# THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

TWENTY-SECOND YEAR. OMAHA, THURSDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 22, 1892. NUMBER 95.


## ASSEMBLED IN ENCAMPMENT

Grand Army Veterans Get Down to Business After the Parade.

ADDRESS OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

General Palmer Reviews the Work of the Year and Pays a Large Amount of Attention to the Trouble Over the Color Line.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 21.—At 1:25 the encampment was rapped to order by Commander-in-Chief Palmer. A glee club of veterans sang a song inviting the encampment to Indianapolis next year and were uproariously applauded. Commissioner Douglas of the District of Columbia read an address of welcome and General Palmer made a tasteful and appropriate reply. After the report of the committee on credentials had been received General Palmer made his annual address.

**Commander-in-Chief Palmer's Address.**

In the course of his address Commander-in-Chief Palmer said: Comrades—The national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic brings together representatives of the soldiers from all over the loyal land. There is scarcely a battlefield of that great civil contest but has representatives here today. Within its ranks are men of all political parties and religious creeds. The differences in rank which the army reflected are lost in the equalities of a free and common citizenship. The dominating thought is patriotism. Its principles appeal to patriots of every name and party.

These annual gatherings of men who rendered loyal and devoted and patriotic service to their country in the hour of peril, if they serve no other purpose, will impress upon the minds of the rising generation a profounder and deeper sense of the perils through which we passed to preserve the unity of the nation. It gives renewed strength to patriotism, tends to elevate our national character and makes us stronger each succeeding year. We cherish no feelings of animosity or revenge against the men of the south. I know I speak the sentiments of every true soldier when I say whatever pride we have in the past, whatever pride we brought back from the battlefields, we joyfully laid it aside upon one altar and gladly merged the title of soldier into a greater one—that of American citizen.

**Where Sleep the Patriotic Dead.**

It is peculiarly appropriate that the survivors of the union armies should gather again in the capital of the nation, which through four long years of bloody strife they defended at the peril of their lives.

Almost within the sound of my voice there repose in that beautiful spot on Arlington Heights 16,000 patriotic dead. It recalls to our minds the enormous price paid by the American people for the preservation of the nation. Four thousand graves are marked with the sadest of all inscriptions—unknown.

A new generation stands where we stood. Thirty-five millions of people have been added to the country since the close of that great civil conflict in 1865. While the American people hold the veterans in a love that no other group of men in the land receive, there is a disposition on the part of a few to sneer at the soldier and call him a mendicant. They appear to forget the sufferings that made us what we are. I feel that the ex-soldier ministers, lawyers, bankers, manufacturers, presidents, governors and all liberty-loving American citizens must brand the sentiment of disrespect to the "veterans" the subtle poison that will stain the pages of history with the belief that patriotism and valor in the union army was a myth, and that loyalty to country is no longer to be called a virtue.

**Tribute to the Late Foe.**

In justice to the men against whom we contended for four long years, I desire to say that notwithstanding the intemperate attacks made upon me by some of the southern journals, on account of my order in reference to the flag of our country, during my visit to the department encampment in Augusta, Ga., I met many ex-confederate soldiers from whom I received a cordial greeting, and I believe that those who were bravest in the field have a greater love of justice and right than those who remained in the rear in the hour of danger, and I was glad to take by the hand any brave confederate soldier who accepted the generous terms of the surrender at Appomattox and today respects the flag of the nation as the emblem of a reunited people and a reunited country.

After referring at some length to the difficulties encountered in the course of his term of office he spoke as follows upon the Louisiana and Mississippi affair:

**The Color Line Trouble.**

I had hoped that the action of the twenty-fifth annual encampment at Detroit would have settled all existing difficulties in this department and I would be relieved from the unpleasant disturbances encountered by my predecessors. Up to the time of this meeting my predecessors had kindly exercised a discretionary power and permitted posts from nine to seventeen to make their reports and pay their dues direct to national headquarters. But the decision of the national encampment on this question was emphatic and no shadow of uncertainty any longer remained. The encampment in passing upon the subject did it in the following clear and unmistakable language:

"An organization which from its birth in Decatur, Ill., in 1866 to its silver encampment has never turned from its doors any deserving comrade on account of his nationality, creed or color."

During the fierce struggle for the life of the nation we stood shoulder to shoulder as comrades tried. It is too late to divide on the color line. A man who is good enough to stand between the flag and those who would destroy it when the fate of the nation hung trembling in the balance is good enough to be a comrade in any department of the Grand Army of the Republic. No different rule has been or ever will be recognized by the survivors of the army and navy. No department should ever be established for any color or nationality. It would be inexpedient to authorize the commander-in-chief to organize new or provisional departments in any state where a department already exists.

