

The Norfolk News

Germany is the latest country to look to the United States for bear gold.

The people are waiting for the democrats to show how they will maintain or better existing prosperous conditions.

Money was never cheaper or more plentiful than it is now. What reason can be ascribed for the democratic purpose of cutting its value in two and debasing the currency?

Hon. John R. Hays is giving careful attention to his fences in the Third district, building new ones and repairing old that will defy the efforts of Mr. Robinson to break through.

It is said that Senator Jones, chairman of the democratic national committee, was a former slave owner and knows full well how to "govern without the consent of the governed."

The New York democratic state convention promptly sat upon a resolution condemning the ice trust. They didn't care about having the family skeleton dangled before their eyes in that promiscuous fashion.

Another quotation from the great emancipator which Mr. Bryan and his followers generously ignore: "There is no fear of the people losing their liberties. We all know this to be the cry of demagogues and none but the ignorant will listen to it."

It is plain to be seen that the mid-road populist is a thorn in the fusion flesh that is most excruciatingly painful and cannot be removed. Every time the populists hold a convention their old time cronies go into a fit most painful to behold.

The fusionists do not like the Roosevelt program a little bit. Towne, the deposed, was early scheduled as a trailer and now it is announced that Mr. Bryan himself will speak at a few points where Mr. Roosevelt has proven too popular to suit the fusion idea.

The people realize that it was not the gold standard, but democracy that ailed them four years ago and Mr. Bryan's "cross of gold and crown of thorns" is so self worn that he is ashamed to exhibit them. There are few who will insist on him being given the opportunity to split the dollar in two.

One can scarcely pick up an exchange but that chronicles the visit of one or more citizens to Europe. Summer resorts this year enjoyed a phenomenal patronage and travel is large over all main railway lines. This is another indication of prosperity hard to deny, but some fusion blow hard will probably make an effort to do so.

"Charity begins at home." If it is a good thing for the Filipinos, Porto Ricans and Cubans to have unqualified liberties of government why not, dear, constant democrat, accord the same rights to the disfranchised, "governed without their consent" and "taxed without representation" people at home? Show that you can be consistent for once.

The World-Herald heads a telegraphic announcement "Mack is at home." How elevating and refined it is to speak of the president thus, even in the news columns. Suppose republican papers would speak of Bryan commonly as "Bill," wouldn't that Omaha champion of all that is good, pure and noble throw some fits in the interests of the common people?

A. W. Ladd, editor of the Albion News, has been named by the republicans for state senator in the Ninth district. Mr. Ladd is a vigorous and popular writer, an earnest worker in the republican cause and a man who will make votes where others would lose. He's a winner and The News extends congratulations. The republicans of that district are to be commended for their wisdom and foresight.

The democrats, who were fighting for high prices for farm products in 1896, now depend on creating dissatisfaction in the cities over these high prices which have prevailed under a republican administration. Every farmer and every community depending on the prosperity of the farmer should see that this sentiment is not endorsed at the polls. They cannot afford to lend their assistance toward inaugurating another era of falling prices. To the few that prosper under such conditions hundreds fail.

Another "paramount" issue might be taken up by democracy and a war waged against the deadly banana peel. There is at least one instance to prove its fatal qualities. A woman at St. Louis slipped on one, broke her leg and suffered such a shock to her system that she died two hours afterward. The perils of the banana peel would be a fruit-fal topic and should be immediately lined up with "imperialism" and "militarism." Everything that threatens the "common people" should be suppressed. Down—no we mean into the sewer—with the banana peel.

The Tecumseh Tribune, independent, is another paper that recognizes a good

and sufficient cause to quit fusing. It says: "We heard a democrat say a few days ago that up in Dodge county the democrats had majorities ranging as high as 800 previous to 1896, but for the past few years, or at least since they began fusing with any old thing the county has been generally carried by the republicans." Those who fail to see the decline of the fusion sentiment will be undeceived all along the line this fall and will readily recognize that one party with one set of principles is stronger than a fusion organization trying to straddle over three sets and retain an appearance of consistency.

