

The Norfolk News

Cannot some fusionist present an argument that will hold together during the campaign. For Bryan's sake try!

The greatest mistake you fellows have made is that you didn't give me follows the offices, would be logical democratic argument.

The fusionists admit Governor Poynter's term was full of errors and do not promise a change for the better if he is re-elected. It requires wisdom to guard against error.

The World-Herald and Papillon Times particularly want harmony. They seem quite anxious that their candidates should win. The editors are both candidates.

Fusion papers continue to apologize for the mistakes of Poynter. The people have not yet indicated that they are ready to condone a record noted, almost solely, for its errors.

The only really safe people to trust with the liberty of the Filipinos, the Porto Ricans, et al, are the democrats. Their record in the solid south is sufficient guarantee of this.

A Rough Rider club of 100 members has been organized by the young men of Albion. A pretty good showing for a small town and the home of Governor Eronimus Poynter at that.

Senator Pettigrew of South Dakota threatens to become an out and out democrat. The democrats appear to be having trouble enough without this additional calamity. It might drive them to drink.

The fusionists appear to delight in deceased issues. They went to the trouble of resurrecting free silver in an unmistakable manner and are now using their best endeavors to dodge its discussion.

While the fusion sheets have been having all kinds of fun with the mid-road convention as a weak and unimportant affair they are at the same time making very vigorous efforts to keep them off the ticket.

Wonder if circuses will follow the Fourth of July into a state of desuetude providing McKinley is re-elected president? If Bryan would only include this in his list of prophecies, the president's fate would be settled.

It is announced in some of the headlines that the "Iowa Republicans are Paving the Way to Success." This is not particularly new. Iowa Republicans have been doing that same thing ever since Noah discovered the ark.

The following is stolen and suggested as a fair substitute for the Kansas City platform: "Whereas, we 'uns are out, and you 'uns are in; therefore, what you 'uns are for, we 'uns are agin; Resolved, you 'uns must git out and let we 'uns in."

The republican party favors a monetary system, fair and satisfactory to the borrower as well as the lender. The decrease in interest rates and increase in funds for loaning purposes are telling arguments in favor of the republican policy.

"The consent of the governed" was eagerly sought by the democrats in North Carolina when the negroes were disfranchised. Yea, verily, democrats are the only true interpreters of the declaration of independence and know the full meaning of the word "liberty."

The Germans are patted on the back by the fusionists, until they show evidence of republicanism when, like the mid-road populists, they become everything disgraceful, dishonorable and mean. Fusion friendship seems to be of a very treacherous quality depending entirely upon a person's political belief.

The Journal furnishes additional evidence that the fusionists are prone to flights of the imagination in making their claims and also directs them from their star gazing to facts near home when it says that 50 knights of the grip make their headquarters in Norfolk and of these, 54 are for McKinley and five for Bryan.

Ex-Governor Boyd's assertion that imperialism is impossible with America is so true that it will not help the fusion cause a little bit. The fusionists must learn in time that the people are not to be frightened by senseless fancies of demagogic origin. When they can present a real issue that will bear sensible argument they may hope to win occasionally.

General Grosvenor has figured that McKinley's certain electoral vote will be 278, which is 51 more than enough to elect. He concedes Mr. Bryan as certain of 132 votes. He places in the doubtful column, Nebraska, Kentucky, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Idaho and Montana, controlling 37 votes. It is not doubted by Nebraska republicans but that at least this state will be taken out of the doubtful column and lined up for McKinley.

One term in the governor's office has proven Poynter's incompetency. He rattles around like a bean in a tin can, being entirely inadequate to fill the position. He is weak and vacillating and prone to err. The best that can be said is that the state has been fortunate in not having encountered any crisis calling for vigor, stamina and executive ability. What would happen should such a condition prevail with him in the chair is open to serious question.

The Douglas county democrats are a long time getting together. Attention is attracted to the discord among the fusionists in that county because of its prominence as the metropolis, but really it is but little worse than the confusion among the fusionists in other parts of the state. It will take an entire reorganization of the machine before there is complete harmony, that is evident. The mid-roads were wise enough to get out from under, fusion statements to the contrary notwithstanding.

The republicans of Jasper county, Missouri, are in a cheerful frame of mind judging from this plank in their resolutions, recently adopted: "We, the republicans of Jasper county, in convention assembled, meet, cheerful, contented, prosperous and confident. We pause that we may welcome back those that meet in our convention today who in 1896 mistook the remedy of 'free silver' for the disease of democracy then upon the country. We endorse the successful and statesmanlike administration of President William McKinley and we promise him and the hero of San Juan an increased republican vote in Jasper county."