**Justified in His Action.**

This question had tested the patience, skill and endurance of my predecessors in their efforts to bring about an amicable adjustment of the differences existing in this department between the white and colored posts, but every effort had failed. It had cost the national encampment more money, time and energy through the exertions of comrades sent into this department to check the progress of the growing mischief than all the other departments combined from the inception of the order to the present time. But when officers of this department absolutely refused to obey the rules of the encampment I had no discretion to deal with either their motives or reasons assumed in their refusal. The duties of the commander-in-chief are clearly defined. Posts from 9 to 17 reported to national headquarters that at the annual meeting of the Department of Louisiana and Mississippi, held in the month of February, they were refused admission or representation, although their dues were tendered and declined. They then forwarded their reports and dues to national headquarters. The attention of the department commander was called to the rules of the order and he was directed to recognize the posts. He declined to do so and an order was issued from the headquarters of the Department of Louisiana and Mississippi by the department commander stating that the commander-in-chief had ordered posts from 9 to 17 recognized.

This order the council of administration under a full sense of the gravity of the act and aware of the possible consequences of their refusal to comply decided that they could not conscientiously obey—and the department confirmed and ratified their action.

Two alternatives now confronted me. Were the representatives of eight posts in Louisiana and Mississippi to rule or should the voice of a majority of nearly 500,000 comrades govern the affairs of this great order? The one meant disruption, the other that the dignity and laws of the order should be maintained. The obstinancy, which at first wore an aspect of legitimate effort, proposed no longer to yield to the laws of the order, but developed into open defiance and revenge. If a corps of this department were unwilling to abide by the rules of the national encampment it was their privilege to resign and permit others to be chosen who would, but they had no right to attempt to thwart the action of the national encampment by an effort to bring about a dissolution of the department by an illegal act.

April 25, in special order No. 5, I suspended the department commander and placed in command Senior Vice Commander Durkee, with instructions to recognize the posts from 9 to 17 and report to these headquarters. Under date of May 11 he acknowledged receipt of the order and said: "No application has been made since the meeting in February from posts 9 to 17. Should they make application I will report my action."

**Should Be Settled Now.**

Comrade Durkee having failed to comply with the order from national headquarters by special order No. 8, May 20, I suspended him and placed Comrade Miller, the junior vice, in command. The assistant adjutant general, Comrade Keeling, replied by telegraph that Comrade Miller considered himself no longer a member of the order, as the department in special encampment had voted to surrender the charter. All that human foresight could do under three administrations to avert the impending conflict by persuasion and advice had been exhausted, and if the culmination of this vexed question had to occur under this administration it were better that it should be met rather than to leave it as a legacy to my successor. No issue can be anticipated from discords in an organization. Where they are at issue amongst themselves, there are opportunities for mutual injury, and the sooner vital issues are settled the better it is for the organization. Its success is essential at all times, and can only be achieved by maintaining the integrity of its laws. I was advised to call a meeting of the council of administration for consultation and advice, but upon reflection I regarded it as a useless expenditure of money to subject the national encampment to a large expense by calling the council together. Whether I did right you will judge, and your judgment I will unhesitatingly and uncomplainingly accept, for it was for you and your behalf I acted.

**Surrender of the Charter.**

The charter of this department was received at national headquarters, May 26, 1892, and across its face was written, in letters of red: "Surrendered, May 20, 1892." In special order, No. 9, June 2, 1892, I declared that the action taken at the special meeting of the Department of Louisiana and Mississippi, being in direct violation of the rules and regulations, which says that "no alteration affecting the general interests of the department shall be made at a special meeting," all acts contemplated by special meeting were null and void. I then appointed Past Department Commander A. S. Badger commander pro tempore, and returned to him the charter endorsed: "The surrender of this charter, noted above in red ink, being in direct violation of the rules and regulations, is declared null and void, and this charter will continue in force," and ordered him to recognize posts from 9 to 17 inclusive, and proceed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic, and report at once to these headquarters in obedience to these instructions. Comrade Badger assumed command of the Department of Louisiana and Mississippi, June 29, 1892, appointing Comrade Keeling his adjutant general.

After the reorganization of the department I ordered a thorough inspection of the posts, and the report of the inspecting officers as filed at national headquarters shows that each comrade produced either his discharge, pension certificate or satisfactory evidence of service.

**Other Affairs Discussed.**

After commenting on the unpleasant affair and a series of resolutions published by different posts, he concluded as follows:

In dealing with this subject I was not actuated by an unkind thought toward a single comrade in this department. They had encountered no real resistance up to the time of the twenty-fifth national encampment.

It was known that there were disintegrating forces at work which the national encampment concluded it was time to arrest, and in the discharge of a duty incumbent upon me under my oath of office I did it without either feeling fear or prejudice.

With a few words of praise for the loyal women and the Sons of Veterans, he referred to the passage of the disability pension bill as a most munificent act providing for all honorably discharged soldiers suffering from mental or physical disabilities; the work on the marble statue of General Grant for the national capital was progressing, as was also the work on General Grant's tomb.

