

The Norfolk News

The people are waiting for some evidence to show that the "republicans will not carry a single state in the union."

Let's see! Towne was to be withdrawn in case the mid-road movement was a failure. Towne has not been withdrawn.

It is very apparent that democratic success will be the result of a much worse record than that established by the McKinley administration.

The World-Herald's editorial page takes great pains to prove that times are no better now than in 1896, regardless of what its want columns say derogatory to the argument.

This infamous prosperity should let up a little "for Bryan's sake." How can he hope to win when the calamity stopping stones slip out from under his feet like chips in a tub of soft soap?

Those sheets which continue to argue that there is no prosperity and times are no better than under Cleveland must have a most profound disregard for their readers' intellects.

Omaha is having much trouble with victims of the opium and cocaine habits and their number seems to be constantly increasing. The people are becoming awakened to the direful prevalence in the use and effects of these drugs, and it is likely that war will be waged against them.

The exports of agricultural products during the past fiscal year exceeded in value \$550,000,000. The products of American mines during the same time were valued at \$10,000,000. And yet the fusionists insist that the silver question is of more importance than prosperity to trade and manufacture.

The populists are not only mountebanks, but thieves. They are now accused of stealing the name of the peoples independent fusers. They were formerly dear, good, honest, conscientious fellows until they chose to assert an independence of which the "independent" fellows were not capable.

The Wayne Democrat has flopped from its policy of patting populists on the back, which prevailed when it supported the cause of democracy and is now calling them some very mean names. It would work the legs off a crawfish for it to endeavor to be as consistent as the average democrat.

There was a time under the Cleveland administration when corn was a good price, but unfortunately Nebraska farmers had to buy instead of sell, and they paid as high as 50 cents a bushel for the product. When they had an abundance it was but 10 cents a bushel and more profitable to use for fuel than to sell.

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The World-Herald evidently forgot to look up its program on militarism and imperialism, and at the same time paid something a little worse than a left-handed compliment to christian people when it said recently, "Praying for the safety of American missionaries in China is all right in its way, but plenty of blue-jackets, infantrymen, artillerymen and ammunition should be sent along to reinforce the prayers."

The Omaha Independent tried to work in E. A. Griffin of Bancroft as a recent convert to the fusion cause. That gentleman replied that it was a misstatement and called for a retraction and the Independent published his letter which said: "When the democratic party shall have done some act or acts to merit my support, then will be time for me to announce myself with them." The fusion cause is becoming very desperate.

The exports of manufactured goods to foreign countries during the past fiscal year amounted to \$130,000,000 in value, the profits going largely toward the paying of factory operatives. The products of our mines during the same period amounted to \$10,000,000, and yet we are informed by the Kansas City convention that the parity between two of the minerals dug out of the earth is of more importance to the American people than prosperous trade conditions.

The Omaha News well says, "The street is a poor kindergarten." There appear to be many Norfolk parents who do not realize this. Boys and girls are allowed to roam the streets day in and day out, even when school is in session, at their pleasure. There is little good for them to learn on the streets and much that is bad. They had much better be in the house with their toys or in the garden pulling weeds. What future parents are preparing for children on the streets they would probably dislike to realize. Let the children amuse

themselves if must be, but for the sake of their future and your own peace of mind draw the line on street amusements.

The World-Herald has quit its urging of democrats to "get together" and is now urging them to "organize." Mr. Hitchcock and his senatorial bee are making a desperate effort to bring order out of chaos, victory out of defeat, harmony out of discord and fusion out of confusion. That paper's labored pleas to a despondent constituency are most lugubrious but it is feared that it cannot overcome, single handed, disaster caused by the party's fool leaders and fool conventions.

Some of the fusion papers are lately discovering that J. H. Berryman of Knox, who had a good vote for the fusion nomination for district judge at the convention recently held here, is not "very broad minded" since he became candidate for attorney general on the populist ticket. It continues to be a startling revelation how opinions of fusionists regarding men will change, when they are brought to a realizing sense of their inability to contend against the fusion office trust octopus.

Did you ever think that the democrats have only elected one governor of Illinois and one president of the United States in forty years, and that the state treasury was left several millions of dollars worse than empty and that the national administration had to issue interest bearing bonds for \$262,000,000 in time of peace to pay the actual running expenses of the government? This is the record the party goes to the voters with. Isn't it rank?—Benton (Ill.) Republican.

The populist Peoples News of Creighton was apparently not quite overwhelmed with the complete honesty and justice of the fusion cause while attending the Lincoln convention. The issue of the 19th says: "The News man while at Lincoln had a talk with John S. Robinson in regard to some differences in the past and John became diplomatic but the News desires to state that such damnable tactics will give him a chance to wear swaddling clothes rather than to go to congress, when the votes are counted on election day."

