

The Norfolk News

Some opponents of democracy are so severe as to term the "paramount issue" the "paramount fraud."

B. W. Snow of the Orange Judd Farmer says, "The man with the hoe is this year the man with the dough."

With a civilized country to develop its resources it is said that the Philippine archipelago has the possibility of becoming as great a country as Japan.

When Mr. Bryan goes down and convinces his southern brethren that the negro is entitled to being governed with his consent it will be time for him to raise his voice in the interests of Aguinaldo's followers.

The Tagals are showing that they are ready to assist the Bryan end of the presidential campaign by killing off some more American soldier boys. Such disasters as these are supposed to help the fusion cause wonderfully.

The people are not clamoring for free silver and more money as they were during the dark days of 1896. They look upon that issue of democracy as of little consequence in this year of prosperity.

The fusionists have found it exceedingly difficult to work up any enthusiasm for Gov. Poynter. They are heartily ashamed of his official record and cannot urge support for him with the vigor they would, had it been perfectly satisfactory.

The United States is in a position to develop trade in the far east that will be cause for envy to all foreign countries. It will convert the Pacific into a business proposition that the Atlantic has enjoyed for years. Mr. Bryan would resign all these prospects.

When the farmers of Nebraska had a bumper corn crop under Cleveland they were compelled to sell it for 4 and 7 cents a bushel or use it for fuel. When they had no corn because of the drought they were compelled to pay 50 cents a bushel for feed for their stock—this was democratic "prosperity."

Mr. Bryan goes about asserting that the farmers are not prosperous. He utterly fails to show wherein they will become prosperous, however, by voting for him. They will sensibly conclude to favor a continuance of that which they believe is prosperity rather than risking a season of democratic prosperity such as they enjoyed (?) under Cleveland.

Senator Mark Hanna made an offer four years ago and recently renewed it to the effect that if a man in his employ or woman or child belonging to their family could assert that he had been an oppressive employer or ever favored a reduction in wages he would resign his seat in the United States senate. There are few democratic employers who would dare make such an offer.

The fusionists of Burt county are having a hard time. Recently their candidate for representative joined a McKinley and Roosevelt club and was fired. Now the candidate for senator from Burt and Cuming, J. H. Emley of Wisner, has declined to make the race. His determination seems to have been reached soon after the nomination of R. F. Kloke of West Point by the republicans.

There is no such issue as "Republic or Empire—which?" Not one man in a thousand favors the changing of our style of government. As a republic this country has risen to the front ranks and as a republic it will continue to rise until all other nations are distanced. The party that is endeavoring to raise an alarm will bear as close watch as the man with stolen goods in his possession who cries "Stop Thief!"

The only true followers of Washington, Jefferson, Jackson, Lincoln, Garfield, Grant, Blaine, and every other statesman who is too dead to object will, in a few years, be the only true followers of McKinley. They will claim anything to blind the voter and have him ignore the real issue. The voter who wants to do the real thing will be the follower of McKinley today and not wait until he is dead to recognize his merits.

The fusionists sprung their "imperialism" fake too early in the campaign and instead of being seriously taken it is the laughing stock of the people. Mr. Bryan has already realized its impracticability, even for a scare crow and is gradually devoting more of his attention to other "paramount" issues. This has been the case, especially, since it has been shown that he is as much responsible for what he is pleased to term "imperialism" as anyone.

There is a decided split up among the fusionists in the representative district composed of Knox and Boyd counties. Democrats or a faction of them refuse the populist nominee, Colonel Henderson, who is known to Crockett, deplorable populist arrangement and vacillating in the Allen-Rob-

inson ring in Madison hasn't got its octopus claws in Knox and Boyd counties yet, and we democrats propose to teach it a lesson and make an example of Crockett."

A fusion exchange says, "Bryan as a statesman is always consistent." This is the first exchange noticed for some time that has the grit or gumption to say Bryan is consistent. It is probable that the editor doesn't know, as a matter of fact, what consistency is, else he wouldn't care to make the assertion. Webster describes "Consistent" as "possessing firmness or fixedness; firm; hard; solid. Having agreement with itself at different times, or harmony among its parts; possessing unity; accordant; harmonious; congruous; compatible; uniform." A person that has watched Mr. Bryan's chase after an issue that will stick for the past 8 or 10 years would never call him consistent.

