

# Nebraska National Guard Team at the Camp Perry Rifle Competition

**M**AKING a net gain of 210 points and climbing from forty-first place in the list of contestants to thirty-eighth place, the Nebraska rifle team returned from the national rifle match at Camp Perry, Put-In-Bay, O., well satisfied with its participation in the tournament, despite the handicap of having to compete with service teams and to use government ammunition, which did not give as good satisfaction as that used in the preliminary work. The national match was held August 24, 25 and 26 and was participated in by fifteen men, with four officers, from Nebraska, the crew of twelve active participants being taken from the two regiments of the National guard of this state.

Lieutenant Colonel O. G. Osborne of Omaha, second officer in command of the second regiment of infantry, Nebraska National guard, went to Camp Perry as the head of the Nebraska team, which was composed of the following men: Lieutenant Balderson, Lieutenant Hobbs, First Sergeant Gill, Sergeant Brian, Sergeant Nye, Sergeant Gibson, Artificer Blodgett, Musician Meiser, Private Mohr, Private Bousa, Private Rankin and Private Agnew. Three alternates—Captain Ferguson, Lieutenant Anderson and Sergeant Major McDonald—also went with the team.

The twelve active participants in the shoot, together with the three alternates, were picked by the officers of the regiment at the fifteen-day shoot at Ashland prior to the contest at Camp Perry. The Ashland shoot began July 30 and continued until August 19 and the men who made the highest scores in the state shoot were selected to represent Nebraska in the national shoot.

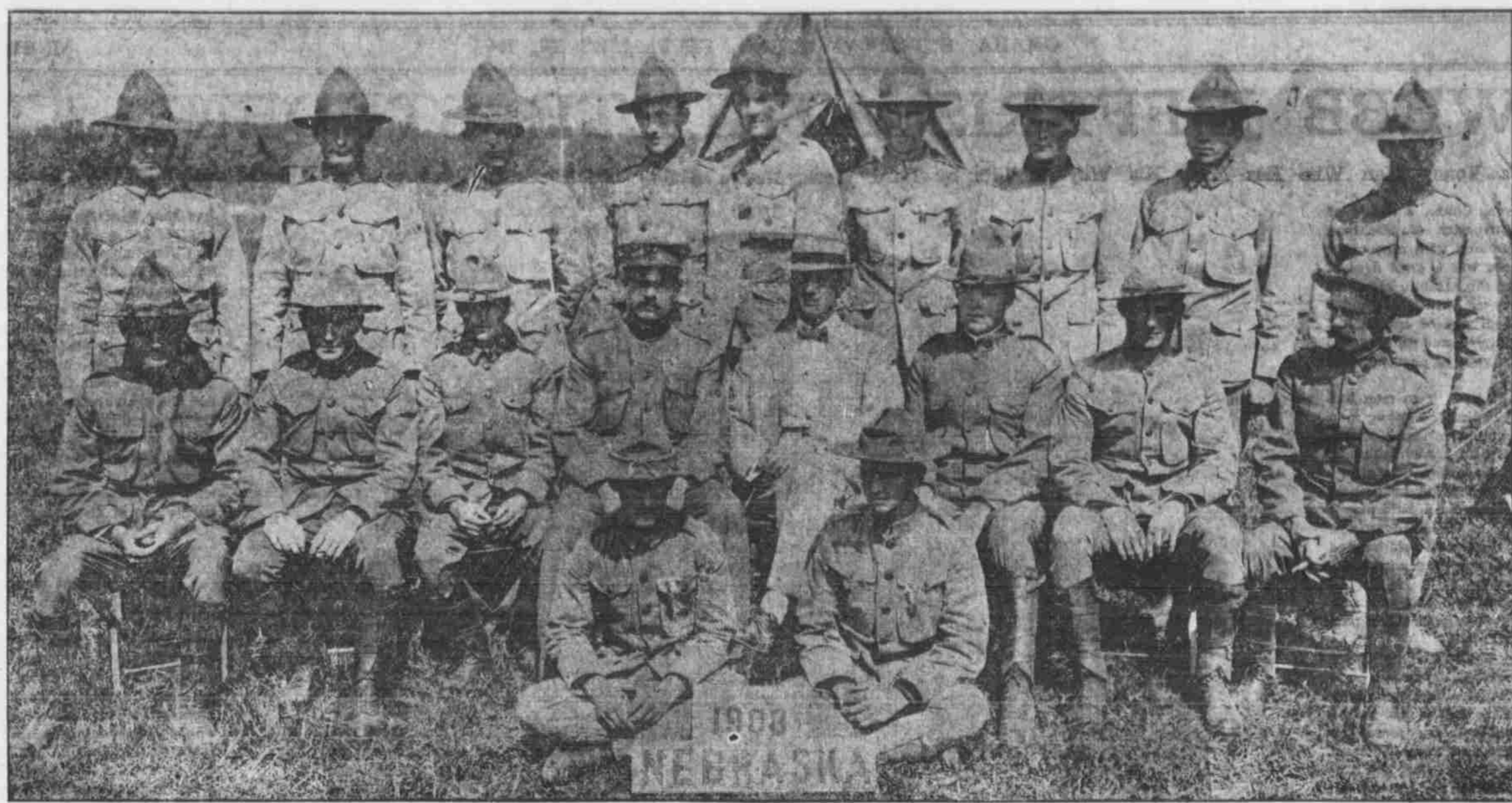
Lieutenant Colonel Osborne was captain of the team sent to Camp Perry, and the other officers were Lieutenant Colonel Birkner of Lincoln, coach; Captain O. H. Newman of Aurora, range officer, and Captain J. S. Johnson of Stanton, spotter.