It is not so very long ago that the fusionists said some very mean things about the republican candidate for a high state office because the story was circulated that he was a prohibitionist. Now they are exerting themselves to discredit another republican candidate because they assert he drinks a glass of beer occasionally. It seems to be very much of a question if the republicans can suit the fusionists at all. Perhaps they now think it is the province of U. S. senators, alone, to destroy the intoxicants of the country by "benevolent assimilation."

The Nebraska City Press is willing to stand up and speak out for at least one "trust." It says: "Crops never better, money plenty, labor in demand, work for everybody and fusion wanting. All this will never do; sail in Constantine, put forth efforts to tear down the manufacturing interests of Nebraska, let your jaw cease to work or your ink cease to flow in denunciation of hated corporations which employ labor, use your corn and other grains, pay steady wages and make men and women happy. Fusion cannot succeed until you can bring about misery. You are on the right track."

The fusionists have been endeavoring to count the traveling men into the Bryan column whether they will or no. Like their other methods of figuring, however, they are likely to meet disappointment in this particular. The Valentine Republican of last week says: "Wednesday a traveling man informed The Republican that twenty-seven traveling men including himself were on the same train a few days ago. They were discussing politics and agreed to count noses as to their political beliefs which resulted in disclosing the fact that twenty-five were for McKinley and two for Bryan. That no doubt is a fair ratio showing how traveling men will vote this fall."

The politics of a paper can, nine times out of ten, be told by its print and general appearance. This may be startling out is, nevertheless, true in Nebraska. The republican papers are usually neat and clean in appearance. Their make-up is systematic and perfect. The contrary is true of a fusion sheet. Beginning at the top of the list, the Omaha Bee is one of the neatest, cleanest, and most systematically made up paper in the west. The World-Herald is fairly well printed, but its make-up is something akin to terrible, its pages being disfigured by iron-type heads and some of its ads and other matter have the appearance of having been slung together by an amateur. The state Journal will compare most favorably with its competitors. Compare the Stanton Picket and Stanton Register in this particular; the Dakota County Record and South Sioux City Argus, and there are many other comparisons to the point in other towns. There are some notable exceptions, but they go to prove the rule. The Pierce Leader is a very neat paper, but the Call makes up for news, what it lacks in beauty. The

Madison, Battle Creek and Wayne papers are about on an equal footing, while the Plainview News is way ahead of its competitor.

It is noticed that an effort is being made to drain 500 acres of land near Valley so it can be farmed. In some of the eastern states it is now a question as to whether drainage of low lands is the part of wisdom. It is reported from some sections where swamp land has been reclaimed that the neighboring farms are now suffering from drouth when before drainage was made they had abundant moisture. In Nebraska especially the thing generally needed is rather more water than less. If the superfluous water could be transferred to places where there was a paucity good might follow but to drain it off through ordinary channels may result in more harm than benefit.

Senator Har is pouring some hot shot into the fusion ranks which, is not so funny to them as when he was scoring the administration's expansion policy. He is a consistent anti-expansionist but does not believe that his position on the question requires him to become anti-everything and take in all of Bryan's bogies. He says in a recent letter: "I expect nothing from Mr. Bryan, I expect nothing from Tammany Hall, I expect nothing from the populace that govern our great central cities. I expect nothing in that direction from the solid south, though the solid south contains now many honest and patriotic men. I expect that what is to be done for freedom and justice in the future is to be done by that party that stood for freedom and justice in the past. I would rather trust the future of the Philippine people to those people" (referring to the republicans) "than trust it to the men who, when the treaty was pending, played and juggled with this great and sacred matter of human liberty for a party purpose."

Evidence that democracy's campaign is to be carried on at long range this fall continues to accumulate. The hair raising bogies to be presented will have a horrible appearance at long range but if the attention of the people should be directed to the same evil at home not only will it lose its horrible appearance, but they will be almost willing to fight for the bogie. Evidence of this is presented at Nebraska City, the home of the Argo starch works. In his search for an octopus, the keen eye of the Attorney General Smith has been attracted by this blood-reeking monopoly that compels the people to pay four or five cents for starch for which they formerly paid 10 or 15 cents. The Press of that city calls on the fusion News to stand by its principles at home as well as abroad in the following language: "The News last evening refrained from saying anything pro or con in regard to Constantine J. Smythe, the fusion attorney general and the Argo starch works. Come neighbor you will have to show your hand. This is an instance where you cannot straddle. The people of Nebraska City want to know whether you prefer to have hundreds thrown out of employment or not. Remember election this fall."