Some of the fusion organs have been throwing dust in the eyes of the people again. They have been stating that the republican papers were guilty of the 'horrible' practice of using plate matter furnished by the committees. Scarcely is the awful charge delivered, however, until their columns give evidence of the same tactics and they go one better—part of the stuff furnished them is printed in German. They slap the Germans as a beer guzzling, sauer kraut eating lot and then present their arguments to change his opinion to their way of thinking. They have been making repeated claims that the German-Americans are for Bryan to a man, but it is liable to turn out like their "traveling men" claims before the campaign is over.

The Raleigh Advocate strikes the keynote of the trust question when it says: "Howl, you anti-trust men, howl! Curse the blamed trusts, and then the minute you get ten dollars ahead send in an order to Montgomery, Ward & Co., Sears, Roebuck, etc., and help support one of the biggest trusts in the country." These are the trusts that are doing more to hurt the country merchant and the traveling men's occupation than all other trusts combined and yet there is not a fusion sheet, scarcely, that will say a word against them. The World-Herald, that great friend of the dear people, almost constantly carried advertisements for Hayden Bros., the Boston store, and other business trusts, which might well be considered very inconsistent.

The democrats are having quite a spell because Roosevelt said that "the democrats stand for a cowardly shrinking from duty abroad." They quote the names of Dewey, Schley, Lawton and Wheeler to disprove the assertion, and it does disprove it as far as these gentlemen are concerned. Not one of them but that stands or stood for McKinley's expansion policy. Not one of them to say "pull down the flag." But they had no say in constructing the Kansas City platform and it is very much doubted if any of them stand on it or will support the Kansas City ticket. Governor Roosevelt is safe in judging the party by its platform and not by the acts or convictions of a few who call themselves democrats. It would be just as appropriate for the republicans to dodge the expansion issue by referring their critics to Hoar, Pettigrew and others, to prove that they are not expansionists. It will not do for the democrats to evade their policy by pointing to those who do not concur in it.

The Times-Tribune published yesterday a record of business changes in Norfolk during the past year. It is noted that while there were seventeen new business enterprises established, there were but nine closed out and but one or two of these might be accounted as failures, the large portion of them having removed to new locations. There were 13 business changes, proper, where all or part of the business was sold to new purchasers and is being continued. One firm burned out. Thus does the Times-Tribune present a ratio nearly as good as 16 to 1 in favor of McKinley prosperity. No such record was possible under the Cleveland administration. While there is now not a vacant store building in a position anyway desirable, there were many of them a few years ago. The Times-Tribune has the thanks of people who admire consistency in thus presenting such a magnificent tribute to improved business conditions. That it is not satisfied will be proven by its editorial columns which will insist that the people should desire a change, but then it is perhaps only joking when it scores McKinley and lauds Bryan.

The "fellow out of a job" is mighty scarce in Norfolk. There are no volunteers for membership in a Cokey army.

A great many of the "common people" have grown into uncommon people since McKinley was elected, if to be common people required poverty and distress.

The big democratic victory in Alabama also foretells the robbing of negroes of liberties which were accorded them as a result of the war of the rebellion.

It has cost William Harris of Hyannis a fine of \$1,000 for shooting prairie chickens before the opening of the season. He had 800 of the birds dressed and in storage when arrested.

The total exports of American manufactures in the last fiscal year were an increase of \$92,608,808 over that of 1899. This is a small item of prosperity for the consideration of voters.

The democrats of Douglas county are rather slow getting together in the interest of the World-Herald's senatorial bee. Mr. Hitchcock is accumulating a choice collection of "stings of ingratitude."

The Hastings Tribune wants to match Farmer Morlan, candidate for congress in the Sixth district, for a joint debate with Farmer Bryan, standing candidate for president, upon the topic "Practical Farming."

We were told in 1896 that free coinage of silver at 16 to 1 was positively essential to prosperity. That we were told falsely conditions have done their utmost to prove and yet there are people who refuse to acknowledge it.

From the way men's shirt waists are being handled by the city press that article of wearing apparel must be coming into use. The advent of a reform or fad in clothing is usually best advertised by the caricaturists and funny men.

Gen. Rosser is a southerner who proposes to vote his real sentiment. He says: "I regard the republican party as the only national party now in the field. It is enterprising, aggressive and patriotic; it has on hand and unfinished a great work."

The Omaha Daily News has found it to advantage to apologize to a German-American lady for stories printed in it about Mr. Dietrich which she considered an insult to her race. It stated that the article in question was of a "frivolous" nature.

Mary Ellen Lease has quit the fusionists and is trying to break into the republican party but has not, thus far, been warmly welcomed. In spite of this, however, one cannot but admire her courage in acknowledging her mistake of four years ago.

The freezing silence about the trust issue on the part of the democratic ice trust magnates of New York is oppressive. How they can expect to win with their anti-trust candidate and platform without fighting the monsters is a conundrum for the solution of the honest voter.

