

The Norfolk News

The political pot boils.  
Just a month till election.

Some forecasters figure that Mr. Bryan will have 18 electoral votes less this fall than he had in 1896.

Hon. George Hondley, at one time democratic governor of Ohio, is working for the re-election of Wm. McKinley.

The first voter can always have something to point to with pride if he places his first ballot to the credit of Wm. McKinley.

Has Bryan stated his position on the question of "the consent of the governed" as applied in the south? Not that anyone has heard.

It is a notable fact that strikes in democratic times are made against a reduction of wages while in republican times they are for an increase.

Democrats are not quoting statistics and figures this campaign to any alarming extent. The entire fabric of their argument rests on assertions with no facts to back them.

For the sake of keeping a competitor in the field it is to be hoped that by 1904 the democrats can find or figure out an issue upon which there will be a chance for argument.

Carroll D. Wright, the greatest labor statistician in the country says that the present level of American wages is higher than ever before known in the history of our industrial life.

No prominent gold democrat has yet declared his intention of supporting Mr. Bryan this campaign without considering a profuse apology necessary to explain his position to his friends.

During the year 1893 forty-five state and private banking institutions in Nebraska went out of business, and yet there are people who will argue that times are no better now than they were then.

Laboring men and others usually get a vast fund of democratic sympathy but it usually stops at that. The sympathy does not reach their pocket books or dinner pails unless it be to deplete their contents.

One month more of politics and then readers who do not like this kind of matter will be relieved from perusing it, unless, perchance, Mr. Bryan should insist on prolonging the second battle as he did the first.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat is exposing some startling rottenness by the democratic administration of that state and it is far from the impossible that the Sucker state will choose a republican administration and line up for McKinley.

Mr. Coxy, who during Cleveland's term led his commonwealth army on to Washington, is putting up a \$250,000 steel mill. His finances must have been struck by something bearing a close resemblance to prosperity since those dark days.

The democrats have figured that Bryan will receive 326 electoral votes and McKinley 88. This leads the Omaha Daily News to conclude that Chairman Jones, or some other official at the headquarters has been drawing at the pipe, even if it is official.

The state central committee of the people's independent party of Louisiana has come out in an address denouncing democracy for disfranchising voters of that party and urges the members of that party not to be misled to support the republican electoral and congressional tickets.

A story is being told on a Swede who, when asked for whom he would vote said: "Oh, Ay bane goin to vote by Brain." Asked for his reason he said: "Last tem Ay voted they said 'Ef Ay bane vote by Brain ve got good tems' and Ay did and ve got good tems so Ay vote for heem again."

Senator Dolliver says the working men strike for shorter hours and he hopes they get them, but he don't believe the laboring men "are really hankering for their universal leisure, that blessed emancipation from all wages and all labor that have usually accompanied a democratic administration."

The republican national committee has made a forecast of election results, giving McKinley 298 electoral votes, Bryan 112 and placing 42 in the doubtful column. Conceding Mr. Bryan all the doubtful states, he would still have to carry New York, Indiana and Illinois, or many states with fewer electoral votes, to be elected.

James H. Eckles, gold democrat, and comptroller of the currency under Cleveland puts a question to voters thus pointedly: "How is it possible for Mr. Bryan, wrong on all things at home, to be right on all things abroad?" This is especially significant in that Mr. Bryan has almost given up solving questions pertinent to the United States and is

giving his time to the people of distant countries.

Figures can beat republicans when it comes to "lying" about prosperity. There is no prosperity. Democratic orators and papers say there is none and who would for a moment question the truthfulness of a democrat. If any such person there be, he is a blind, bigoted imperialist. It is very distressing—these hard times—but somehow all people fail to see it. Hard times parties and the phrase "Times are so hard," are almost forgotten.

A. L. Carter, republican candidate for commissioner of this district, is well known by those who will be called upon to decide concerning his merits for the position to which he aspires and nothing that THE NEWS might say would probably serve to raise him in their estimation. He is an old resident of this vicinity, a careful and progressive farmer and well calculated to administer the county's affairs in a manner satisfactory to his constituents.

