

The Norfolk News

Pessimism will hold its national re-organizing convention at Kansas City in July.

It begins to look as though McKinley's re-election would be almost unanimous.

John R. Hays is circulating about in the Third district and is winning friends whenever he goes.

Government by injunction is not a half bad thing when a fusion official finds it necessary to use in order to keep peace in the political family.

Ignatius Donnelly thinks that Bryan "might have been a statesman if the Lord had taken an inch or two from his lower jaw and put it between his temples."

Eastern democrats are starting a vice presidential boom for Congressman Geo. B. McClellan, son of "Little Mac," the union general during the civil war and democratic candidate for president in 1864.

It is interesting to conjecture whether the democrats will conclude to go it alone at Kansas City or whether they will tie up with the remnant of fusion populism recently represented at Sioux Falls.

It will not be necessary for the republican national convention at Philadelphia to "regret," "condemn," "deplore" and "view with alarm." All such matters will probably be given full and ample attention at Kansas City.

If the national convention recently held in Sioux Falls was the genuine and only true populist convention why in the name of fusionistic sense did they name a democrat for president and a republican for vice president?

Governor Poynter says that if he is arrested and placed in jail he will pardon himself out. It would be a funny situation, to say the least, to have the governor executing the rights of his office behind the bars.

The World-Herald has invited the people of Omaha to write-up the ice trust through its columns and, pursuing its usual tactics, it will probably line up all who do not improve this shining opportunity as sympathizers of the trust.

Sioux Falls is kicking about the poor investment she made in inducing the fusion populist national convention to locate there for a few days. The complaint seems to be that it didn't draw much more of a crowd than a one-ring circus.

Now the democrats in congress are opposed to giving that body the right to regulate trusts because it is "contrary to the states' rights doctrine." These fellows will soon be forced to defend the trusts, by the only party which has ever legislated against these combinations.

The sooner democrats begin arguing facts instead of fiction the sooner they will commence to have influence with the people. It is lamentably true that they have few facts to present that will hold water, but they should not hesitate to present what few legitimate arguments they have.

If the World-Herald really wanted to smash the Omaha ice trust why didn't it quietly give the tip to its reform attorney general to proceed against the cold, cruel octopus without giving it a notification of several columns length?

The fusion papers have been very conservative in their criticism of the republican tickets and republican actions. Their ground for criticism is very narrow, but they are undoubtedly busily collecting whatever past history the candidates may have which may be subverted to their use during the year.

If the mid-roads can be induced to withdraw their ticket from the field and if Charley Towne can be withdrawn from the vice presidential race and if the Kansas City convention can straddle far enough to please all parties to the fusion movement and if the ticket can gain a few million votes Bryan will be elected if he is nominated. Great work, that "if."

The secretary has called in another batch of government bonds which he wishes to pay off and stop the interest, the "batch" being worth \$25,000,000. Thus do republican prosperity and business methods continue to make themselves of benefit to the country and the people, and the said bonds are to be paid with money worth 100 cents on the dollar. If you want these things changed you are hereby warned not to vote for McKinley.

Editor Childs does not show the symptoms of bravery that must have characterized the fathers of this country who fought for its liberty and thereby made the Fourth of July possible as a nation's birthday. Nearly everytime the aforesaid editor is shot at he dodges behind the corpse of one of the poor soldier lads who surrendered his life for his country in the Philippines. A person with a particle of patriotism and humanity

would not disturb the laurels of a brave boy for partisan or personal controversy.

The Chester County Chief, in speaking of Charles A. Towne, says: "If the democrats do not name him as the running mate of their great leader they will have no one to blame but themselves for what follows." It might be added that if the democrats do name Towne they will have no one to blame but themselves for what follows. They are like the fellow who would be damned if he did and damned if he didn't. They are in a position which it will be amusing to see them wiggle out of.

The "reform" state officials are again on record for "reforming" the railroads which they evidently believe in killing off by kindness. Judge Harrington of O'Neill, who is also something of a reformer, wrote to the board having the tax business in hand and stated that the railroads under "reform" government were paying taxes on about \$2,000,000 less than they did under the "horrible" republican regime. The board of assessors ignored the advice and have again paid for their passes with the people's money.

All is not harmony, peace and good will in Nebraska fusion politics and it appears as though the forces of reform were becoming more widely separated with each succeeding day. The O'Neill Independent (populist) asks, "Will Neville endanger the success of the populist ticket in this district again?" by asking a renomination? To which the Fremont Herald (democrat) answers, "Will he? He has already pocketed the salary earned by Greene and due to his widow. Like most of his kind, that's all he wants the office for."