In reference to veterans in the government employ he said: To protect the rights of veterans of the late war is one of the cardinal principles of our order. The pledge made by the government in section 1,754 of the Revised Statutes, United States, has frequently been ignored.

He recommended that the encampment take decided action against personal solicitations from posts and departments, unless the objects for which the funds are asked are specified in writing, duly attested by the department commander to which the comrade making the appeal belongs, and approved by national headquarters.

**Adjutant General's Report.**

The report of Adjutant General Fred Phisterer followed the address of the commander-in-chief. This report shows there was a gain of 220 in the number of new posts during the year. A significant and most pathetic sentence of this report is the following:

"Practically it may be said that the membership of the Grand Army of the Republic is now at its highest point. It no doubt will remain about stationary for a few years to come, when necessarily it must decrease, and the decrease will be rapid."

**Quartermaster General Taylor's Report.**

The annual report of Quartermaster General Taylor to the adjutant general shows that the expenditures of the organization during the last year to have been $89,214, leaving a balance on hand of $7,548. The amount realized from the capitation was $13,051, and from sale of supplies $22,147. The largest item of expense during the year was $12,137 for postage and incidentals. The total amount to the Grant monument fund is $11,575.

**Surgeon General Stevenson's Report.**

B. F. Stevenson, surgeon general of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his report complains that many army posts failed to make any sanitary and mortuary reports, so that the statistics on these matters are very incomplete. Blanks were sent to the several departments, but the only ones to return reports embracing the period from January to June were Arizona, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and the Potomac. The report of the Department of the Potomac shows: Whole number enrolled, 3,694; deaths January 1 to June 30, 1892, 51; number who probably died from wounds received in service and resultant disease, 13; number from disease contracted in service, 26; other causes, 12; average age of dead, 58 years and 3 months.

The Department of Massachusetts report shows: Number of deaths, 238, presumably from wounds received in service, 4; presumably from diseases contracted in service, 51; presumably from other causes, 71; cause of death not reported, 112.

The report says that according to Commissioner Raum, at the close of the fiscal year June 30, 1892, there were 876,078 pensioners on the rolls and that the appropriations aggregated $139,132,387. In addition to these vast expenditures the annual appropriation for the numerous government homes was $2,633,840. There are also 173 government cemeteries kept up by government appropriation. These appropriations, says the report, seem large; "but," it adds, "they should be thought of in reference to the grand moving cause calling them into being—the preservation of the government from overthrow—and who can place too high

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## MURDEROUS TRAIN ROBBERS

Lives Sacrificed by Them in an Endeavor to Accomplish Their Ends.

THEY WRECK A CROWDED EXPRESS TRAIN

Terrible Results Follow the Fall of the Train Into the Ditch—$1,000,000 Was the Booty Sought—The Villains Foiled.

TOPEKA, Kan., Sept. 21.—A million dollars in currency.

That was the prize for which Kansas train robbers strove today.

An appalling loss of human life was the price they were willing to pay for it.

Passenger train No. 8 on the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railway, eastbound, was wrecked early this morning, three miles west of Osage City, by train robbers, who hoped by that means to plunder the express car of $1,000,000 which was being transported from the City of Mexico to Boston.

A wrecked train, four men killed and thirty-five men, women and children injured are the only results of the attempted robbery, for the robbers secured not a penny of the treasure, to obtain which they imperilled so many lives.

**Deliberately Planned the Awful Deed.**

The wreck and attempted robbery had been carefully and deliberately planned. To avoid the possibility of leaving a clue behind them, the robbers stole the tools with which they did their dreadful work instead of purchasing them. They stole a crowbar, wrench and sledge hammer from the tool house at Barclay, three miles west of the scene of the wreck, and then removed a fishplate, which joined two rails together, which would necessarily derail the train. The robbers had evidently selected with care the spot at which to wreck the train. They selected the top of a grade, up which the train would be obliged to ascend, thus lessening its speed and at the same time lessening the chances of so badly wrecking the train as to bury beneath the debris the treasure they were seeking. Their precautions were unavailing and the very thing they sought to evade thwarted their efforts. When the train passed over the weakened track the entire train was wrecked with the exception of the rear car and most of the cars were piled one on top of the other above the express car, burying it and its treasure so deep as to require several hours digging to reach it.

**No Chance for Their Lives.**

The engine, when it passed over the loosened rail, left the track, swayed to and fro for a second of time and then toppled over with a dreadful crash. The engineer and fireman had no warning of their awful fate and no chance for their lives. They must have been killed outright when the engine was wrecked. The express messenger and express guardsmen were equally unprepared and they were killed in their car.

There were some 250 passengers on the train, but not one was killed. How they escaped seems miraculous. The cars were piled one on another and composed a mass of timbers and twisted iron in which it seemed impossible for any being to have escaped death. When the work of rescue was completed, however, all the victims were found to be alive. Several were badly injured and a few may die.