Senator Jones, manager of Bryan's campaign as chairman of the democratic national committee, is defendant in an action brought under the anti-trust law of Texas. The Texans have placed the senator on trial because he is a heavy stockholder in a concern known as the American Cotton company, capitalized at \$7,000,000 which controls the patent round-lap cotton bales. If Mr. Bryan is consistent on the anti-trust question he will assist in prosecuting his chairman for being a leader in a leading octopus of the country.

The republican party favors and will inaugurate a system of irrigation that will be of immeasurable benefit to the semi-arid lands of the west. It is possible under successful irrigation to make every foot of land in this country produce abundant crops. The building of storage reservoirs will "do the business." Every spring enough water flows away through its natural channels to water the land for a year. Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska and many other western states would receive untold benefit from a national system of irrigation.

The fusionists ask for votes for Mr. Bryan on the plea that he can do no harm with a republican majority in control of congress and in the meantime they are doing all in their power to elect fusion congressmen and senators so that Mr. Bryan as president can have his own way. The safest way to prevent a man from doing harm is to keep him out of position altogether and vote for the republican electors, republican congressmen and republican legislators, a party that has never yet threatened the welfare of the country and its people.

Talk about trusts! What worse trust can there be than a political trust, organized by three or four political parties to control all the offices in the gift of the people and which insists on a monopoly of all party names, going so far as to refuse the populists a title to which none of their parties has ever laid claim. A trust to raise prices and control capital and labor is deplorable, but a trust that will endeavor to control the liberty of the people when it comes to voting is far worse. Mr. Bryan and Mr. Smyth should turn their attention to this monopoly.

Express messengers are usually furnished with revolvers to protect the property under their care but so seldom have they been used with effect that the action of Messenger Baxter, who slew a robber near Council Bluffs last week, has attracted more than ordinary attention. Previously it had seemed that if a robber wanted a good safe job he would choose an express car and it needed a few examples of the Baxter sort to show them that they could not practice their profession with impunity. The train robbing business has become altogether too popular and men of the Baxter kind have been needed frequently to discourage this outlawry.

That the democrats are brought to drastic measures is shown by the following, taken from the Appeal to Reason, a socialist publication, printed at Girard, Kansas: "The democrats, finding that their lies and old campaign tricks are of no avail against the socialists, attempted to bribe Debs to withdraw in favor of Bryan—or in favor of anyone else, if he would only withdraw. But the politicians who made this offer struck the rocks of socialism with that idea just as they had with the others. They were a surprised and dismayed gang of political rascals when the nominee for president on the social democratic, in response to their offer of hoolie, calmly opened the door and showed them out."

Editor Hitchcock of the Omaha World-Herald recently issued a challenge to Editor Roosevelt of the Omaha Bee for a series of joint debates, both gentlemen being candidates for the position of United States senator from Nebraska. The challenge was promptly accepted, Mr. Roosevelt imposing the condition that complete stenographic reports should be published in both papers. Mr. Hitchcock has placed Mr. Roosevelt in a position where he prides himself on being an adept and he may be sorry he spoke before the contest is over.

It is understood that one debate will be held in Omaha on the 11th, one at Lincoln on the 13th, one at Grand Island on the 15th and one at Nebraska City on the 22nd.

The fusionists have persistently represented Mark Hanna, chairman of the republican national committee as a heartless monster whose delight is in producing hardship and suffering, but he has made an offer that but few democrats of acknowledged standing in the commercial world would care to duplicate. In a speech at Chicago Senator Hanna said: "If any man in the United States of America can bring into my presence a man who has ever worked for me and truthfully state and substantiate that I have refused to meet at any time and anywhere any man in my employ; that I have ever intentionally done any man a harm; that I have insisted on lowering wages to any man who works for me; or who can truthfully say that I have done evil to him, I will resign from the United States senate tomorrow. I made that proposition in 1897; I have found no takers and it is still open."