It looks as though those "corporation ridden" republicans in congress would pass a substantial anti-trust law before congress adjourns and thus take all the wind out of the fusionist sails concerning this evil. The thing for the fusionists to do will be to get into line behind the corporations as they have in Nebraska. From their insinuations concerning Mark Hanna and the benefits corporations have been to the republican campaign fund they could have several barrels to roll into the present campaign should they do this.

The democrats are not yet heralding the fact in bold-faced type that the Standard oil company has raised the wages of its employes 10 per cent. This is probably glad news to the "common people" in the service of the company and the democrats pose as the friends of the common people and their sympathizers—Now why is it that the democratic organs and politicians do not rejoice with them? Can it be possible that they are insincere in their profession? Would it have been possible for them to rejoice in a reduction of a like per cent?

Free silver is not quite a unanimous sentiment among New York democrats yet. A convention of Bryan democrats was held in New York City Saturday and less than a hundred delegates were in attendance. Resolutions were passed demanding that the democratic state convention instruct for Bryan. The convention adjourned to meet June 4th and if their demand is not complied with they will send a contesting delegation to Kansas City. With Bryanism losing in the west and not gaining in the east it looks dubious for the cause of the "common people."

In spite of the notoriety given the English-American syndicate shows as a grand and complete aggregation of scoundrels and confidence men it continues to haul in suckers by the tub full at each stop and every exchange where they show contains accounts of their exploits with the pockets of the gullible. It is apparent that there are a large number of people who do not read. For if they did they would be fully apprised of the machinations of the great syndicate's leading attraction—the shell game. The fool killer should not be discouraged; there is plenty of material for him to work on.

The News has several times suggested the advisability of either celebrating the Fourth of July or holding a street fair "in his fall and it is pleased to note that its contemporary is in sympathy with a celebration of some character, even though, resorting to its usual tactics, it would be pleased to insinuate that a celebration of the Fourth would be an affair in which only people of the calibre of Childs could participate with enthusiasm. The News will guarantee that there are one or two republicans left with a spark of patriotism in their breasts which might be fanned into enthusiasm.

According to fusion logic the republican party is not responsible for the prosperity prevailing, but its responsibility for the trusts is unquestioned; it is not responsible for the increase in money circulation and the cash on hand in the treasury and the pockets of the people, but is responsible for failures and bursted banks; it is not responsible when wages are raised, but is to blame for the strikes and when wages are reduced; it is not responsible for the life, happiness and liberty of citizens of the country, but should be censured for the condition of the Filipinos and the

overthrow of the Boer government. According to these political contortionists the republican party should be credited with no good; but everything bad should be laid at its door. The people will not concede that these are the facts.

The statement was made that when Henry M. Teller and other republicans walked out of the republican national convention because free silver was not made an issue that he and his followers were true republicans and were standing by principle more than party. Now that Mr. Teller has been hoodwinked by democracy and the issue is being dropped he returns to the fold believing, with grounds for his belief, that any true reform in the interests of the people comes through the republican party, after all, and with him come thousands of republicans who were likewise fooled by democrats in search of office.

The surplus at the end of the present fiscal year is estimated to be about \$82,000,000. That of the past year was \$70,000,000. The gold reserve is near a quarter of a billion. Bonds are being paid off as rapidly as they mature, and they are even bought up. The change from the democratic state of affairs four years ago, when \$253,000,000 in bonds were issued to pay ordinary expenses and to keep the gold reserves above the danger line, and where there was a deficiency in revenues each month, is wonderful. It would be startling if people had time to stop and think it over.—Seward Reporter.

Editor Childs, having descended from a controversy concerning Fourth of July patriotism to the field of scandal, The News most magnanimously retires from the contest. This paper never did and never will make a specialty of scandal and sensation and is perfectly willing that its contemporary may have all the honors in that field which it may attain. A desire for Police Gazette or Saturday Blade notoriety is not ordinarily cultivated by fathers and mothers with growing sons and daughters and is not a necessary constituent of a family newspaper—which field The News has tried to fill and has met with very flattering encouragement.