The national rifle match was conducted by the War department, which paid all expenses, including the railway fare of the teams competing. The matches are held each year for the purpose of promoting rifle practice and encouraging the men enlisted in the regular army and in the National guards of the several states to become more adept with the use of the rifle. It is not compulsory on the various military organizations to take part in the tournament, but most of the states are generally represented, as there is no expense attached to it. The men who take part are given an outing and there is always the hope of gaining one of the six valuable prizes offered by the government for those teams making the highest scores.

Forty-three states, including the District of Columbia, five service teams, professionals, and a team from Hawaii competed in this year's shooting tournament, making fifty contestants in all. The service teams naturally ranged at or near the top, four of the six prizes being won by teams from the regular army and another regular army team being seventh in the race. The teams from Wisconsin and Massachusetts were fifth and sixth in the race, respectively.

The forced competition with service teams composed of men of almost unlimited practice with the rifle, being in the service continually and with nothing else to do, is considered a handicap by many of the National Guard teams, and in his report to the adjutant general, Colonel Osborne of Nebraska recommends that service teams be eliminated from the national rifle tournaments and that the National guards from the several states be privileged to compete only with their peers, and not with their superiors.

"The service teams are professionals, and the guard teams, with very few exceptions,



OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE NEBRASKA NATIONAL GUARD, WHO TOOK PART IN THE COMPETITION AT CAMP PERRY RIFLE RANGE.

are amateurs, and it seems to me there are many reasons why the service teams should be eliminated from the national match," says Colonel Osborne in his report. "Possibly this could be satisfactorily overcome by having both an amateur and a professional match," he continues, "for a National guard match and a national match. The amateur, or National guard, match could be shot first with only teams from the National guards competing. Then have the professionals, or national, match, and if any of the National guards teams wish to compete, then they can enter that match also.

"I believe this would have a tendency to stimulate the promotion of rifle practice in all the National guard organizations, rather than have some of the other matches which they do, like the Herriek trophy and the Dupont trophy, where there are no restrictions as to competitors.

The members of the Nebraska rifle team entered into the contest with zeal, however, even though from the start it was seen that it was to be an unequal one. But, as Colonel Osborne says, the men of Nebraska never balked at anything and they aimed their rifles and shot with the "crack" men of the nation, determined to place their home state at least another rung or two higher on the ladder. This they did, climbing three steps.

"I do not know what will become of my recommendations," said Colonel Osborne, "but I firmly believe that the boys from all teams would enter the national matches with more zeal if they knew they would

not be pitted against men from the regular army service. The high scores made by the service teams do not stimulate the National guard teams to greater effort (they do the best they can, anyway), but I sometimes think that these same high scores scare many a contestant, and certain it is that the participation in the national events by the service teams keeps some of the states from entering.

"I think it would be a good plan to have two shoots, one for the service teams and one for the guards. Let the guard shoot first and let there be trophies, prizes, for the winners. Then let the winners of the guard shoot compete with the service teams, or with the winners of the service team shoot for another grand prize. Some such arrangement would stimulate still greater effort and interest on the part of the members of the various National guards and would also tend to make the men in the service do still better work, so there would be no danger of their losing the grand trophy to a state military organization. I have thought a great deal of this and I hope the adjutant general at their next meeting will take some action regarding it.

