuse the Pacific coast such an opportunity would therefore be a suicidal commercial policy on the part of the people of the west.

The democrats continue to rejoice in any statement that would indicate that the war in the Philippines is not over and would be indeed sad if no such news came to cheer them in their patriotic feeling (?) toward their country and its policies. It would not require a tremendous stretch of the imagination to conceive of these partisans holding rallies, building big bonfires and celebrating should Aguinaldo succeed in raising an army that would drive the United States forces into the sea. They need not go much further on these lines to desire that the Indians of this country should drive the usurping pale faces out.

The Philippine brigands are not now as severe on Americans as they are on natives and Chinamen. In one province recently they killed 20 of these people and in another eight, while they burn dwellings, rob, steal and perform other inglorious acts. These are the people whom the fusionists say should be given their liberty and this is the kind of liberty they would desire. If the United States troops were withdrawn tomorrow such atrocities would increase ten-fold and all respectable people would be compelled to flee from the islands to save their lives—a glorious prospect surely, and one which should arouse the patriotism (?) in the breast of every little American.

The sale of agricultural implements this year in Nebraska is said to be the best ever known. Farmers have money and they propose to have the latest and best implements with which to till the soil. The farmers who were to be afflicted with 8-cent oats and 10-cent corn in case of McKinley's election four years ago are prospering as they have not done for years. There are some, however, who are worse than the man from Missouri who "had to be shown," in that they will not be shown and will undoubtedly vote for a return of the grand old Cleveland times. Their numbers have been materially lessened during the past four years and it is to be hoped that they are a long ways from being in the majority.

The anti-expansionists would be immeasurably pleased to see the Philippines sunk lower in civilization than they were even under Spanish rule, which would certainly be the case if the United States forces were withdrawn from the field. They promulgate the same kind of argument that would prevent a father from controlling and bringing up his children in the way they should go. The whipping of a stubborn child may seem severe at the time but the parent and everyone else knows that he often deserves it—not for the parent's gratification and training—but for that of the child. The United States would indeed be selfish if it cannot share its boasted civilization and progress and even the most pronounced little American cannot believe in his inmost heart that the people of the Philippines will be injured by the direction and control of this government.

Perhaps no man during the past week has been so thoroughly advertised as the Rev. Charles M. Sheldon and no paper has been in as large demand as the Topeka Capital which he is engaged in running "as Christ would do." The paper and its temporary editor have been roundly and severely criticised, which has but added to their notoriety and the most apparent moral which has yet been drawn is that "it pays to advertise." The comments and the notoriety attained are already beginning to assume the status of a bore, and it will be but a short time until Mr. Sheldon and his effort are forgotten by a popular mind and something else will engage their attention. This will go to show that cranks and novel

methods may win for a time, but the person using good, hard, persistent common sense will win in the long run. This applies to advertising as well as other business methods.

In a letter recently written from the Philippines Judge Norris, formerly of Wayne, says that besides being polygamists and slaves in the Philippine archipelago there are cannibals. Think of that, ye fusionists—cannibals! Are we to have cannibal citizens also? Must our children and children's children associate with cannibals and learn to eat each other? Horrible! Horrible! Or perhaps the McKinley administration is governing them without their consent and refuses them permission to eat each other! Another awful effect of imperialism and militarism! They should have a free government and be allowed to eat each other should they choose! If Emperor McKinley tramples on their rights his hellish purpose of promoting civilization has not been overdrawn. Our declaration of independence says that "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by the Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," and that governments derive their "just powers from the consent of the governed." Is it just and right under this declaration that these people should be governed and their happiness in eating each other done away with? It is awful to contemplate what this McKinley imperialism may lead to.

The action of the republican city convention last Saturday night is proof positive that the conservative element in regard to the conduct of the city has prevailed. One cannot imagine Judge Robertson presiding as mayor over a city where everything is run wide open, neither can it be conceived that he will inaugurate any extreme methods. He is a man in every sense who will give the business men of whatever class fair play, but will insist on a certain protection to the youth and morals of the city. The saloon man pays for a privilege to conduct his business in accordance with the provisions of the law and it can be depended upon that if Judge Robertson is elected mayor he will do all in his power to see that their rights are respected. Norfolk has a class of saloon keepers, who in a majority of cases, do not desire more freedom in the conduct of their business than the law accords, but if one should desire to go beyond such limits it may be depended upon that Judge Robertson, if elected, will use his influence in the protection of the city's morals. There is no question but that Mr. Robertson, as mayor, will use a wise discretion and will give careful consideration to the demands of the saloon keepers, as well as their opponents, and will render his decisions with fairness to one and all. His will be the kind of an administration that all should desire.