In 1896 Colorado gave Bryan 158,948 votes to 26,080 for McKinley, republicans and all political parties uniting on the great silver champion. At the republican state convention recently held in Colorado it is said that there were 400 delegates present who had added to Bryan's majority in that state in 1896. They are now convinced that McKinleyism is good enough for them and are lined up under the republican banner. In view of these facts, which by the way are coming to light in all parts of the country, it is not unreasonable to claim that Bryan's popularity is waning and that he will come a long way from carrying the vote he did in 1896.

The drama "Kentucky politics" is being successfully reproduced at the Beatrice institute for the feeble minded and the performances are being greeted by increased interest on the part of a state full of auditors. In the last act thus far presented Dr. Lang is represented as barricaded against the feared assault of Governor Poynter and his cohorts, while the buildings and grounds are being patrolled by an armed force. In an interior room two maidens who were discharged, but refused to go, are held prisoners while the Romeo on the outside hoist provisions through the windows. When the "reform" officials become imbued with the true spirit of reform they create peculiar and unique spectacles.

Senator Allen assures the Boer envoys that they have the sympathy of 98 per cent of the American people of this country, which is probably true and the envoys should not violate this sentiment by a proposition involving the lives, treasure, and perhaps even homes and country in their troubles. The American people will be glad to do as Senator Allen and Congressman Robinson have done—express to the envoys their hearty good will, but the per cent would be materially reduced should we be asked to violate neutral and international laws. The American people will go further—they will welcome to this "land of the free and the home of the brave" all who find it impossible to live under British rule should that country win, and will concede to them "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" as their rights.

The World-Herald has suddenly discovered that there is a trust in Omaha grinding its iron heel into the very vitals of humanity—the ice trust—and is making a grandstand play against the heartless, soulless corporation. The trust may have been in operation for years—it may have been responsible for the loss of hundreds of lives and thousands of dollars to the common people; the ice cream and sodawater girl may have shaken her little gloved fist at the ice man every morning since she began calling herself 10—which may have been years and years—but the World-Herald, that great champion of reform and the common people, has not thought necessary to do its quixotic armor and squelch the brute until it has found it consistent to make its political stand firm by instigating a fight against the trust evil which it has fought in every corner of the country except at home.

Charles Henry Dietrich. The following personal sketch of Charles H. Dietrich, the republican nominee for governor, was written by Adam Bredde, editor of the Hastings Tribune, and published in his paper:

"Mr. C. H. Dietrich, the republican candidate for governor is a self-made man, one of those typical Americans who have fought their way single handed from obscure poverty to competence and positions of honor and trust. His parents were both natives of Germany. His father was a shoemaker who had worked up a good business in the town in which he lived, but on account of his radical espousal of the cause of the patriots of 1818 he was forced to flee from his native land in disguise. His wife, with seven small children, followed him a year later, but the father had landed in Quebec and the mother in New Orleans. They were very poor and the story of their long search for each other is as pathetic as the similar history of the exiled Acadian peasants.

"After a year of struggle they finally met at St. Louis and together worked their way to Chicago. Here the father found intermittent work at his trade and the mother took in washing, all the water and wood used being carried from the lake a half a mile away.

"In 1853, during a driving snow storm which piled the snow drifts upon the floor of their wretched home, Charles



Henry Dietrich, the subject of our sketch was born and baptized in the German Lutheran church.

"The industry and thrift which characterize the German people began to conquer and the circumstances of the family improved but there were many mouths to feed and at the age of nine, Charles began to work at anything he could find to do. At twelve he left school for good and worked out among the farmers near Aurora till he was sixteen, when he went to St. Joe, Missouri, and worked for Wyeth Hardware Co. for three years. He went to Chicago and engaged in the same line of business till 1873, when having saved up a small capital he decided to remove to Arkansas and venture into business for himself.

"But fate ruled otherwise, for while traveling through Arkansas he was set upon by highway-men, robbed of all he possessed and left in a nearly dying condition. There he was—peniless, in a strange land, with the battle to be fought all over, but nothing daunted, he went to work for C. P. R. Breckinridge, on a plantation, rebuilding log cabins and fences, afterwards cutting cypress logs in the swamps. If any man imagines that cutting cypress all day under a southern sky is easy work, let him try it, but Mr. Dietrich remained at it for six months; he then went back to Aurora and worked at the blacksmith trade for a year.

"In the winter of 1875-6 with just \$216.00 in the world he started for the Black Hills; he bought the necessary supplies at Cheyenne and walked to Deadwood, passing through the famous Red Canyon where so many people were murdered by the Indians.