G. W. Nation, a Box Butte county sheep man, can tell why prosperity is going to help increase McKinley's majority. "I bought 1,450 head of sheep in 1894," he said; "paid 90 cents apiece for them, and in 1895 I sold wool for 4 1/2 cents per pound. The first herder I had I paid \$10 a month and board and he was a good man. I have about 10,000 head of sheep in the state now, and am offered 15 cents for the wool. Last year I sold a large number of sheep at \$4 per head. In 1898 sheep paid 101 per cent on the money invested, and last year 100 per cent. I hire from ten to sixteen men the year around and pay them \$30 per month and board, and it turns out that the men, almost without exception, are for the republican ticket. I have ten men with the sheep in this state now. One of them claims to be for Bryan, but the others think he is joking. He gets more than double the wages he could get before McKinley was elected."—Hartington Herald.

A Connecticut clergyman recently wrote to the American Economist as follows: "The clergy are not expected actively to take an interest in politics, and as rector of a church I do not preach politics; but I believe that every interest, spiritual and commercial, demands the election of McKinley and Roosevelt. The little red cards which you sent out were some of them handed to me, and while the men in the shops are too busy to sign these, and perhaps every one feels that time is money now, nevertheless I want to say that there is no doubt that they will all vote on election day. I am pretty familiar with the situation politically, as I meet many of the men daily, but I do not know of one man who intends to vote for Bryan. This is worth noting, because in Senator Barnum's day this village cast a solid democratic vote with one exception, but today the situation is absolutely and completely reversed. If the rest of Connecticut feels like this village, and I think it does, Bryan will think a sledge hammer hit him when he hears from the Nutmeg state."

This trust question has some very curious features. One of the parties to the fusion combine, while denouncing trusts in the most bitter terms, favors government ownership and control of railway lines and telegraph service, and what more powerful trusts could be thought of? What individual or class of individuals would dare enter into competition with trusts of this character? To be sure their idea is not that these monopolies should raise the prices to the people but that it would do away with competition, one of the most beneficial features of a trust, is undeniable. A capitalist would no more think of competing with a railroad or telegraph service under government ownership than he would with the postal service, which is another form of trust in every sense of the word, except the raising of prices. The postal trust under government ownership has been so long established that these features have been forgotten but the fact that it is one of the most powerful trusts in the country still remains. The trust question cannot be decided off-hand. It has many and varied features deserving of thoughtful study.

Roosevelt.

The people of Norfolk were not rewarded by the sight of a handsome man when they beheld Theodore Roosevelt; they were not particularly struck by his ability as a speaker when estimated from an oratorical standpoint, but they were convinced that he is a man of determination; a man of good sound judgement; a man to lead and not be led. He appeared impulsive, somewhat—but his impulses always carried him in the right direction. The words he spoke will be remembered. They were not obscured in a mass of verbiage, pleasing to the ear, that would leave behind a recollection of having heard something fine—just what could not be specified—but his arguments were presented with a vigor and point that will leave a lasting impression of sound common sense and convincing argument. His words were spoken to stick and they will stick, not to be dislodged by a pleasing mass of generalities, such as

so many speakers deal in. That he is no dodger all were convinced, and that he spoke sincerely was unquestionable. Born of an aristocratic family, he shows none of the prigism so common to people of the upper set. Dressed in ordinary attire, he circulates among the "common people" as though contact with them was a great pleasure. That he enjoys mingling with and conversing with this class, especially if he has met and associated with them before, was well exemplified in this city yesterday. When Senator Dolliver was talking, Mr. Roosevelt's attention was attracted by a man near the platform who exclaimed "Governor!" and indicated that he wanted to shake his hand. The man proved to be one of his command at Santiago and the governor hurried to the edge of the platform and greeted him warmly, effusively. They at once engaged in conversation as though they were very old friends and took supreme delight in renewing events of the past. The conversation was interrupted by a member of the governor's party who wished his attention directed to the speaker and the audience, as the time was too short to be monopolized by one man. But it was only after repeated endeavors on the part of his companion that the governor could be diverted. It was a true insight into the character of the man and the entire audience were pleasing spectators to the exchange of good will between the two men.