The best evidence that "imperialism" is not "upon us" is the freedom with which the fusion press continues to score the president and his policies. They would not be permitted to use the same language and methods in any other country on the globe. There is no worse "imperialism" than that evidenced by the fusion supreme court of Nebraska, which is unrivaled in its efforts to silence a free press. But they evidently believe before this that the press and speech is free in the United States, according to popular sentiment, and will remain so.

Thomas E. Watson, who ran on the populist ticket as candidate for vice president with Bryan four years ago recently wired the Missouri World, published at Chillicothe, in reply to an inquiry whether or not he was supporting Mr. Bryan for the presidency, as follows: "The statement that I am supporting Bryan is untrue." Mr. Watson was so strongly a populist that the democratic efforts to budge him from the ticket were unavailing and he is not now assisting a democrat to office. There are plenty of populists of the same mind today, who will vote their own or the republican ticket.

The Cripple Creek Times-Citizen, a fusion paper of Colorado, admits that complete and harmonious fusion in that state is necessary to defeat the McKinley ticket with Senator Wolcott at the head and scores the leaders of the fusion parties because that brand of harmony was not in evidence by recent conventions held in Denver. What a change in sentiment since 1896! At that time it would be scarcely safe for a man to mention McKinley, and he received but 20,000 votes to Bryan's 159,000. The people in Colorado must be very sensible. They realize their mistake of four years ago and it will take all the energies and vagaries of the fusionists to keep them from reversing their position on national questions.

A fusion paper not many miles from Norfolk scores those who will criticize a public official in the following language: "There is a fascination about politics, a subtle charm that is more potent than those prepared by the wise men of old. Yet the puerile, picky objections that are sometimes raised against a public official and used as arguments against him are almost enough to make a man swear off and eschew politics forever." It is likely that the editor thought not of President McKinley when he was writing, but one can readily see how applicable it is to fusion sheets generally and their course toward the president. The merits of the case seem to depend entirely upon "whose ox is gored."

It is notable that those really great democratic statesmen who have changed front since 1896 are directing their energies in denunciation of President McKinley and his policies but they do not say a word endorsing Bryan and his issues. They believe McKinley bad but cannot promise that Bryan will be better. Come gentlemen, if you endorse Bryanism why don't you say so? How is the country to be benefited by his election? It may be all right to condemn a policy but with what will you substitute it? An employer is justified in discharging a bad man but hardly sensible if he gets a worse one in his stead. Show up a few recommendations for Mr. Bryan and his application will be considered by the people.

W. R. Hearst, editor of the New York Journal, Chicago American, San Francisco Examiner, et al., is a friend of expansion, especially in the latter paper, which is published in the territory that will be especially benefited. He has stopped agitating his convictions for the present but the records are back of him. In April, 1899, an issue of the Examiner contained a warning to Mr. Bryan on the expansion issue. It said: "Mr. Bryan may think he is close to the people, and that his silly talk about 'imperialism' moves them, but he will soon find out that Americans are as much in favor of expansion today as they were when they applauded the acquisition of the Louisiana territory by that noted imperialist, Thomas Jefferson."

The Norfolk banks are steadily and surely gaining in importance as financial institutions, a fact of considerable interest to those who admire sound business policies and to whom the prosperity of the banks is accepted as a faithful barometer of the business conditions of the community. The statements published yesterday and today reveal a combined business of more than three-quarters of a million dollars—in exact figures, \$790,000.80—against a showing