Some time ago THE NEWS published an item to the effect that the Ainsworth Star-Journal had published a communication from a German democrat endorsing Dietrich, that fusionists were challenging the authenticity of the letter, and that the editor of the Star-Journal was willing to stake \$25 that the article was written by a German democrat, with no takers. Now comes Robert Good, editor of the Ainsworth Herald, and by the way a very good man outside of politics, in a letter to THE NEWS stating that he has repeatedly tried to get the editor of the Star-Journal to put up his \$25 but he has failed to do so. In an article in the Herald, Mr. Good admits that the article was written by a German, but denies that he is a democrat.

The Wayne Republican shows how easy it is for all voters to be counted in under the Bryan column by the following: "The pushers of the Bryan campaign have a strange method of figuring out strength. At their meetings they ask that 'everybody in favor of a republic and against an empire rise to their feet,' and as a matter of course everybody rises. Then the pushers at once proclaim the entire audience in favor of Bryan for president. In this they remind us of the class of evangelists who go about the country holding revivals and who when it comes to calling for those desiring to embrace christianity, say: 'All who do not wish to go to hell will arise,' and of course everybody gets on their feet, then the evangelist announces the entire audience as being converted."

The financial showing of the North Nebraska Methodist conference held here during the past week bears its testimony to prosperous conditions: "Our report shows," said one of the members, "a remarkable increase in everything but indebtedness. In our benevolent collections alone there is a great total of \$17,689, an increase of \$1,974 over one year ago. This does not include the showing on buildings and debts. The latter have been materially reduced, while new church buildings have been erected in many places." Thus everything of a financial nature goes to show improvement. Money is plenty and the people are prosperous. The gentleman who gave these figures said that if this was a republican paper it would probably like to have them, tacitly admitting that a paper of the fusion brand had very little use for figures unless they would show calamity.

The fusionists are having a serious time to keep their candidates in line. In Texas the populist candidate for governor, Hon. Jerome C. Kearby, has withdrawn in a letter in which the democratic party is severely denounced for its inconsistency. He is particularly severe in his criticism of Bryan's statement that the republican party will destroy the republican form of government, stating that the democrat is the only party that ever deliberately shot to death the American flag; that ever disfranchised millions of citizens, that enslaved its free born. "It forced the war with Spain, and then obstructed the appropriations to pay for it; it voted to ratify the treaty with Spain and pay \$20,000,000 for the Philippines, and has ever since been clamoring to turn them loose and shake the responsibility." He was a former democrat but has given up the idea of trying to be as inconsistent as his party.

There are those, perhaps who have forgotten the conditions of four years ago when thousands were out of employment; when starvation, misery and want prevailed under a democratic administration. Under the prosperous conditions now prevailing people are apt to forget that they and their fellows have suffered. The following from an editorial printed in the Chicago Inter-Ocean during those dark days will refresh the memories of those who witnessed the untold sufferings of those years: "Thursday night was the climacteric of poverty and hunger. Whether it will stand as the sad climacteric, or whether its pitiful record will be surpassed by the record of future nights, depends upon whether the shaken confidence of the mercantile and manufacturing classes can be restored speedily. Never before since Chicago had a name and a place among cities was it in such an evil case that, after the station houses and all the charitable institutions were crowded to excess,

there was an overflow of a thousand penniless, shivering and hungry men sheltering from the storm of a winter's night in the city hall, and fighting with the ferocity of brutes for a few mouthfuls of bread. We do not care to comment upon the sad story. It is its own comment. Narrated in the plainest words it is horrible. It needs no other adjective. The famished, frozen crowd was not made up of tramps. It was made up largely of honest men who would be industrious could they find work to do."

It has not been long since the people of Nebraska were looked upon as dishonest by eastern capitalists and this belief has been materially strengthened by the fact that Mr. Bryan, the champion of dishonest money, is a Nebraskan. They have been afraid of the people; have withheld their capital which they had for investment and have endeavored to collect at once every cent coming to them. But this sentiment is undergoing a change. Under prosperity a large number of Nebraskans have been paying their debts, indicating that it was only lack of money which caused them to appear dishonest. There was another reason for capitalists to distrust Nebraskans and that was the action of a large number of homesteaders who entered land in the western part of the state, discovered its unfitness for general farming, mortgaged it for all they could get and then disappeared. But they are not of the class that is making the state. They have gone and their lands are vacant. The real farmers are here yet; are paying off the indebtedness incurred during the hard times, and are gaining worthy recognition in the east and the money of that section will soon again be obtainable, if wanted, for developing the limitless resources of the state. Nebraska has unquestionably been embarrassed by this sentiment in the past but it is now growing stronger financially and the time does not seem to be far distant when it can get along without eastern wealth. A recent issue of a financial journal reports a Chicago firm, dealing largely in western securities, as saying that of the loans now coming due but 40 per cent are renewed, while 60 per cent are being paid off, and out of ten and a half millions loaned on western lands there is now but \$2,671 in interest overdue. This is indeed a commendable showing and fits well with the mortgage indebtedness of Madison county, recently published, and the gain in bank business lately shown here. The statements of all these combine to show that the people of the west, Nebraska included, are prospering as never before. It is a good time for Nebraska to show politically that this condition is appreciated by getting in the sound money band wagon.