"I have also called the attention of our adjutant general to another matter," continued Colonel Osborne, "and this is that some of the guard teams had from two weeks' to two months' practice on the Camp Perry grounds prior to the holding of the national shoot. This ought not to be allowed, I think. The lay of the ground has a great deal to do with target shooting

and it can be readily understood that teams familiar with a range will do better than teams not familiar with it. "All teams competing in the national shoot ought to enjoy the same privileges and no team ought to have opportunities another has not. For this reason I hope some action will be taken whereby no team will be allowed to practice on the national rifle range."

In his report to the adjutant general, the colonel called attention to the fact that a portion of his team's ammunition had been stolen enroute and that his men were compelled to use ammunition furnished by the government. This they were not familiar with and could not get the satisfactory results they obtained previously in practice with their own ammunition. The colonel believes this change of ammunition occasioned another handicap which prevented the Nebraska rifle team from receiving a higher rating than it did.

There were, therefore, three handicaps for the Nebraska team to overcome: The shooting with regular service teams, shooting with teams which had had practice on the Camp Perry range, and shooting with ammunition with which the members of the team were not familiar. But despite these three obstacles Nebraska made an excellent showing and can well point with pride to the score it made this year.

In the national rifle match in '07, Nebraska stood forty-first in the list of contestants and made 2,229 points in the score. In 1908 this state stands thirty-eighth in the list of contestants and has a rating of 2,509 points. The net gain is 280 points.

The winner of the high prize in this year's tournament was a team from the United States infantry, regular soldiers, and it made a total score of 2,224. With Nebraska's score of 2,509, this state was only 75 points short of winning the grand prize. This, Colonel Osborne points out, is not a bad showing for this state when there were fifty contestants and the scores ran into the thousands.

The six prizes awarded by the War department were won by the following teams, in the order named: United States infantry, United States navy, United States cavalry, United States marine corps, Wisconsin National Guard, Massachusetts National Guard. The team from the United States Naval academy was seventh in the race, the District of Columbia National Guard team was ninth, the team from Hawaii secured twenty-sixth place, and the teams from the various states were distributed. North Carolina, with 1,904 points, was the lowest contestant, Nebraska being ahead of Delaware, Tennessee, North Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Arkansas, New Mexico, Utah, Mississippi, Louisiana and North Carolina.

The official scores made by the teams in the national rifle shoot are as follows:

United States infantry	2,224
United States navy	2,210
United States cavalry	2,180
United States marine corps	2,177
Wisconsin	2,165
Massachusetts	2,155
Michigan	2,150
Pennsylvania	2,141
District of Columbia	2,135
Washington	2,099
Illinois	2,098
Iowa	2,084

Virginia	2,438
Arkansas	2,420
New Mexico	2,410
Utah	2,345
Mississippi	2,340
Louisiana	2,330
North Carolina	1,904

The tournament of August, 1908, was the fourth national match that Nebraska has taken part in, two of these having been at Camp Perry, at Put-In-Bay, O., and two at Seagirt, N. J. The score made this year being the highest, a gain being made each year. This in itself is encouraging, but what is more encouraging is that Nebraska made a gain while every one of the winners in this year's shoot, without an exception, did not shoot as well this year as formerly, the high scores being much lower than last year, and some of the teams competing falling off as much as ten per cent. Nebraska, on the other hand, made a steady gain, and this in the face of three serious handicaps.

Colonel Osborne says that the officers and men enjoyed their trip to Put-In-Bay and their short stay in Camp Perry, and in his official report to the adjutant general the colonel says: "I wish to say that the management of the camp deserves no small amount of praise for the efficient manner in which the visiting teams were cared for. Everything was done, as a matter of fact, to make our stay as pleasant and profitable."

Further in his official report, Colonel Osborne says: "The conduct of the team (Nebraska) at all times was excellent and I attribute no small amount of our success to the lack of a desire upon the part of any one to dispartize in any manner. I am sure the team did the best it could under the circumstances."

The colonel speaks in the highest praise of the men who represented Nebraska in the national shoot and says they averaged up with the other militia and regular army men at the shoot in other ways, even though they did not make the high score in the rifle shooting. As intimated in the official report, the men attended strictly to business, all the time keeping in mind the honor of the state they were representing, and there was not a slip on their part in any way mar the occasion.