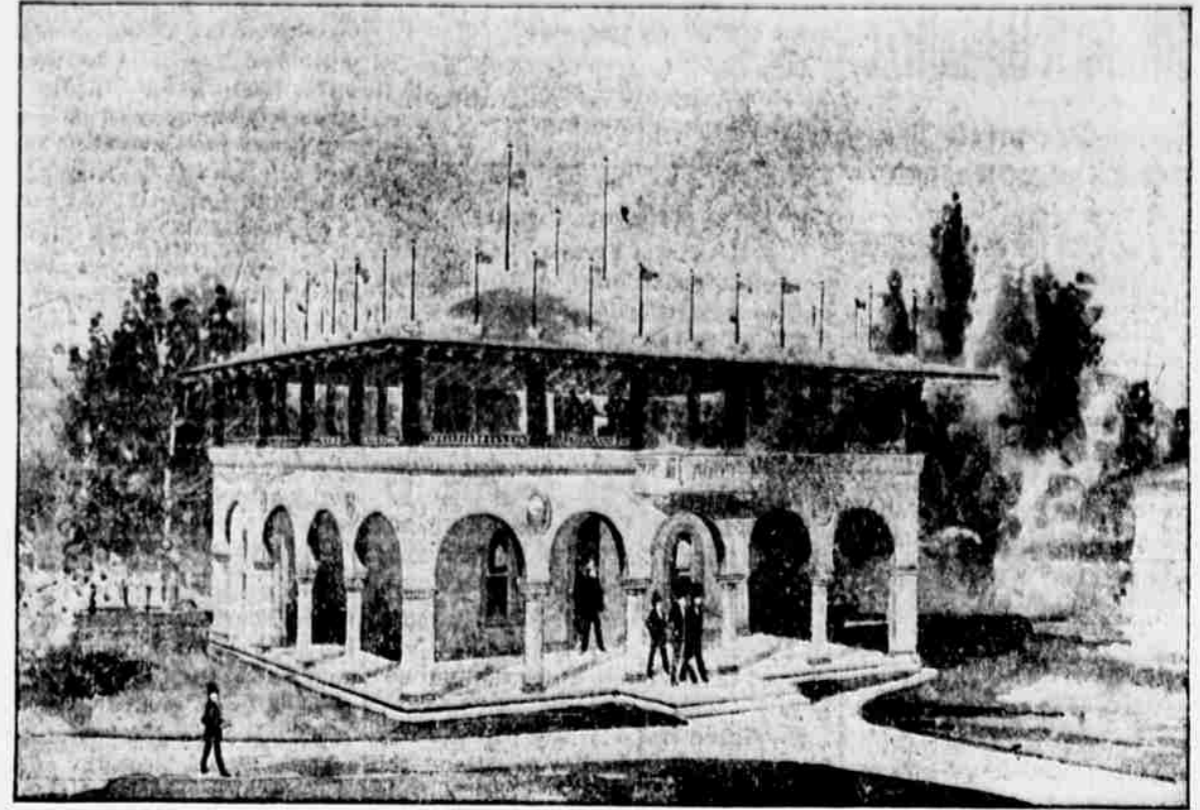
made two months ago of \$757,306.29, or a gain in two months of \$32,784.51. When it is considered that but about 30 years ago Norfolk was not in existence and the country around was a raw prairie, the wonderful development and possibilities of the country may be realized.

To assist people to a full understanding of the following slurring insinuation on Captain Brown, from the Times-Tribune, it will perhaps be necessary to add he was a member of Col. Bryan's regiment, although unlike the colonel, he didn't resign his commission with his forces still in the field: "J. H. Brown, formerly of this city, but now of Wakefield, has been nominated for senator to run against Tom Ziegler of Hartington. He didn't get a chance to do much fighting during the late war, but he is leading a mighty forlorn hope now, and will lose his scalp in making it." Are all the soldiers of the Third regiment to be reviled by the fusion press and the colonel, who acted less the soldier of any of them, be allowed to slip through without a word of criticism?

The democrats claim the exclusive privilege of worshipping Abraham Lincoln during this campaign, but they are very choice of that eminent statesman's quotations. For instance here is one that has not yet been noticed in a fusion exchange and which was undoubtedly brought from the very depths of the great man's heart: "He who dissuades one man from volunteering or induces one soldier to desert, weakens the cause as much as he who kills an American soldier in battle. Must I shoot a simple-minded soldier boy who deserts while I must not touch a hair of the wily agitator who induces him to desert? This is none the less injurious when effected by getting father or mother or friend into a public meeting and there working upon his feelings till he is persuaded to write the soldier boy that he is fighting a bad cause, for a wicked administration of a contemptible government. I think that, in such a case, to silence the agitator and save the boy is not only constitutional, but with a great mercy."