The $1,000,000 belonged to the Mexican Central Railway company and was being forwarded to that company's headquarters at Boston. It was rescued from the wreck and turned over to the Wells-Fargo company here to be forwarded to its destination.

The Sana Fe has offered $1,000 reward for the trainwreckers and several posses are searching the country in the vicinity of the wreck. Advices from Osage City and Barclay state that intense excitment and indignation prevail among the people there, who declare boldly that the wreckers shall be lynched when caught.

The wrecked train consisted of a baggage, express and mail cars, two day couches, two chair cars and three sleepers. It was thrown over an embankment three feet high and the first six cars were telescoped. Four persons were killed outright, and twenty-five seriously injured. The killed were:

**List of Its Killed.**

EXPRESS MESSENGER FRANK BAXTER of Kansas City.

EXPRESS GUARDSMAN BLOOMENTHAL of Mexico.

FIREMAN JAMES CHADDICK of Topeka.

ENGINEER ED MAYER of Topeka.

Most of the injured were western people, but among the number was Mary Lyman of Bloomington, Ill., badly injured and bruised about the face.

T. Wordell of Elliott, Ill., is also badly bruised.

The wreck occurred at a small bridge where there was a heavy down grade. The train was running forty miles an hour and it was impossible for the engineer to see the misplaced rails in time to check the speed. The coaches piled over one another until the baggage and express cars were, completely hidden from view. Men, women and children were piled over each other, caught in the seats and thrown through the windows.

Relief first reached the train from Emporia. An examination of the track shows that the fish plates had been carefully removed and the bolts taken out and the spikes drawn from the ties and the rail bent over to one side. Robbery was unquestionably the object, as the train carried $1,000,000 in currency, enroute to the Mexican Central headquarters in Boston.

A spot was found where three men had lain concealed in the grass, and tracks were discovered leading from this spot to the track.

The passengers were brought to Topeka at 10 o'clock this morning. Some of the wounded could not be removed and several will probably die.

**Stories of the Passengers.**

All the stories told by the passengers, however, agree that there is little doubt that the accident was the result of a deliberate plan to wreck the train for the purpose of securing the treasure in the express car.

Major W. H. Lewellyn, the Santa Fe live stock agent at Las Cruces, N. M., who was on the train, says: "I was awake when the wreck occurred. We were going probably thirty-five miles an hour. The jolt was terrific and all of the cars left the track except ours and the one back of us. It was the worst wreck I ever saw. The front coaches were all piled in a heap and were reduced to kindling wood. There were twelve cars in the train. I think there must have been about 225 people on board, many of them women accompanied by children. I don't see how so many escaped. They all acted admirably and worked with a vim to help the unfortunate.

"It is singular that the train did not catch fire, for it was piled up on top of the engine. The night was dark and we tore rails off the fence to use them for torches. It was hard work getting some of the people out. One aged lady was caught between two chair cars and it took a long while to extricate her. After we had rescued her she went back after her pocket book.

"I took especial pains to find out the cause of the wreck. I found that four bolts had been taken from the fishplate, which holds the rails together. The rail was left in place, but with no support. The engine was actually buried nearly out of sight. The poor fireman is buried under it.

**Saved the Treasure.**

"The $1,000,000 in currency belonging to the Mexican Central railway was in a wooden box three feet long, ribbed with iron. Captain Baird and I took charge of it until we got to Osage City, where we turned it over to Tom McMullan, the city marshal. He in turn delivered it to a Wells-Fargo man from Topeka.

"The track at the place where the wreck occurred is excellent, with rock ballast and twelve-pound steel rails. There is an up grade there for nearly a quarter of a mile. My theory is that whoever caused the wreck did not anticipate that it would be such a bad one, as it was at the top of the grade. They thought we would be going slow. They were probably after that $1,000,000. There were also in the express car three combination safes, containing bonds and money. I did not see any one around the express car after the wreck, but it was buried so deep that any robbers could not have found it if they wanted to."

Even before the Santa Fe officials had offered the reward of $1,000 for the capture of the robbers several posses composed of men from Barclay and Osage City had started in all directions to run down the wreckers. Later detectives in the employ of the railway and express companies joined in the search. The horrible nature of the crime has excited the people to a frenzy and the wreckers, if caught, will doubtless be hanged by a mob.

**MET WITH FRIGHTFUL RESULTS.**

Nine Persons Killed in a Head End Collision on the Fort Wayne Railroad.