"At Deadwood he cut logs and built the pioneer store of that place, and for a long time he delivered merchandise for this store on pack animals throughout the Black Hills. Much of the delivery had to be done at night to avoid the danger from the Indians. He was also one of the locators of Spearfish.

"Mr. Dietrich is a man of great physical strength and courage and these two qualities stood him in good stead during his pioneer experiences. Several times his own life and that of his companions has been saved by the exercise of these traits, and, be it said to his credit, he is as generous as he is brave. Few men perhaps have endured the hardships and privations and passed through the thrilling experiences of our candidate.

"In 1877 Mr. Dietrich in company with others located the Aurora mine which was made famous in the early days by the many fights made over it and the frequent attempts to dispossess the original owners.

business. In early days when customs were decidedly primitive in Hastings, Mr. Dietrich worked in his store all day and in the evening took a wheelbarrow and delivered his goods. From that time till now he has always stood in the front ranks of those who tried to build up their town and the state; he was instrumental in organizing the German National bank of Hastings, of which he is president. He has given unsparingly both of time and money towards all business enterprises which he deemed to be for the benefit of his town. Church and charitable organizations have always found him a liberal contributor, but the recipients of his private bounty are without number.

"But while Mr. Dietrich is generous he is also just, two qualities that, unfortunately, do not always go together. "In 1857 Mrs. Dietrich died, leaving her husband with one child six years old who has since developed into maidenhood and is the idol of her father's heart. She has received her education, first in the public schools, then in convents, two years each in America, France and Germany. She is now a student at Bryan Mawr college near Philadelphia.

"Mr. Dietrich has never sought any political preferment whatever. This is indeed a case of the office seeking the man. He is an ideal candidate, a clean man in every sense of the word, an enthusiastic republican, a man of broad, liberal, practical ideas. He will give us a good, clean, business-like administration."

The state board of transportation has been engaged in a grandstand play at Omaha similar to the ones presented here to delighted audiences. This is the board's favorite pastime, and when it is not wrestling with the knotty problems of state or industriously engaged in drawing salaries the members take an excursion to some of the remoter domains and indulge to their hearts' content the humor resulting from the fond delusion of some simple constituent that through them will be found the remedy for wrongs, real or imaginary. If they do happen to encounter some facts that are too serious to be funny they retire to their castle, become again industrious—too much so to answer correspondence or attend to the other petty desires of their constituents—and impatiently await an injunction restraining them from any wild impulse to earn their salaries as the people believe they should. Their recent season of sport has been at the instance of John O. Yeiser of Omaha who desired the Nebraska telephone company regulated to his satisfaction. That the board has enjoyed the function and does not fear that it will be compelled to do anything in the matter may be gleaned from the following paragraph taken from the Omaha Daily News: "It is to be feared that under the laws of Nebraska, as they now are, and with the aid of the present board, disposed, as it seems to be, to shut out important items of evidence, Mr. Yeiser is proceeding much after the manner of the small boy who went hunting after big game with a sling shot. From Mr. Yeiser's standpoint, however, he may be repaid for his outlay of time and energy."

It is generally conceded that if this government should comply with the wishes of the Boer envoys it would mean that we should engage in a South African war with England and perhaps other of the world's powers. It would also mean that all right to enforcing the Monroe doctrine would be foregone, as the European governments certainly have as good a right to interfere in South American affairs as this government has to take a hand in South Africa. The one thing this government can do without provoking war is to offer its good offices looking toward peace, with the consent of both parties to the war, and this it will probably do again as it has done before. While this might be satisfactory to the Boer representatives it will not satisfy the fellows who are making political capital and any action the administration may take looking to peaceful mediation is expected to be met with a loud guffaw on the part of the fusionists and the assertions that this country is against republics and for empires. When this government oversteps the neutrality laws recognized by all nations it may never hope to exist without the interference of other nations in its affairs. The republicans heartily wish that they might do something for the Boers, but no sensible and patriotic countryman will want to interfere when it means war and perhaps the destruction of the country by the world powers. The very fellows who are now urging this government to do something rash would be the first to avoid responsibility and ensure the administration should it take the step.

Nothing could recommend Chas. H. Dietrich more highly and commend him to the people of the state with greater force than the fact of his exceeding popularity at home. Hastings people with one accord have honored him unstintingly since his nomination for governor and it is safe to predict that if he carries no other precinct in the state he will at least have a handsome majority at home. Adams county had a fusion majority of between 200 and 400 votes in past campaigns, but this fall, at least on governor, it may be depended upon to go the other way by at least that much majority.

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