The men also enjoyed their camp life, though it was short. They reached the camp on the evening of August 20, going there direct from the rifle range at Ashland where they left only the day previous. The trip was made over the Burlington, Rock Island and Lake Shore roads, the officials of which routes were courteous in their treatment of the members of the team and the officers, the colonel says. The Camp Perry range is an excellent place for expert rifle practice, the officers say, and they doubt if a better place could be secured.

"Nebraska will continue to attend these national rifle matches and we hope to make higher scores each succeeding year," says Colonel Osborne. "If we had had our own ammunition this year I believe we would have scored 300 points higher than we did, which would have placed us in about the twenty-seventh or twenty-eighth place, but I am glad that we made the score we did. Some time, I hope, Nebraska will carry off the high score, service teams or no service teams."

## President Canfield is Coming

**P**RESIDENT J. T. CANFIELD of Syracuse, N. Y., the head of the National Association of Railway Mail Clerks will be in Omaha September 17 and 18, on his annual tour through the west in the interest of the association. He will reach Omaha from Kansas City on the evening of September 17, and will remain over until the morning of the 18th. On Friday evening he will be tendered a banquet at the Rome hotel by the Omaha Railway Mail Clerks' association. F. H. Cole, president of the local association, will be in charge of the affair.

President Canfield is a native of New York, having been born in that state forty-one years ago and has since resided there. The first twenty-one years of his life was put in on a farm, and for twenty years he has been connected with the railway mail service, the last fourteen years of which he has been clerk in charge of a crew on the eastern division of the New York & Chicago Railway postoffice. He has always been a member of the railway mail association and was recently raised to the head of the national association of that organization. The purpose of the organization is to secure justice to the postal railway clerks in the matter of the allowance of expenses, and for the general betterment of the service along lines in conjunction with the Postoffice department with which the association works in the fullest harmony. The association further has an accident policy beneficiary fea-

ture of \$15 weekly indemnity and \$3,000 indemnity in case of death of a member through accident or other cause.

The great effort now before the organization is to secure an expense allowance to railway mail clerks while on governmental duty. In speaking of this matter recently President Canfield said: "The railway mail clerks are the only class of government employees who do not receive expenses when away from home on government business. But few private concerns or corporations apply this rule, while on the other hand their employees receive expenses while away from home on duty for their employers. As an instance there are some clerks on runs whose expenses are light on account of being at home every night, while others in the same class or grade are assigned to runs that keep them from home two or three days at a time and their expenses are correspondingly greater. We wish to equalize this matter, so that one clerk will receive as much as another, and so that both can carry the same amount of salary home with them."

Chief Clerk Keller of the Omaha division says on this subject: "The present rule is that the railway mail clerk must pay his own board and lodging expenses while on duty, regardless of the time that he may be absent from home. As an instance, a clerk on the Omaha and Orden run is obliged to foot his own expense bills at the end of his run away from his home and while on the run. He receives no expense allowance therefor."

# Outlook for the University of Omaha is Bright

**T**HE University of Omaha has been to the people of the city whose name it bears little more than a name. Bellevue college has been known and appreciated and the schools of law, medicine and dentistry in Omaha have been considered as very important factors in the city's educational facilities, but the University of Omaha has not been thought of as an organization embracing under one name all of these separated institutions.

With the taking out of new incorporation papers for the university and the organization of a new board of trustees, who are to work with the Bellevue board for the good of all the different departments, the university may be expected to

be entering upon a new existence under its own name. Dr. S. W. Stookey, A. M., LL. D., the newly-elected president of Bellevue college, is a graduate of Coe college and received his honorary degree from that institution. His work has been for the most part along scientific lines, but he has made a reputation as an administrative educator, and his experience as dean and acting president of Coe have well fitted him for the position he is assuming.

Bellevue, with its picturesque scenery and the magnificent "La Belle Vue," from old Elk hill, is at its best in the late summer, and the returning students find never-ending delights in its beauties. During the vacation about thirty of the members of the college have been living on the

campus and working on the college buildings. Clarke Hall, the building on the summit of the hill, which was so seriously damaged by the tornado in the spring, has been remodeled and a new tower gives a still better opportunity for enjoying the scenery down the river and across the valley to the bluffs. The other buildings have been redecorated and repaired by these students and the natural advantages of the campus have been carefully conserved, especially by the planting of additional trees.