Prosperity in Cash. "If McKinley and the republican party are successful and in power for the next four years, wages will be decreased, hard times will come upon us, and over the land the price of wheat will go down and the price of gold will go up; MORTGAGES ON OUR HOMES WILL BE FORECLOSED BY THE MONEY LENDERS; shops and factories will close. We will export no goods and we will import from foreign lands all the goods we use; thus will ruin, want and misery be with us."—Extract from one of Mr. Bryan's speeches in 1896. Madison county shows up a line of mortgage statistics that may well make the average fusionist wince and splutter about "imperialism." It shows in no uncertain terms in what years the people of this county have experienced prosperity during the past eight years. Following is the table:

Table with columns: Year, Filed, Released, Increase, Decrease. Rows for 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900.

The figures for 1900 are up to August 1st, or seven months. The increase in the mortgage indebtedness of Madison county from 1893 to 1895, inclusive, was \$343,382. The total decrease in mortgage indebtedness from that time to the present has been the enormous sum of \$703,897, showing that the people have not only cancelled the indebtedness acquired under the Cleveland administration but have paid off considerable old indebtedness. It is surprising but true that a slight decrease was recorded in 1896. Sheriff sales were very popular at that time, however, and a portion of this decrease may be credited to that cause. Add to this the fact that money was scarce and that much of the property had all against it that it would stand and the decrease is readily accounted for. It was not until 1897 that the real debt paying in Madison county commenced, when \$190,000 more of mortgages were cancelled than were placed. Nowadays sheriff's sales are quite a rarity and what is paid off is done by the borrower. If this is not a gratifying showing, facts and figures will not make one. It seems that there should be no question as to how the people of the county should vote this fall. If they favor conditions under which mortgages are cancelled and debts paid they should certainly not vote for a party that promises to change the financial system of the country, tinker with the tariff and do everything contrary to the policy of the administration that has made this prosperity possible.

Mr. Dietrich is a business man of experience and as governor of Nebraska will give a business-like administration.

"For Bryan's sake" cannot some democrat show a consistent reason why he should be elevated to the high office of chief executive of this country?

"Coin" Harvey is one of the has-beens. Judging from the items in various fusion papers, it is a hard matter to give his political works away, let alone sell them.

Some of the fusion journals are renewing their free silver argument of 1896, but Mr. Bryan has not yet become desperate enough to reiterate his false prophecies made concerning the white metal.

Hon. John R. Hays of this city is in line with the administration and if the present prosperous conditions are liked a voter can testify to it in no better way than by voting for Mr. Hays for congress.

Mr. Lincoln never aided or encouraged the enemies of the American flag. Had he been president of the United States after the Paris treaty was ratified by congress he would have done just as President McKinley has done.

Mr. Bryan urged the ratification of the Paris treaty and is now encouraging Aguinaldo's followers to resist the provisions of that treaty. After election he can go over there and enlist his services in a cause that must be just because it is anti-American.

The paramount issue seems to be: "Shall Mr. Bryan and his supporters be elevated to office regardless of the effect to the interests of the country; or shall Wm. McKinley and his officials, who have demonstrated their ability in directing the affairs of the country, be entrusted with the duties for another four years?"

Senator Hanna, chairman of the republican national committee is to visit Nebraska next month. He is to speak at Lincoln, Mr. Bryan's home. Mr. Hanna is the bogey man that the fusionists fear so much and it is probable that they will keep their children close indoors until he departs from the commonwealth.

The Lincoln Journal says: "There is a man in this city who believes that, in the event of the re-election of William McKinley, the close of his second term will be marked by the crowning of M. A. Hanna emperor of America. It is hardly necessary to mention that the man wears a number six hat and reads the Omaha World-Herald every day."

A correspondent compares Mr. Bryan's liberal quotations from Abraham Lincoln to the young man who stole roses out of the garden of his adored one's father and presented them to the young lady with his compliments. Mr. Bryan is borrowing gems from the republican record with which to coax republican votes. It is a small way to do business but very acceptable if it but has the desirable effect.