The Times-Tribune gives a second-hand slap at the Norfolk sugar factory by publishing a clipping from its counterpart, the Stanton Register. It is to be inferred from this that the paper would be glad to see the factory closed. It recognizes no good in the factory. The thousands of dollars it has put into the trade channels of Norfolk are of no benefit. An institution that has attracted more attention to Norfolk than all its other industries is of no value. The policy of the paper appears to be rather to tear down than uphold industries that employ men and benefit a town. It is a true insight into democratic character, that delights in calamity and deplors prosperity. The queerest part of the whole argument is the sentence, "Doesn't it seem queer that in these prosperous (?) McKinley times it is necessary for public appeals to keep factories running?" Well it does seem rather queer for a fact. Especially when the plea is for raw material for the factory to work on. Under Cleveland no such appeal was necessary. The raising of beets was so much more profitable than raising corn, oats and hogs that the factory here was literally swamped with raw material. At prevailing prices it seems that there is an equal if not a greater profit in these products now than in raising sugar beets. About the time the factory starts there is likely to be a plea for labor to help handle the crop which will also probably sound queer to calamity ears. It is a queer world, taken all around, but some of the queerest things are found in fusion arguments. Indications point to an increase in the price of beets next year to keep pace with the advance of other agricultural products and it may not, by that time, be necessary to make "public appeals" for raw material. Under whatever conditions, however, this paper will be highly pleased to have the factory continue to operate.

G. A. R. Annual reunion, Chicago, Ill., August 27-September 1st. One fare for the round trip via the Union Pacific. Tickets on sale from Utah, from Wyoming and Colorado, from Kansas and Nebraska. For limit on tickets, time tables and full information call on F. W. JONES, Agent.

"Rosewater's republican aid society" seem to be causing the fusionists considerable worry.

Robinson congressional stock is suffering a steady decline while the Hayes stock is as steadily going up.

The fusionists will this fall find many, who, while they will not openly acknowledge their disgust with the combine, will either vote the republican ticket or refuse to vote at all.

The Conservative pertinently asks: "Did the 'consent' of the Filipinos to be sold and transferred from Spain to the United States reach Col. Bryan by cable before he espoused the cause of imperialism" in urging the ratification of the Paris treaty?

The Texas populists don't propose to have their principles gobbled by the democratic party. They adopted resolutions stating that whereas populist platforms are tempting to democratic politicians, resolved that the chairman of the executive committee be instructed to have the populist platform copyrighted before the democratic convention meets, August 8th.

The report comes from Tekamah that several fusionists have "unthinkingly" pledged their support to the republican ticket. There is no question that many fusionists will vote the republican ticket but they will not do so "unthinkingly." Some people don't need to have a brick house fall on them before they take a tumble and support what they know to be right.

The democrats do not believe in qualified liberty, they believe in unrestricted liberty. That they are sincere witness the race war in the democratic state of Louisiana. A "nigger" has dared to shoot a white man and not only is he not given a right to a fair and impartial trial, but others of his race who had no part in the crime are made the victims of mob violence in expiation of his deed.

T. A. Miner of Burr county, fusion candidate for representative, has joined the republican Rough Rider club recently organized there. The truth of this was questioned by some fusion friends and Mr. Miner authorized a friend to answer it in the following language, "You may say my name is on the roll and will stay there." It is but just to say that Mr. Miner was not at the fusion convention which nominated him for representative, but nevertheless the fusion cause must be terribly weakened when a candidate for office will renounce allegiance and join the republicans.

Ex-President Grover Cleveland is another eastern democrat who is not to have the wool of imperialism pulled over his eyes while the "heaven born ratio" is crammed down his throat. Speaking of the Kansas City convention Mr. Cleveland says: "I most ardently hoped and desired, that the platform to be constructed at Kansas City would be consistent with the professions of those in charge of the democratic management to the effect of harmonizing the discordant sentiments in the party. In these circumstances the incorporation of a specific demand for free silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 is, of course, a great surprise and disappointment. On the basis of such a declaration the method by which the party is to be harmonized and democracy is to gain the confidence and support of our thinking and reflective citizens is beyond my apprehension."