Champion Fire Fighting.

America has demonstrated her superiority in another direction to the more slow going European countries and that is in the matter of fire fighting. Chief Hale and his engine force from Kansas City, Mo., have been receiving the plaudits of all people of Europe for more than a month. They went across to compete for the international championship at the Paris exposition and easily came out winners. They also gave exhibitions at the Crystal palace in London and at other European cities. Speaking of their feat the Paris edition of the New York Times said: "The American firemen, represented by the members of the Kansas City department, have taken the international championship cup. It is engraved as follows: 'Exposition of 1900. International championship. First prize.' Aside from the cup an award of 800 francs was made to the men; a gold medal will given to Chief Hale and silver ones to his officers, as well as a diploma for the engine and marvelous work of the horses.

"The only professional firemen to compete were the Italian brigade and the men from Kansas City. The contest was on the race course at Vincennes, where a skeleton building seven stories high had been erected. The Kansas City men started from a point a quarter of a mile away on a signal from a French officer. They were at the building with engine and hose cart and a stream of water playing in less than one minute. They had scaled the structure and brought down three people from the seventh story and had all the men on the ground with ladders and ladders cleared from the buildings in three minutes and forty-two seconds. The best time made by the Italians was twelve minutes and ten seconds. When the American firemen lined up before the French minister of war and saluted they were cheered to the echo."

At London the engine was stationed 200 yards from the fire hydrant, horses unharnessed and standing 25 feet from the collars. At the blast of the bugle the horses dashed into the harness which was lifted from the ground, the run was made, 100 feet of hose laid, attached to engine, the pipe was put on and a stream of water thrown from the nozzle in the remarkably short space of 35 seconds, or little more than half a minute after the bugle sounded. It is believed in England that no other company in the world can accomplish this feat and the Crystal palace company has published an offer of \$5,000 to any company that can equal it.

Ex-Chief Edwards of the Norfolk department has met Chief Hale and some of his men. He states that the two little girls who took part in "The Poor Relation" here last winter were daughters of Chief Hale.

Short-horn Sale at Auction.

Our first draft sale from the Elkhorn Valley herd of short-horn cattle will occur at my farm one-half mile from Pierce, Monday, October 15.

Sixteen young bulls and 29 cows and heifers. All cows of sufficient age will have calves at foot or be safely bred. The two Scotch bulls in service are Baron Monrath by Baron Cruickshank 3rd and Lavender Chief 2d by Imp. Lavender Lad 119937.

Send for catalogue at once and come. L. MASON & SONS, Pierce, Nebr.

Sewing Machine Contest.

The judges' account of the vote cast October 8 to 9 a. m. for the respective candidates in J. D. Sturgeon's Colored Porters' Sewing Machine Contest:

We the undersigned judges appointed to count the votes cast in the above named contest hereby certify that the votes cast to date are as listed below:

Al Johnson ..... 208  
Dave Shores ..... 172

P. F. SPRECHER,  
OSCAR UHLE,  
Judges.

AGAINST LOCAL MERCHANT

State House Ring Diverting Trade to Their Pets at Lincoln.

Abraham Lincoln Then and Now—Bryan Snubs the Populists.

Omaha, Oct. 8.—It is observed that the fusionists are not enthusing very much over Governor Poynter. Especially is this true of the business men in the towns where state institutions are located.

The merchants in these towns have had anything but a pleasant experience under the Poynter administration. Trade and patronage of the institutions, which should properly go to them, has been gradually diverted to pets and favorites of the state house ring at Lincoln, until finally little of it goes to the local merchants. Tons of groceries and supplies have been shipped from Lincoln to the various institutions during the last year and only such trade has been allotted to the local business men as could not well be diverted to Lincoln.