SHREVE, O., Sept. 21.—The Chicago express and freight on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago road collided head on at full speed this morning. Both engines were ditched and ground to splinters, followed by the postal car, two express cars, baggage, smoker, one coach and five freight cars. Nine were killed outright and three seriously injured. Others were slightly hurt. The killed include both firemen, one freight brakeman, three postal clerks and three passengers. The following is a list of the dead:

J. SMITH, fireman of express train.
N. HAMMOND, fireman of freight train.
A. C. GLENN, brakeman of freight train.
J. D. PATTERSON of Pennsylvania, postal clerk.
J. P. MANN of Ohio, postal clerk.
H. S. ALLEN of Ohio, postal clerk.
J. D. RHODES, Mahoning, O.
H. H. BROWN, Huntington, Ind.
Mr. LANKNOCK, Massillon, O.
EDWARD MAKER, engineer express train.
D. E. REESE, Massillon, O., postal clerk.
SAMUEL JACKSON, Chicago, express messenger.
UNKNOWN LADY and one CHILD who had tickets for Espeyville, Pa.
UNKNOWN MAN.
UNKNOWN WOMAN and CHILD who boarded the train at Mansfield, O.

All the fatalities occurred in the two locomotives, the postal and smoking cars and the day coaches. The sleepers did not leave the track and the passengers escaped injury.

Two postal cars filled with through mails, one express car and three freight cars were consumed by the fire.

This afternoon $50,000 in silver bricks were taken from beneath the masses of iron and cinders. Some of the silver had been melted. A temporary track has been built around the wreck and travel partially resumed. The coroner's jury has begun an investigation into the cause of the wreck.

Thereare missing two ladies supposed to be from Espayville, Pa., a lady and child supposed to be from Alliance, O.

The force of the collision must have been terrific as the postal, express and smoking cars were completely telescoped. There were five clerks in the postal cars and four were instantly killed and the other fatally wounded. Fire communicated from the engine to the postal cars and in a short time the baggage, postal car, smoker and day coach were reduced to ashes. The Pullman cars escaped. Two or three passengers in the smoker and day coaches were consumed in the sight of the crowd striving to save them.

**Wrecked Both Trains.**

GREENVILLE, Pa., Sept. 21.—Passenger train No. 6 on the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio road was coming east last night and stopped at Cortland, O., when a work train crashed into it. Conductor Moore and Engineer Howe of Meadville, Fireman Schodt of Greenville and all the passenger crew were badly injured. A baby was killed instantly by having its head crushed. Both trains were wrecked. The engineer of the work train says the throttle would not work and he lost control of the engine.

**One Killed, Three Fatally Injured.**

LANCASTER, Pa., Sept. 21.—The second section of the westwardbound express on the Pennsylvania railroad ran into the first section at Rheims station yesterday afternoon and both trains were badly wrecked. One engineer was killed and the other engineer and both firemen were fatally hurt. No passengers injured.

**HORSEWHIPPED A SLANDERER.**

Jakey Hirsch Denver Newspaper Correspondent Receives a Merited Chastisement.

DENVER, Colo., Sept. 21.—Jakey S. Hirsch, formerly agent of the Press News, but who of late has eked out a living acting as correspondent of Chicago and New York papers, was horsewhipped and badly punished by a Philadelphia actress named Lizzie Gonzales, now filling an engagement in this city. It seems that Hirsch had acted in a distasteful manner towards Miss Gonzales, who quickly resented it. This enraged Hirsch, and to get even he wrote scurrilous items to his papers, which reached Denver today. Miss Gonzales immediately procured a blacksnake, and when Hirsch made his appearance she flew at him, bringing the whip around his legs and shoulders with the force of an old-time ox driver, raising blisters at every blow, then reversing the whip, she struck him a stunning blow with the loaded butt and across the nose, smashing that member almost flat. Hirsch then endeavored to protect himself by clinching with her, but found that he was only a Sullivan in the hands of a Corbett, and the prints of Miss Gonzales' hands are plainly visible upon his face.

A meeting was called at each newspaper office this evening and each contributed a beautiful basket of flowers to the plucky little actress, accompanying those from the Rocky Mountain News, written on a card, were the words: "Next time use an axe."

From the Republican the card read: "Accept thanks from the unprotected ladies of Denver."

Colorado Sun: "Your job was not a coarse one."

**STOOD THE JOURNEY WELL.**

Mrs. Harrison Reaches Washington Without Any Serious Results.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 21.—Mrs. Harrison arrived at 9 o'clock this morning, and was taken in an ambulance at once to the white house. She stood the journey very well.

It was, indeed, a pathetic and incongruous home-coming to the president, with everything so bright and gay on the streets, while he sadly sat beside the one he loved best and anxiously watched her every breath.

The white house was reached in half an hour. Gathered on the portico were the attendants and servants, and from the upper windows some of the clerks looked down upon the approaching little procession. When Mrs. Harrison was made comfortable in bed Dr. Gardner made the following statement to a representative of the Associated Press:

"Mrs. Harrison stood the journey from Loon Lake very nicely and much better than we anticipated. The prospect of getting home has buoyed her up and made her sleep much easier. She was as comfortable as possible enroute and the fact that she has reached home accidedly cheered her up."