At the annual session recently held in Chicago of the members of the central union of the German survivors of the Franco-Prussian war mention of President McKinley was repeatedly cheered, which but serves to show that all Germanians are not wild over Bryan as per fusion claims.

Down in North Carolina they are giving an illustration of what the "unqualified liberty" of democracy means. Pitchfork Tillman will now read the declaration of independence, while the band plays, and will lay especial emphasis on the phrase, "all men are created free and equal."

Last week hogs were selling in Omaha at \$3.15. During the corresponding week in 1896 they sold at \$2.83. Yet there are probably a number of farmers who will vote for a change. If they could have it without injury to their neighbors' interests the people would be pleased to see them get it.

Perhaps Mr. Bryan might win additional notoriety by doffing the overalls in which he posed as a farmer and donning the new shirt waist. It would at least have the excuse of originality, while politicians who can't tell a coultter from a hay rake posing as farmers is somewhat frayed about the edges.

The reception to Bryan at Omaha on his way to Indianapolis was something of a frost, only a few hundred people being at the train to greet him. One of the company remarked that "You'd expect a man running for mayor to get a heavier ovation than this." Prominent democrats were remarkable for their scarcity.

The World-Herald is authority for the statement that the Kansas City convention made no attempt at a straddle. The editor must have mislaid his copy of the proceedings and should immediately be furnished with one by the national committee. He should not be allowed to grope around in the dark and make such disastrous errors.

The World-Herald gives the number attending the Bryan reception at Omaha Monday evening as "between 1,500 and 2,000." The non-partisan News says that 100 people would be a conservative estimate. It must not be understood from this that the World-Herald would lie. That is solely the province of republican papers at which the honest W.-H. stands aghast.

The Atlanta Constitution is in favor of "imperialism" or expansion and is endeavoring to interpret the democratic platform as consistent with its policy. The Constitution should do like a very large number of fusionists—close its eyes to principle and support anything "for Bryan's sake." He is the party and all it stands for.

The fusionists would give considerable for a few fellows who have discovered that they made a mistake in voting for McKinley in 1896. Their repeated assertions that there are such people is somewhat trying when they can discover no floppers to back up the assertion. The Web Davis gag is becoming somewhat shelfworn.

The fusionists are not endeavoring to deny that the McKinley administration has been all right for the people of the United States. Their one fear seems to be that people of other lands may be forced to enjoy the civilization, prosperity, happiness and liberty of the people of the United States. They are most compassionate—for political effect.

The democrats present as a "paramount issue" not even a remote probability. The republicans ask an endorsement of the prosperous times and improved business conditions that have obtained under the McKinley administration which are in indisputable evidence to all possessed of a spark of comprehension. The voter should not make a mistake that he will live to regret.

Ringling's records show that the attendance at their show the other day was over 4,000 more than when they were last here, about four years ago—another very good indication of more prosperous times. It is not necessary for people to use a telescope to find an issue. The "paramount" issue is apparent to everybody who has eyes to see and ears to hear.

The Crete Democrat says: "Probably the worst gang of political hypocrits and frauds ever congregated at any place in the state met in Grand Island on the 20th." It is very evident that the Democrat is mad, else how could it call its former friends such despicable names. They were nice fellows as long as they aided the fusion trust bosses into office, but their declaration of independence galls.

There is now no question but that sentiment in favor of the republican ticket and republican policies is in the lead and care should be taken that it is kept so. Strong and vigorous clubs should be organized and prepared to meet the fusionists at every turn. Discretion should also be used in method of campaign so that those who have come over to the right side may have no excuse for changing their opinion. Tact is of great importance to campaigners and should be abundantly used. There is no question but that if election was to be held tomorrow there would be republican victory all along the line. Members of that party should not allow a change of this condition.

The fusionists seem to be as thoroughly disorganized as the republicans could hope for and there are increasing evidences that there is a surprise awaiting them this fall in Nebraska. Hon. Smith Caldwell of Nuckolls county has this to say of conditions at his home: "It is not long ago that the republicans were snowed under by a fusion majority of 800 in Nuckolls, but last fall we elected five of the county officers and are going to give them a run for their money this fall. There are on an average from a dozen to fifteen populists in each precinct who are sick and disgusted at the course affairs have taken in the ranks of the fusionists and a good many of them are going to vote the republican ticket."

W. E. Kibbe, a farmer of Franklin county, Kansas, who has been a leader in the populist party for years and was a delegate to the Sioux Falls convention, has announced his intention of supporting the republican ticket in the future. Among other things he says: "I prefer to be a citizen rather than a partisan, and instead of still staying over in the old mule lot, with its gloom and mud, listening to the eternal braying of asses and croaking of frogs and making faces and throwing mud at the great procession moving along, I am going to jump the fence, get out into the broad, sunny highway join it and help make not mar, our prosperous, progressive country. During the past five years since populism began to make fusion alliances I have witnessed more schemes, more disreputable political trading, more cunning among fusion managers and more dishonesty among fusion officials than I found during all the thirty years I was a republican."