Well now, wouldn't this astonish you? Here we have been told by the fusion press throughout the land that there was no prosperity, or if there was it was the result of providence. Not a man of the editors but would deny that the political complexion of the administration had a thing to do with it. The prices of all agricultural products, with the possible exception of wheat have been steadily and persistently advancing ever since McKinley was elected, but now comes the Nebraska Independent with an acknowledgment of the fact but accrediting it to a new and heretofore unthought of cause. It says: "Every day since Bryan was nominated, wheat, corn and cattle have been going up. Speculators know that if Bryan is elected it means an era of prosperity for every American interest. Silver has had a regular boom. It has sold in London for nearly 65 cents an ounce, and along with silver, up goes wheat. The days of gold-buggery and low prices are nearing an end. Hurrah for Bryan and prosperity!" The Independent is very weak in one particular. It don't specify which time it means. It says "ever since Bryan was nominated," but unfortunately his record along this line is so profuse and complicated that it will be difficult to know just which nomination should be accorded the credit of this magnificent result. Perhaps it happened each time, in which event the fusionists would be serving their country's interests by nominating him every other day. Another weak point of the argument is the phrase "if Bryan is elected." From this it is to be concluded that the speculators were operating on a most uncertain possibility, as it is conceded by no unprejudiced statistician that he will be elected, and it might possibly be the remoteness of the event to which the Independent is at-

tributing the cause. An early and complete explanation from the paper is eagerly awaited.

Disfranchising The Negro. The proposition to practically disfranchise the negroes, goes to the people of North Carolina this fall, and the result, it is confidently predicted, will be a great democratic victory. Mississippi, South Carolina and Louisiana have already adopted measures of this kind, and Virginia is expected to come next. The agitation is on in that state. The different communities find it necessary to adopt varying methods. In some states the test is ability to read and "construct" a section of the constitution to the satisfaction of the election judges. Given the right kind of judges, and a black citizen, even if he be the greatest of constitutional lawyers, would hardly give satisfaction. There is some doubt about the constitutionality of this plan, and in Virginia it is proposed to give the franchise to all who served in the confederate army, and their descendants! To keep the negro from voting, and yet allow ignorant whites to exercise the franchise, is the milk in the cocoanut. The property qualification will not answer, because in Virginia the negroes own too much property, in some counties up to one-third of the valuation. The federal constitution should be amended again, if necessary, to prevent the enactment of this kind of regulations of the franchise. The only course that will ever raise up the negro and make him a useful citizen is to give him the full measure of responsibilities of citizenship.—Sioux City Tribune, democratic.

For State Superintendent. It is often interesting to know a few facts concerning a person who is before the people asking for their votes, and the following will, therefore be of interest to electors:

W. K. Fowler, the republican nominee for superintendent of public instruction, was born in 1864 in New Jersey. He comes of sturdy old Scotch peasantry, both his parents being born in Scotland and emigrating to this country about 1850. He attended the public grammar schools of New York City until 1879, when he was graduated with the highest honors of his class, entering the college of the city of New York the sixth in rank out of nearly twelve hundred applicants. After attendance there for a year he entered the employ of a firm in Maiden Lane, New York City, was promoted each year with the substantial recognition of an increase in salary until the spring of 1883, when the western fever brought him to the farm of his brothers in Dodge county, north of North Bend, Nebraska. The spring and summer were spent there, the four brothers farming and "bacheling." In the fall their sister arrived from the east and W. K. began teaching a district school at Purple Cane, in the south-western part of that county. Later he taught No. 69, in the northeast corner of the county, and still later No. 2, at Ames, just before the Standard Cattle company moved in. He also spent a year in Monmouth college, Illinois. In the early spring of 1886, while he was yet twenty-one years of age, Mr. Fowler was elected principal of the schools at Scribner, Nebr., where he taught with unqualified success until December, 1889. At that time a severe epidemic of diphtheria necessitated the closing of the schools for an indefinite period, and Mr. Fowler spent the year 1888 in Scotland and England, traveling and taking special work in the University of Edinburgh. In the spring of 1889 he returned to Scribner and launched into the newspaper business, editing and publishing the Scribner News, and later the North Bend Argus, but in August, 1890, the Scribner board of education unanimously called him to again assume the principalship of their schools, and for three years more he gave the people of that town the best administration of school affairs they ever had, organizing, managing and disciplining the schools to the complete satisfaction of all. In the summer of 1893, against many competitors, he was unanimously chosen superintendent of the Blair city schools, and after two years' successful experience, he was re-elected for a term of three years at an increase in salary of one hundred dollars a year. Again in 1898 he was re-elected for another three years' term. Mr. Fowler ranks with the best educators and deepest thinkers in the state. In school work and school management he is in every sense of the word a general.

"Mr. Fowler has served as president of the High school section of the Nebraska State Teachers' association, was for two years clerk of the educational council and is still a member of it, has served on the legislative committee of the council, and is now serving his third year as a member of the executive committee of the State Teachers' association. He has been an active member of the National Educational association since 1892, and is also a member of the National Department of City Superintendents. He has also served on many other minor committees of the state association, where his associates consider him a valuable aid in counsel and they recognize and appreciate his energy.

"Mr. Fowler married in 1889 Miss Adda F. Parker and now numbers in his family four bright children: Marie, aged nine years; Kirk, aged seven; Frank, aged three and one half years; and Baby Adda, aged one month.

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