Ten minutes after Mrs. Harrison was taken to her room, the lower portion of the building was filled with members of the G. A. R., anxious to see the interior.

## KEM'S RECORD TROUBLES HIM

Whitehead Refers to Several Incidents of the Independent's Career.

SIXTH DISTRICT CITIZENS INTERESTED

One Thousand People Attracted by the Joint Debate at Chadron—Observations of an Old Settler on the Situation.

CHADRON, Neb., Sept. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The joint debate between Hon. Jomes Whitehead and Hon. O. M. Kem, candidates for congress from the Sixth district, held at this place today, attracted a crowd of about 1,000 people. Most of the independents in attendance were from other towns and precincts. A special train conveyed Mr. Kem from Crawford in the morning.

A prominent farmer remarked: "It looked funny to see people coming fifty to 100 miles to hear a debate, all wearing plug hats of the independent stripe, and still howling about being robbed, while the money expended on the trip and hat would amount to a laboring man's wages for a month in the old world."

Promptly at 2 o'clock J. E. Edmonston, chairman of the Sixth district of the independent party, called the assemblage to order. After giving Mr. Kem a very large puff and mentioning Mr. Whitehead, he introduced Kem, who had some idea that he was a speaker, but before Jim Whitehead had half finished his reply he had experienced a change of heart.

**Mr. Kem's Position.**

Mr. Kem, although dwelling mostly on the old time theme of calamity, corporations, etc., did get so far away from his creed as to acknowledge that this country was in a very good and prosperous condition. He claimed that up to the time he joined the independent party he had always been a republican and voted the republican ticket, and that the party had left him and not he the party. He also tried to crawfish out of his action on the Pickler bill which has created such an unfavorable opinion of him among the settlers hereabouts, saying that when he had objected to the bill it was upon the spur of the moment and he had no time to think.

He stated that the past twenty-five years was the most prosperous period of the same length this country had ever experienced, and that much of it was due to the republican party. He also essayed to speak a little on the tariff and the McKinley bill.

**Came from the Prohibitionists.**

Mr. Whitehead took the floor and the first thing contradicted Kem's statement that he had belonged to the republican party up to the time he had joined the independents, showing that he had run on the prohibition ticket in Custer county four years ago, a fact Mr. Kem did not try to deny in his reply. Regarding the Pickler bill he introduced, among other things, a letter from Mr. Pickler stating that Kem was opposed to the bill all along. He also showed his record regarding the opening of the military reservations of McPherson, Sheridan and other western posts. He charged Kem with being a corporation legislator, showing that he introduced a bill for the government to purchase the gas plant at Washington when all the lights in the city as well as in every other city were being gradually turned into electricity, and the only object Kem could have had was to aid the corporation in getting rid of a dead and unprofitable plant.

**As Regards Pension Legislation.**

Mr. Kem could not say a word to this in his reply. He also showed up the platform of the independent party regarding pensions, and showed that Kem was one of the members of the last congress which neglected to make the appropriation to pay the pensions then due. He stated he was glad Kem had acknowledged that the independent party was a dissatisfied and discontented one, and he was pleased to state that the republican party was one exactly the opposite. He showed that the present low price of wheat was due to that famous "hold your wheat" circular. It was fully five minutes before order could be restored after Whitehead took his seat.

Kem did not try to answer any of the questions propounded to him by Whitehead, but yelled trusts and corporations.

The republican cause in this sections has received a world of good through this debate.

**CHAIRMAN CADY.**

Reports from Over the State Show the Republican Ticket is Gaining Strength.

Chairman A. E. Cady of the republican state central committee was in the city yesterday. In speaking of the political situation, he said that reports were beginning to come in from out over the state, and they were most flattering.

"Our men who strayed away two years ago," he said, "are coming back, and the people's party is making no gains whatever, unless it be right here in Douglas county. In all the rural counties they are losing ground. In some cases it is not much, and in others it will amount to 75 or 80 per cent. Even if it was only half this, our gain would be tremendous. Out through the state the prospects could hardly be brighter. The little ripple of dissatisfaction that was stirred up a while ago has entirely passed away, and if there is any of it still felt it is on the part of the individual and cannot be detected. There is no concerted action in that direction or it would make itself manifest. Mr. Majors is desirous of the success of the entire ticket, and he personally assured me that he and his friends were doing their utmost to that end. He said he felt that if he was to run ahead of the balance of the ticket out through the state he would be charged with treachery, and his future in politics demanded that this should not be the case. There are so many things entering into the situation here in Douglas county, that it would, of course, be impossible to hold any individual responsible for what might occur here. It is always impossible to tell what this county is going to do, and I am unable to tell just what the situation is here. I am inclined to think that whatever jangling there may have been here will, in the end, prove beneficial. That is the way it used to be in New York city when Tammany and the county democracy got to fighting. It would help all the rest of the ticket down to where the trouble was, by creating interest and getting out a big vote. So I am convinced that even if Douglas county should not be agreed on some of the less important matters, it would not hurt the national and state ticket in the least.