Then, too, the administration "fixers" have been very exacting in dealing with the local merchant and very liberal in dealing with their favorites at Lincoln. If they treated them both alike there would be less cause for complaint, but the contracts are juggled in such a way that if a local merchant secures one he is compelled to furnish goods at almost cost price, whereas the Lincoln dealers are allowed to make one bid on all the supplies and in addition are given other advantages denied to others. Every body knows that bids on a dozen or more contracts at the same time, meaning the supplying of goods in carload lots, can be made at a lower rate than for only one contract involving only the supplies for one institution. This is one advantage.

HOLDING UP VOUCHERS.

Another advantage shown the Lincoln dealers over the country merchants is the holding back of vouchers and warrants. It is a notorious fact that bills for groceries from the country merchants lay sometimes for weeks before they are passed upon and allowed, while those of the favorites are promptly paid. In the mercantile trade 30 or 60 days' credit is the same as cash and if merchants succeed in converting their goods into money within that time they are enabled to make considerable of a saving in the way of discounts. In many instances the country merchants have lost the benefit of their discounts through the failure of the Board to pass upon bills and remit promptly.

It is openly stated that this failure is only part of a plan to discourage the local merchants in these towns from bidding, in order that the pets of the state house ring may enjoy greater profits.

Some may infer from this that the state is deriving benefit from such manipulations. This is not true. The records in the auditor's office show that the expense of maintaining the state institutions the last two years has been greatly increased over what it was, and is greater now than at any time in the state's history.

Governor Poynter will close his term with the enormous shortage or deficiency of \$100,000. Not one of the various institutions has been properly kept up. The grounds, outbuildings and the like have been sadly neglected. Not a dollar has gone for labor in this direction. All the money appropriated has been expended, but how, nothing short of a legislative investigating committee can explain.

Dr. Tracy of Milford, the physician in charge of the Soldier's Home, who was caught paying house rent and office rent in groceries taken from the state, has resigned and left the state. His resignation promptly followed the exposure.

CRAWFISHING ON EXPANSION.

It is a matter of history that nearly every Democratic president from Jefferson to Buchanan expressed a desire for the annexation of Cuba to the United States.

Monroe while president expressed himself in favor of annexing Cuba, so did Polk and so did Pierce.

In 1840 President Polk made a proposition for the purchase of Cuba from Spain for \$100,000,000. Six years before that, or in 1834, what is known as the Ostend Manifesto was issued, and that asserted the right of the United States to take and annex Cuba, should Spain refuse to sell.

The Ostend Manifesto was an announcement made by President Pierce's ministers to England, France and Spain (Buchanan, Madison and Soule) in which they suggested that an earnest effort be made to purchase Cuba at a price not to exceed \$120,000,000, and added that if this should be refused by Spain "we should be justified by every law, human and divine, in wresting it from Spain if we possess the power," a proposition of which Lassing, the historian, says: "The bald iniquity of this proposition amazed honest men in both hemispheres."

The manifesto failed of its purpose, because the European powers and the world in general failed to recognize the justice of acquiring property by seizure.

Buchanan, who succeeded Pierce to the presidency, in three of his annual messages to congress urged that Cuba ought to be made by purchase part of the United States. During Buchanan's term a bill for that purpose was introduced in congress by Senator Seidell,

later of confederate fame, and that bill was strongly supported by the Democratic members of congress from the southern states.

In 1860 the Democratic national convention declared in favor of annexing Cuba and placed the following in the platform:

"Resolved, that the Democratic party are in favor of the acquisition of the island of Cuba upon such terms as shall be honorable to ourselves and just to Spain."