The nomination of W. M. Robertson by the republican city convention as candidate for mayor is clearly a case of the office seeking the man, as contrary to the usual rule of the man seeking the office. Mr. Robertson did not want the nomination, and absolutely refused to run until it was represented to him that it was his duty as a republican to take it. If Mr. Robertson is any one thing more than another, that one thing is his loyalty to the republican party and principles, and when he became convinced that he would be serving his party in a critical time, he sacrificed his own inclinations and consented to accept the nomination. He did it, however, upon the express condition that he would go on the ticket as a republican, and not as the candidate of the Good Government club, the Anti-Saloon league or any other clique or faction in the party, and his utterances in accepting the nomination contain no equivocation on that point. As he now stands on the ticket he is entitled to the loyal support of every republican in the city, and if he receives the votes to which he is entitled he will be the next mayor of Norfolk. And no republican need have any fear of the kind of an administration he will give us, which, to quote his own words, will be "fair, honest, clean, economical." By the selection of Mr. Robertson as the standard bearer in the city election, those persons who are anxious to have the party work in harmony, feel that a crisis has been passed which for a time threatened to sever the ranks into two dangerous factions, and there is a general rejoicing that a candidate has been named who can receive the hearty and unanimous support of every man in the party.

The spectacle of men who place party principle above office greed being kept out of the populist convention by a squad of policemen was an evidence of militarism at Lincoln Monday, while the men inside were preparing to resolute against this disgusting quality on the part of the McKinley administration.

The arguments put up by the democrats in regard to the Porto Rican tariff do not seem to accord with their old war cry that the consumer pays the tariff. Just now they are not interested in the consumer but it is the producing people of that island who must suffer. Surely the arguments of democracy are as inconsistent as possible.

The democrats would be pleased to have Norfolk furnish a pretext this spring for the assertion that the political sentiment in regard to the republican national administration had undergone a change in this city and county. The News feels safe in asserting that if there has been a change it is in the other direction and it would be a great mistake for republican voters to furnish the ground work for any such conclusion. Judge Robertson is a candidate whom no republican has the semblance of an excuse for not supporting and he should certainly have his full party vote at the election on the 3d of April.

The democrats think they do not need the aid of the Texas populists to carry that state for Bryan this fall and they are accordingly making no overtures to that organization in that state and no concessions. They don't care whether they go in the middle-of-the-road or to Cincinnati or to the grand democratic rendezvous in his satanic majesty's imperial realm. They can go, and good riddance to bad rubbish. In Nebraska and other northern states it is different. The aid of the populists is needed to place democrats in office and they are soft-soaped until you can't rest. They may rest assured, however, that if democracy should ever gain the power they have in Texas the pops would follow their Texas brethren over the transom so quick it would make their heads swim. As it is the populist party is or once was the big end of the fusion concern, and it would be a case of the tail wagging the dog, should the democrats become obstreperous.

The statement published today by the water commissioner throws an entirely new light on the condition of the water fund of the city, which the public has been led to suppose was almost hopelessly bankrupt. The statement, which is taken from the records of the city clerk and water commissioner, demonstrates conclusively that the fund is not only not bankrupt but on the contrary will have money in the treasury as soon as the pipe in the artesian well is pulled up and sold, which has been ordered done by the council. During the present administration of city affairs, then, it is shown that the operating expenses of the waterworks have been kept up, \$2,000 worth of water bonds have been paid out of the fund, the expenses of trying to secure an artesian well have been met, and there is material on hand which when sold will give the fund a credit. Thus is another popular belief exploded.

The Auditorium. It must be admitted that the city has not done what those who built the new Auditorium had a right to expect, under the conditions of the proposition that was made before it was commenced. It was generally understood that the proposition was that if Mr. Warrant would erect an auditorium in Norfolk, the citizens of the town would take enough insurance in the Royal Union Mutual Life Insurance company that the cash premiums should amount to \$3,500, and that the sale of seats for the opening night should produce Mr. Warrant \$4,000, making a total of \$7,500. Mr. Wigton, now representing the interests of the constructors of the house, has prepared a statement showing that the gross receipts from these sources was in round numbers only \$3,000, leaving a deficiency of \$4,500.

Mr. Warrant agreed to build an auditorium at a cost of \$10,000. It is stated that the actual cost, however, exceeded that amount by not less than \$2,000. It will thus be seen that Mr. Warrant more than carried out his part of the agreement, and that the people of Norfolk did not raise the amount which he had every reason to believe would be done. In consequence of this shortage an indebtedness that was not contemplated rests against the property.

The city has an opera house which, after completion of the cornice, will be very attractive and will fully meet the necessities of the town. This opera house will be a great convenience and inducement in the matter of securing conventions and large state meetings, and will greatly improve our standing among the enterprising cities of the west. We are getting the benefit of the enterprise, and good faith should be kept with those who put up the building.

Mr. Wigton, who has taken charge of the Auditorium with a view of securing the payment of the claims against the building for labor and material, has just returned to Norfolk after an extended trip to secure this end. He reports that money from out of town can be had after Norfolk has made good one-half of the shortage. He says that when this is accomplished the claims held by Norfolk citizens will be paid off with money received from other sources. As a matter of public pride every citizen should lead a helping hand and subscribe such an amount as his circumstances will warrant. This plan is thought to be better than to rely upon the sale of tickets for an entertainment, because through that method the expenses would be considerable and the amount that would go to the laboring men would be much less than the amount actually paid by our people. Mr. Wigton will see the citizens of town the next few days and it is hoped that they will respond cheerfully to his call.



SHE WAS BLIND. A blindness comes to me now and then. I have it now. It is queer—I can see your eyes but not your nose. I can't read because some of the letters are blurred; dark spots cover them; it is very uncomfortable. I know all about it; it's DYSPEPSIA. Take one of these; it will cure you in ten minutes. What is it? A Ripans Tabule.

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