"The fellow who has the presumption to claim that conditions are more prosperous than under the Cleveland administration is a liar, or something worse." The fusionists say so. Anyone with both eyes closed, both ears stopped up and a bad cold in the sneller can see that there are more failures in business in Norfolk, more men out of work, wages lower, interest higher, more empty business houses, more families suffering, less money in banks and in pocket books, farmers ground under oppressive prices and the whole people going to the deminution bow wows with the speed of thought. Horrible! Awful! It is necessary to vote for Bryan to change it. To the ills of labor he promises the following remedy: "—." Farmers will be assisted to prosperity as follows: "—." And the people in general will be benefited by the following wise enactments looking to their prosperity: "—." In case any of these methods are doubted yell "Imperialism!" This is always a sure winner, and will serve to confuse if it don't convince. Don't allow anyone to bamboozle you with prosperity facts! You are not prosperous but simply under the influence of a pipe dream.

The republicans, in this vicinity particularly, are characterized by their indifference to political issues and unless they arouse themselves to action they are likely to live to regret it. They are imbued with the belief that their policies are secure; that everything is combining to convince the people that this is a good administration and that they will heartily endorse it at the polls this fall. They are counting, however, without their hosts. The democrats are alive and active. They stop at nothing to convince voters that a change is needed. They work on their sympathies, their prejudices, their passions. They use worn out and refuted arguments. They solicit voters. They beg them to identify themselves with the cause and as a result they are accomplishing something. It is a fact that they have been making inroads on the republican vote and are getting things to come their own way. In 1896 republicans had plenty of time to attend meetings and work for the ticket. This year they offer the excuse that they are too busy which is undoubtedly true, but to maintain the conditions that keep them busy and prosperous it will be necessary to devote some time to politics or the day will again be at hand when they will have more time than they need to devote to politics. Democrats do not claim that their success will mean the maintenance or improvement on present prosperity. Their arguments are very foreign to that subject. Republicans are harmonious but victory requires action. "An ounce of preventive is worth a pound of cure"—a little work and interest at this time will be much better than an abundance of the same qualities when they realize what has been lost. In the name of sound business; in the hope for republican success all along the lines at the polls this fall; in the interest of continued prosperity, The News urges the republicans of Norfolk and vicinity to pull off their coats, roll up their sleeves and get to work in the interest of the ticket.



A. O. U. W. BUILDING AT THE PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION, BUFFALO, N. Y. 1901.

New York bets are still at a ratio of more than two to one in favor of McKinley and against Bryan.

There is plenty of money, easy to get and any of it is as good as the best in the world. Do you want its value cut in two?

Give Mr. Bryan a chance and he will create a panic that will excel that experienced under Cleveland. If you do not believe this just elect him and see if the prediction is not fulfilled.

It is very risky to vote against existing conditions when those conditions are marked by prosperity and happiness to the vast number of people. Can you afford to be dictated to by a man or set of men who assert that there is no prosperity and do not promise any?

The Indianapolis News is convinced that if Nebraska people are sensible enough to support their best interests they will vote for a continuance of McKinley times and not be misled by the vagaries of Bryan and his scarecrows. It says: "Nebraska has not been acting well, considering that it is Mr. Bryan's state. In 1897 it paid off \$19,000,000 of mortgages; in 1898, \$49,000,000; last year, \$78,000,000—a total of \$146,000,000. In 1899 there was \$176,000,000 in mortgages in Nebraska. So the payments in the last three years in that state have been only \$30,000,000 less than the whole mortgage indebtedness of the state ten years ago. Meanwhile the farm lands have greatly increased in value. It ought to be pretty difficult for any man or party to convince people who have been able to manage their business in this fashion that they are suffering and what they need is a currency system knocked to pieces and in its place free silver at 16 to 1. It not only ought to be pretty difficult, but it will be difficult. In fact we believe it will be impossible."