President Pierce made a strong effort to annex Hawaii. The matter was carried so far that a treaty for the purpose was drafted. On this point Mr. Marcy, who was secretary of state in Pierce's cabinet, wrote the following note to Minister Gregg:

"This government will receive the transfer of the sovereignty of the Sandwich Islands with all proper provisions relative to existing rights of the people thereof, such as are usual and proper to territorial sovereignty. The president directs me to say that he cannot approve of some of the articles of the treaty; there are in his mind some strong objections to the immediate incorporation of the islands in their present condition into the union as an independent state. It was expected that the Hawaiian government would be willing to offer the islands to the United States as a territory and leave the question in relation to their becoming a state to the determination of this government, unembarrassed by stipulations on that point."

It will be seen by this that throughout its history the Democratic party has favored expansion. It will also be observed that in all their messages and correspondence bearing on the acquisition of territory no reference is made to "the consent of the governed." Jefferson, Polk, Pierce, Buchanan, in fact all the great minds of the Democratic party, have favored expansion, some of them going so far as to advocate the acquisition of island territory by force.

Compared with this the splendid record of the Republican party, and particularly of the McKinley administration, stands out in bold relief.

CZAR THEN—PATRIOT NOW.

According to Democratic doctrine in 1864 Lincoln was a czar. Now he is a patriot. In 1864, when Lincoln was a candidate for re-election, the same hue and cry about "imperialism" was raised by the Democrats. The Indianapolis Journal, a Democratic organ, at that time said:

"The only hope of preserving constitutional liberty, the rights of the states and restoring peace to the union is in the restoration of the Democratic party to power. But let Abraham Lincoln be elected for another term, what will be the consequence? Four years more of abolition, national bankruptcy and European interference. Shall we profit by the teachings of history, and even by our own experience, or continue the policy that must end in the overthrow of one of the best governments the world ever saw?"

Just before the election in 1864 the same paper had another "nightmare," one of the Bryan order, and it said:

"Should Mr. Lincoln be re-elected the revolution will be accomplished. This will be no longer a republic of the United States, but a consolidated empire. Every safeguard must sooner or later give away. The limitation of the executive power will not be in the pleasure of the president. We implore patriotic and intelligent men to pause and reflect and give their verdict Tuesday next. If the people will not save their constitution and union it is lost."

The foregoing is the same sort of Democratic rot that Bryan is making use of today. The only difference is that the man who was pointed out as a despot then is treated as a patriot now. Like Lincoln, thirty-six years from now, if the Populists and the Democrats in their rapacity for proventer shall not have eaten each other up, the Democratic doctrinaires will be quoting from McKinley and holding him up as the ideal statesman and patriot. Thirty-six years isn't such a very long time, but it is too long a time for the people of a great and progressive country to wait, when they can get what they want now. The American people have kept up with the procession and if the Democratic party persists in staying thirty-six years behind let it stay there.

It will be observed, however, that Bryan's rant about imperialism is nothing new. The Democratic party was carping about it before he learned to speak his own name.

Lincoln was abused, and harsher things were said of him than have ever been said of McKinley. The attacks were wanton and cruel, and the recall sent many an aspiring politician on the Democratic side into obscurity and distrust forever.

Bryan is playing upon the same harp today. It is the instrument of a demagogue and its tunes are as deceptive as the deadly nightshade. But the recall—the pent up energy of outraged public opinion—is there, and it will hit Bryan just as sure and just as hard as it has hit many a demagogue before him, and it will drive him into obscurity and distrust just as it has driven others who have undertaken to presume too far on public intelligence and credulity.

HAS NOT ACCEPTED.

Bryan has not as yet acknowledged having received the populist nomination for president. Why have you not made this acknowledgement, Mr. Bryan? Are you ashamed to do it? What is there about the Populist nomination you are ashamed of? If you are not ashamed of it why have you failed to accept it?

Is it because you are afraid that if you acknowledge the populist nomination you will alienate Tammany Hall and other eastern Democrats? Out here in Nebraska you profess to believe in Populism. But your refusal to utter a letter accepting the Populist nomination would indicate duplicity. The Populists nominated you three months ago, at the same time the Democrats nominated you. You acknowledged the Democratic nomination by letter long since, but your letter accepting the Populist nomination—well, it's "the letter in the candle" or "the one that never came."