**OPENED AT FREMONT.**

Members of All Parties Entertained by Hon. Leo Woodruff.

FREMONT, Neb., Sept. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Under the supervision of the republican central committee and the Republican club the republicans opened the campaign here this evening. The Fremont cornet band furnished good music, and with the republican flambeau club members with their new suits paraded the principal streets of the city before going to the court house, where was assembled quite a large crowd, consisting of republicans, prohibitionists, democrats and independents, all desirous of hearing the political issues of the day discussed by the eloquent and gifted orator, Hon. Leo Woodruff of Michigan.

He spoke outdoors last evening and was much the worse for the same. He was introduced by Hon. J. E. Frick and spoke for one hour, giving free trade a very hard blow. Among other things, he said: "I have but a moderate knowledge of politics in Nebraska, and have but fifteen dates in your state and am invited here to discuss the general rather than the local things. Our chief executive, though a very modest man and having modest views of his own worth, nevertheless, for prudence and wisdom stands very high in the estimation of other men, and it must not be forgotten that Grover Cleveland stands equally high in his own estimation. There is really but one question before us and that is the question of protective tariff."

He then quoted from Bismarck as follows: "The success under protection of the United States in material development is the most illustrious of modern times. The American nation has not only successfully borne and suppressed the most gigantic and expensive war of all history, but immediately afterwards disbanded its army, found work for all its soldiers and marines, paid off most of its debts, given labor and homes to the unemployed of Europe as fast as they could arrive within its territory, and has done all this by a system of taxation so indirect as not to be perceived much less felt. Because it is my deliberate judgement that the prosperity of America is merely due to its system of protective laws, I urge that Germany has not reached that point where it is necessary to imitate the tariff system of the United States." After which Mr. Frick made an eloquent speech about free silver.

**Alliance Camp Meeting Opened.**

FAIRBURY, Neb. Sept. 21.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The three days camp meeting of the third party at Brawner's grove adjacent to the city was inaugurated today by a procession in which the alliance of the county participated. About 100 teams were in the line which was headed by the Endicott band. After reaching the picnic grounds the meeting was called to order by Chairman W. H. Barnes and the exercises commenced with an address by Judge C. C. Cole of Iowa, who in a two hours' speech gave reasons apparently satisfactory to the populists for joining their ranks. The gist of Judge Cole's argument was that the old parties were joined to their idols, and the only salvation of the country was in cutting loose from their dictation and following the new light evolved from the dispensation of Weaver and Field.

Hon. E. H. Gilette of Iowa followed with an advocacy of the platform and candidates of the third party. This ended the chapter for today. Tomorrow Hon. W. H. Doch is to speak in German, and Vincent of Indiana and Carl Brown of Indiana are on the program. The attendance was less than expected today, but the managers anticipate a larger crowd tomorrow. The St. Joe & Grand Island is running a special train every thirty minutes from the city to the picnic grounds.

**Cedar Rapids' Joint Debate.**

CEDAR RAPIDS, Neb., Sept. 21.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The first joint debate between the Republican and independent clubs of Cedar Rapids occurred Monday evening. The subject for discussion was the following: Resolved, That the financial legislation of the republican party for the last thirty years has been detrimental to the interests of the American people, the independents to affirm and the republicans to deny. F. M. Silleck appeared as the champion for the alliance and Dennis Tracy wielded the sledge hammer of truth for the republicans. The debate was opened in a forty-minute speech by Mr. Silleck and then Mr. Tracy followed for an hour, the debate being closed by Mr. Silleck in a twenty-minute speech. The house was well filled and strict attention paid to the speakers.

Mr. Tracy's argument was backed by facts from reports of the secretary of the treasury and director of the mints. He completely outdid his opponent in argument, eloquence and wit and was an easy winner in the contest.

**McKeighan at Doniphan.**

DONIPHAN, Neb., Sept. 21.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The great McKeighan demonstration, which had been advertised for today was almost a complete failure as far as getting a crowd together was concerned. McKeighan came in on the morning train and about 10 o'clock the Trumbull band, which had been hired for the occasion, put in an appearance.

At 11:30 the procession moved toward Spink's grove where ample preparations had been made to receive them, such as free dinner, good seats, etc.

Thirty ladies dressed in white marched under a banner bearing the inscription, "Fathers, Vote for Your Children."

Mr. McKeighan gave them what was conceded by all, regardless of politics, to be one of the best democratic speeches ever delivered in this section of the country from an independent platform. Applause from the democrats was loud and frequent as he continued to rake the republicans fore and aft.