C. M. Clark, a Lincoln populist, has challenged Geo. W. Berge, candidate for congress, to a joint debate. He recites that he is only a "working man" while Mr. Berge is "a lawyer and candidate for office" yet he is willing to

waive all difference and meet on equal terms. Mr. Clark proposes as one of the issues of debate, "That William J. Bryan, instead of being 'the greatest American christian statesman,' as you said in a speech made in Bohanan's hall four years ago, is what I then said he was, 'one of the greatest political frauds that ever figured in this country, or any other,' and to which I now add, that he is politically or as a 'statesman,' an ignoramus and a snob." Mr. Clark puts the question in pretty strong language which would not be tolerated for a moment from a republican, but as he is a fellow citizen and of the same political faith to which Mr. Bryan professes, his views will probably be met with some degree of tolerance by the fusionists. It is certain that Mr. Bryan's severest critics are or were members of one of the two parties to the fusion deal, no one being more severe than J. Sterling Morton, who was honored with the position of secretary of agriculture under the Cleveland administration.

James E. Boyd, the only democrat ever elected governor of Nebraska, is another who refuses to support Bryan in his endeavor to frighten the people and thereby be chosen as their president. While he may not vote for McKinley, he will not vote for Bryan. In an interview with the Omaha Bee, among other things Mr. Boyd said:

"With America imperialism is impossible. We have been acquiring territory ever since the government was founded, yet this is not an empire. To say that new territory added from time to time will be followed by the acclamation of an emperor to rule over us is absurd. Bryan may deceive some of the people by his far-fetched cry of imperialism, but the scare will not of long duration.

"The greatest mistake Bryan ever made was to require the Kansas City convention to reiterate the 16 to 1 silver free coinage plank. He emphasized it beyond all others, thus doing what the republicans would have him do. It will cause Bryan's defeat under heavier majorities than were given four years ago. It was sheer idiocy. Money was never so plentiful and the interest rate never so low. Prices of farm products were never better, and the producers are getting gold money for their products. Prosperity, everywhere in evidence, cannot be talked down. It may not be due to McKinley, but it is possible under the policy for which McKinley stands."

Imperialism in 1898. The Decorah, Iowa, Republican has discovered a striking similitude between the utterances of the Kansas City convention and the one held by the same party in 1898, just after the close of the civil war. "History repeats itself" and unfortunately for the democratic party it has the failing attributed to history. That it is a bad habit, especially for parties, is not to be denied, as it has frequently led to disastrous blunders. The following is the Republican's review of the situation in 1898:

"Pendleton of Ohio had converted a large body of democracy's followers into a craze for cheap money in the form of an unlimited issue of greenbacks. It mattered not that when the greenbacks were first issued as a war necessity the copperhead end of the democratic party rose up en masse and cried 'unconstitutional.' The greenback cry was a catchy one and Pendleton rode it as Bryan has since ridden free silver, because it appeared to be popular, and a winner.

"The national nominating convention of that year barely escaped making Pendleton and his fallacy the sole issue of the campaign by nominating Horatio Seymour against his very pronounced refusal to accept. Then it was that while placing the greenback fallacy into the platform the effort was to make another 'paramount issue' by setting up the boggy man of 'military despotism.' More than half of the platform was devoted to a cry of alarm, amounting to a wail, at the 'unparalleled tyranny and oppression' that had 'marked the career' of 'the radical party.' It was charged that it had

—subjected ten states, in time of profound peace, to military despotism and negro supremacy.

It has converted the American capitol into a bastle.

Under its repeated assaults the pillars of the government are rocking in their base, and should it succeed in November next, and inaugurate its president, we will meet as a subject and conquered people, amid the ruins of liberty and the scattered fragments of the constitution.

"It was also declared as the solemn opinion of the democratic party that the act of the 'radical' party

if sanctioned by the people, will subvert our form of government, and can only end in a single centralized and consolidated government in which the separate existence of the states will be entirely absorbed and an unqualified military despotism be established in place of federal union of co equal states.

"In spite of all this tremendous danger Grant was elected; the country went on its way in reconstructing the rebellion states; the peril of cheap money was avoided; the fear of a military despotism faded out in the face of Grant's declaration 'Let us have peace' and the country began the career which has since made us the greatest republic of the world. The pessimistic nonsense about militarism and imperialism has just the reality and no more that these fears of an 'unqualified military despotism' possessed in 1898."

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