The World-Herald of Wednesday gave an interview of a couple of sticks to "Doc" Middleton, of a reputation in Nebraska similar to that of Jesse James, on the political situation. The "Doc" who was once famous as horse thief, gambler, saloon keeper and all around outlaw, now hails from Ardmore, S. D., where he is "running a cattle ranch." This worthy and truthful citizen is quoted by the World-Herald as saying in part: "So far as national politics are concerned it will be a landslide for Bryan if the eastern part of the country will do as well as the west, Doc Middleton declares, and from all he has heard he is satisfied that the present administration is going to get turned under by more votes than there ever were grasshoppers in the state of Nebraska. In his section of the country, he declares, everything seems to be one way this year, and that way is pointing straight for Bryan and for rolling up a good, big majority against the republican state ticket." The World-Herald lacks a few of making its cause perfect. It should interview Frank James, Rash of Wayne county, and a few other patriotic citizens whose sympathies belong entirely with Aguinaldo and his band.

J. S. Morrow has favored The News with a copy of the Muncie, Ind., Morning News, an eight-page publication full of news and live ads, and devoted thoroughly to the republican cause. The paper quotes Ex-Congressman Owen Scott of Decatur, Ill., a life long democrat and a personal friend of Mr. Bryan as follows: "Bryan is conscientious and determined to do the right as he sees it. A resolute man with a rugged conscience and false policy is the most dangerous. Those who know Mr. Bryan personally, as I do, respect his purity of private character, but fear his unbending determination to carry his purposes into execution. If elected he would have free silver if by moving heaven and earth he could secure it. He would carry out every plank of the Chicago platform if he had the power. He would organize a cabinet which would construe the law according to his notions. Altgeld, as secretary of the treasury, Tillman, as attorney general, Jones, as secretary of state, George Fred Williams, as secretary of the interior,

Jerry Simpson, as secretary of agriculture, with others of like views, would make havoc of the affairs of the country for four years. Bryan's sincerity is blameless, but dangerous on his platform."

Present Prices.
"Under the gold standard prices are as certain to fall as a stone which is thrown into the air."

This declaration taken from the writings of that eminent seer, William Jennings Bryan, was selected as a text of a few remarks on prosperity by the Republican some weeks ago. The Phonograph sallied bravely forth to defend the prognostication of its patron saint, explaining that present conditions are abnormal and that no fair average can be struck for at least ten years. Not satisfied with this, however, it tried a new tack last week and, while admitting everything the Republican has claimed with reference to enhanced prices, it makes a labored attempt to prove that the "trusts" have been the principal beneficiaries and that the poor, down-trodden farmer has not enjoyed a fair share of the increase. The Phonograph says:

Galvanized barbed wire costs \$2.50 to \$3 more than in 1896.

It requires 25 per cent more wheat to buy a stove than in 1896.

You have to pay 33 per cent more for lumber than you did in 1896.

It takes one-half more of corn to buy a coil of rope than it did in 1896.

It takes from 10 to 25 per cent more grain to buy farm implements than it did in 1896.

It takes two dozen more eggs to buy the same weight of sugar that you got for a dollar in 1896.

The Republican has investigated the local markets during the past week and it has learned some things. One of them is that the Phonograph either doesn't know what it is talking about or that it is engaged in another deliberate attempt to deceive.

In 1896 galvanized barbed wire sold at \$2.90 per 100 pounds; it now sells for \$3.15 per 100. A man would be compelled to buy from 1,000 to 1,200 pounds in order to pay the increase mentioned by the Phonograph. It would have required 290 bushels of 10-cent corn to pay for 1,000 pounds of barbed wire in 1896; 105 bushels will do the trick now, so the barbed wire trust isn't getting any the best of the corn grower.

Stoves have advanced since 1896 about 10 per cent; wheat has advanced during the same period more than 60 per cent. Problem: How can it require 25 per cent more wheat to buy a stove than it did in 1896?