**Joint Discussion at Albion.**

ALBION, Neb., Sept. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The republican county central committee challenged the people's party to discuss the political issues of the day in joint debate between F. S. Howell, candidate for county attorney on the republican ticket, and M. W. McGarr, the people's candidate for the same office.

The debate took place last night in Bonanza precinct, the stronghold of the people's party. Mr. McGarr opened the discussion by denouncing the republican party for its financial policy from 1862 to 1892. Mr. Howell followed and very clearly exposed the charge that the republican party demonetized silver in 1873 by showing that silver was demonetized in 1853. He made a very logical argument in favor of honest money, demonstrating to the farmers that if this money is issued the capitalists will get gold and the poor man the worthless paper money. Mr. McGarr's reply lacked strength and failed to answer Howell's arguments.

**Saunders County Independents.**

WAHOO, Neb., Sept. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The independents of Saunders county held their convention here today. There was a noticeable lack of the big crowds and the enthusiasm of former years. They renominated for representatives J. N. Griffin and P. B. Olson and named S. H. Sornborger for county attorney and Patrick Molloy for commissioner.

Delegates to the senatorial convention were selected and sent uninstructed but are supposed to be against Senator Saunders for renomination.

**Aurora's Demonstration.**

AURORA, Neb., Sept. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The republican rally held here today was the greatest political demonstration ever witnessed in this country. The opera house was packed to the utmost capacity this afternoon and evening with enthusiastic republicans who listened to addresses by Hon. John M. Thurston and Hon. M. B. Reese. The city has been gaily decorated with flags and bunting since early morning. A grand flambeau parade was given tonight.

**Antelope County Politics.**

NELIGH, Neb., Sept. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Messrs. Meiklejohn and Poynter hold their first discussion here Friday and Thurston speaks in the opera house here Saturday evening. The republicans have opened a headquarters here. A room is well supplied with reading matter.

**Oakland's Big Rally.**

OAKLAND, Neb., Sept. 21.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The republican rally here last night drew prominent citizens from all over the county. They were addressed by Hon. Leo M. Woodruff of Michigan and others. One of the features of the rally was the torchlight procession 500 strong.

**Governor Gray Talks Politics.**

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.—Ex-Governor Isaac P. Gray of Indiana was closeted with Chairman Harrity at democratic national headquarters yesterday. He said afterwards he thought the third party in Indiana would poll 15,000 votes.

**Platte County Republicans.**

COLUMBUS, Neb., Sept. 21.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The republicans of Platte county held their convention in this city yesterday. Delegates to the float and senatorial conventions were elected as follows: Float, Nels Olsen,

[CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE.]

## TWO HUNDRED QUIT WORK

Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Operators Leave Their Keys.

OFFICIALS THINK THEY CAN DO BUSINESS

Probabilities That the Trainmen Will Refuse to Run on Orders Handled by New Men—No Damage Done to Company Property.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., Sept. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—At 10 o'clock this morning, after the officials of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railway company had refused to submit the troubles with its telegraphers to a board of arbitration, every operator and dispatcher on the entire system left their keys and went on a strike. The men are orderly and left the property of the company in good shape. The officials of the road say the strike will effect business but little, but there is a probability that the strike will spread to other railway organizations, and that the system will be tied up from one end to the other. It is not believed that the engineers and conductors will run on orders from "scab" operators. The strikers demanded an increase of wages and adjustment of some other matters. Two hundred men are effected.

It is reported tonight that Ramsay is negotiating with the officials of other railroad organizations with a view of securing their aid in the struggle. The telegraphers, however, refuse to talk on this point. Trains running with but little delay as yet.

**Washington County's Fair.**

BLAIR, Neb., Sept. 14.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The first meeting of the Washington County Agricultural society was opened here today, and, if the attendance for the first day is any indication, the fair is a success in every particular. There were fully 5,000 people on the ground. Through the untiring energy of Secretary A. Stewart and other officers the first fair of Washington county excels any other county fair in the state. The vegetables and fruit display far excels any made at the state fair. The officers of the fair have offered four premiums for the best precinct display, which has brought out an exhibit from all the precincts.

There are many horsemen here from abroad attending the races. The races of today were as follows: Three minute trotting race was won by Patrin in three straight heats. Time: 2:49¼, 2:47, 2:45; Fail Not second, Gold Chief third, May Queen fourth. The 3-year old trotting was won by Paruna in two straight heats. Time: 3:05¼, 3:02; Duke second, Golden Dollar third, Daniel B. fourth. The pony running race, one-half mile dash, was won by Nieger Bell. Time: 52½. In the ladies' riding Miss Minnie Seldon received the premium, a $20 saddle, for the most graceful rider out of an entry of twelve. It is expected that tomorrow's attendance will far exceed today's.

**Used a Pitchfork.**

ELKHORN, Neb., Sept. 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Henry Bruhen, a farmer living four miles southeast of here, and Andrew Miller, his father-in-law, quarrelled today over the ownership of a hor