The Omaha Daily News gives the following non-partisan view of one of the fusion spell binders: "Cyclone Davis, the freakish Texas statesman, has been hired by the state central committee to make twenty talks of the Bryan brand in Nebraska. He will commence the series of speeches this week, and the opposition political managers are looking for an upward shoot in the republican barometer wherever he appears. As a vaudeville performer Davis would be a star of the first magnitude."

The Neligh Leader sees reason for a continuance of the present administration in the increased wealth of Antelope county farmers. The following is the Leader's reasons: "The assessors' returns from the different townships of Antelope county show the following amount of live stock subject to taxation: Cattle, 27,745 head; mules, 448; horses, 8,443; sheep, 800; hogs, 25,320. Not to make it too high we will approximate the increase in actual value per head during the last four years as follows: Cattle, \$8; mules and horses, \$10; sheep, \$2.50; hogs, \$2.50. This would show an increase in the value of cattle amounting to \$211,900; horses and mules, \$88,910; sheep, \$2,000; hogs, \$63,300. A grand total of \$366,110 added to the wealth of the farmers of Antelope county on these articles alone through four years of McKinley prosperity. Do you want a change?"

Democrats and Heathens. As severe an arraignment of present day democracy as has been seen recently is that of E. C. Benedict of Connecticut a close personal friend of Grover Cleveland and an earnest disciple of democratic principles for 45 years. Mr. Benedict was recently asked to contribute to the Bryan campaign fund and replied as follows: "I regret to find no party in existence whose platform supports democratic principles to any degree. Four years ago our state sent delegates to the Chicago convention as representatives of unquestioned democratic principles. They were outvoted in the national convention, which promulgated a platform of doctrines almost wholly at variance therewith, and committed an unpardonable crime when they used our good name as a label."



"Therefore, I would as soon think of contributing to a lot of Chinese who have captured our christian churches, set up therein the teachings of Confucius as the gospel, and a painfully conspicuous Joss to worship instead of the unseen God, and, without changing the names of the churches, call themselves regular christians."

L. G. Bley. Louis G. Bley, the republican candidate for state representative from the 23rd district, was born in Germany in 1839. Adam Bley, father of our subject, was a contractor and builder and in 1852 he left his native land for America, locating in the woods of Adams county, Ind. Here he followed the business of lumbering and contracting, being assisted by his three oldest sons, the youngest being Louis G. Bley. He worked with his father until he was eighteen years old, when he engaged in the business for himself and was very successful. In 1862 he enlisted in company K, 89th Ind., and served with Sherman's army until the close of the war.

In 1870 Mr. Bley removed from Indiana to West Point, where he embarked in the furniture and undertaking business and after a twenty years' residence there came to Madison and has since made his home here. He was very successful in business and was able to retire ten years ago, though he has kept on making money ever since. It can be said of Mr. Bley that he has always been upright and honest in his business dealings and has never knowingly made an enemy in all his transactions.

While in Cuming county Mr. Bley served one term as county commissioner and in this city has served as alderman and mayor and he stands on his record. Mr. Bley's republicanism began at an early age and he has never found occasion to change in his political faith. He cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln and has been a staunch supporter and hard worker for his ticket ever since. Mr. Bley is abundantly qualified for the duties of state representative and if elected will be an active member of the house and will be a credit to Madison county.—Madison Chronicle.

Money is Easy. S. H. Burnham, president of the First National bank in Mr. Bryan's home town, gives striking prosperity facts which the colonel is saying nothing about in his stumping tour: "Bank deposits have increased in the banks of this city during the past five years 64 per cent. 'The credit of the municipality has improved. We are paying 6 per cent on our city indebtedness four years ago. Our bonds are selling at a premium, at 4 per cent today. There was a large amount of floating warrants four years ago while now warrants are cashed on presentation. 'Never in the history of this state has money been at so low a rate on good securities as it is at the present time. Farmers can borrow all the money they want on first mortgages on their farms at 5 per cent interest, while four years ago it was difficult for them to get it at all. Four years ago it was almost impossible for a business man to borrow a dollar from any bank in the city of Lincoln, while today we are loaning as low as 5 per cent. 'A very large percentage of mortgages have been paid, or at least, a portion refunded at a much lower rate of interest. The merchants and business men in this city, almost without an exception, are making money, and never in the history of the city was there a better condition prevailing than at the present time. 'Unless I am greatly mistaken, there will be a very material change in the political results in this state this fall. I make it a point to talk with farmers coming from different precincts, and from different sections of the state, and almost without an exception they tell me they know of many in their different localities who are going to let well enough alone and vote for McKinley. Many of them voted for Bryan four years ago. The general feeling here is that the republicans can elect a governor, carry the legislature and secure the electoral vote for McKinley."

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