Two-by-four scantling cost \$20 per 1,000 feet in 1896; the present price is \$23, an increase of 15 per cent. Drop siding cost \$25 per 1,000 feet in 1896; the present price is \$30, and increase of 20 per cent. White cedar fence posts cost about 12 cents apiece in 1896 and the price is the same today. Flooring cost \$25 per 1,000 feet in 1896; the present price is \$30, an increase of 20 per cent. Sheeting cost \$20 in 1896; the present price is \$23, an increase of 15 per cent. Shingles are the same price as in 1896, \$3.25 per 1,000. Where is the Phonograph's increase of 33 per cent on lumber?

A sixty-pound coil of rope in 1896 would have cost the farmer \$3. Had he paid for it with 10-cent corn thirty bushels would have been required. The same rope is now worth \$4.65. Paid for in 30-cent corn, fifteen and one-half bushels would be required. Instead of one-half more corn being necessary, the farmer can buy almost twice as much rope with the same quantity as he could during the halcyon low-priced days of '96.

There has been an increase in the price of farm implements, but the statement that it requires 25 per cent more grain to buy them is grossly exaggerated. The increase is by no means proportionate to the enhanced value of most farm products. Fifty bushels of wheat would have been required to pay for a sixteen-inch plow four years ago; today the same plow can be bought for thirty-two bushels of wheat or its equivalent.

Sugar was selling seventeen pounds for a dollar in '96; eggs 7 cents a dozen. Fourteen dozen eggs would have bought

seventeen pounds of sugar. Sugar is now fourteen pounds for a dollar; eggs 13 cents a dozen. Nine and one-third dozen eggs will buy the same quantity of sugar that it required fourteen dozen to buy in '96. Three dozen eggs would have bought a pound of coffee four years ago; now less than half that number will do it. Three dozen eggs would have bought a pound of smoking tobacco in 1896; two dozen eggs will buy it now. Four dozen eggs would buy ten pounds of oatmeal in '96; two dozen egg will buy it now.

A bushel of rye will buy five yards of gingham now; it would buy only two in '96.

A bushel of wheat will buy seven and one-half yards of calico now; it would buy only five yards four years ago.

Five bushels of corn will buy a pair of shoes now that would have cost twelve and one-half bushels in 1896.

Since 1896 the price of eggs has increased approximately 100 per cent; butter 50 per cent; hay 20 per cent; wheat 62 per cent; oats 66 per cent; rye 150 per cent; corn 200 per cent.

The man who, in the face of these facts, will attempt to convince the farmer that he is not getting a fair share of prosperity must be either blind or dishonest. Let us hope that it is the former.—St. Paul Republican.

The Creighton News, populist, is out squarely against the fusion nominee for congress in this district, in the following emphatic statement: "The political sky is far from being clear in this district for John Robinson's election this fall. His utter disregard for the interests of his friends in the past is coming home to him only too keenly. While the News has supported Robinson for district judge and for congress with the full measure of its strength, for the success of the party, it has arrived at a point where it will not support its open enemies. Knox county has pulled this selfish political pirate out of the fire more than once, and when he is asked to favor any citizens of this county in any way politically, he has always opposed them. When Devine was nominated by the populists Robinson opposed him; when the democrats nominated Keiper, Robinson exerted no effort to secure his election, and when Maxwell was a candidate that was no concern of Robinson. It mattered little to him whether Mr. Maxwell was successful or not. John Robinson has always been for self—and to h—l with the hindmost. If there is a devil in the third congressional district, we believe that John Robinson is he. We have always been taught that if we wanted to be saved we should keep out of the clutches of the devil, consequently our efforts during this campaign will be waged against the re-election of John S. Robinson, whom we deem unworthy of the slightest support at our hands. In doing our duty in faith to our adopted party and to the nation at large, laboring in the interests of equal rights and justice between man and man, and for the interests of this district, the News fails to see wherein we can maintain our independence, by establishing a monarchy and putting John S. Robinson in possession of the key to the kingdom. John S. Robinson is to the fusion party what Geo. E. Dorsey was to the republican party—a cancer on the body politic."

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