The faculty of Bellevue for the coming year will be altered somewhat in addition to the new incumbent of the executive chair. Prof. Charles K. Hoyt, who has been for some time on leave of absence, returns to take up his work in the chair of English. The Bible classes will be as before conducted by Dr. Phelps, pastor of the Bellevue church; Dr. Tyler will be in charge of instruction in biology; Dr. Sternberg will teach ancient languages and literature, and Dr. Leonard will conduct the classes in economics and social science. Dr. Leonard has been during the sum-

mer in charge of the Associated charities in Omaha. Dean Calder has history, Dr. Adams, philosophy, and the normal courses; Prof. Schmidt, mathematics; Miss Carter, woman's dean, has modern languages, and Mr. Ruggles will conduct classes in physics and chemistry. Miss Leonard is to be absent for a year in France.

One of the changes of administrative policy due to the new executive is the decision that greater attention must be paid the academy department. The man to have charge of the new activity is Prof. Julian Olt. He will live in Philadelphia hall with the academy students and devote his entire time to their direction. In the academy classes he will have charge of the classics.

A number of departments are to have special attention this year. The training in pedagogy and normal work under Dr. Adams will be extended and the graduates are given state certificates by the State Department of Public Instruction. In public speaking Bellevue is fortunate in having Prof. James, a graduate of

Northwestern university, where he took post graduate courses in elocution and oratory. Music will be given more than usual attention and two new departments to be called business administration and household administration will be added to the curriculum. The last two named departments are to fill the growing need for higher commercial education so that the man entering business will have some competent knowledge of the principles of finance and economics.

The new foot ball coach, C. B. Cronk of Beloit will make an effort to maintain the high reputation, which Bellevue has made for itself in athletics and win the Nebraska college championship again this year. "Bill" Marvel captain of the eleven is confident of leading his men into first place with the same fine record that Bellevue had in 1907.

In every way the outlook for a successful year for the University of Omaha is bright and with its new incorporation and its new president may be expected to enjoy the greatest year since its founding.

## Gossip and Stories About Noted People

**Bryan and the Panther.**  
**T**EXAS hasn't grown so effete and supremely civilized yet as to lose the old time zest for playing pranks on tenderfeet," remarked Judge Frank Sebastian, of Waco.

"In bygone years the newcomer to our state who got off without being carried on a snipe hunt or some other equally futile expedition was in luck. The propensity to 'Josh' strangers exists to this day. Only a few years ago the late Governor J. E. Hogg perpetrated a trick along those lines on William Jennings Bryan that probably the Nebraskan has never found out. Bryan was spending some time in Austin, and he and the big governor were close friends.

"One day Bryan remarked that there no doubt was his game in the Colorado hills near the city, and if so he would greatly enjoy a hunt. 'Yes, indeed there is big game,' the governor answered, but added that it was not plentiful as in his younger days. A few mountain lions, panthers, bears and antelope could still be had by the skillful hunter. Hogg was laughing fit to kill all the while in his sleeve, for there was no game fiercer than a rabbit within 200 miles. Bryan was immensely pleased and nothing would do but to arrange a hunt. It happened that a local saloonkeeper did have a poor old toothless panther in the rear of his establishment and rode out of Austin mounted on splendid steeds and armed to the teeth in quest of savage wild animals. Bryan was the only innocent soul so completely he was duped by the wily

Hogg and his band of conspirators that he never knew when he took deliberate aim and brought down from a live oak limb the decrepit old panther that the whole thing was a put up job and that the victim looked like a 'plank.' The wily conspirator had the panther stuffed and presented to the slayer, and Bryan all the while imagined that he had gained fame among the Texans as a mighty hunter."—Baltimore American.

**When Watterston Boomed Johnson.**  
One of the best stories of the campaign up to date is told by Henry Watterston, the brilliant journalist, whom all men love and admire. It will be remembered that through many long and weary months Marce Henry boomed Governor Johnson of Minnesota for the democratic presidential nomination. He wrote for Johnson such editorials as he alone can write, gave out interviews and did everything in his power to set going a movement which should make Governor Johnson the victor at Denver. Finally he became wearied of his self-imposed task, and one fine day he dropped Johnson and came out for Bryan. Asked why he made this lightning change Mr. Watterston explained:

"My experience in booming Governor Johnson was a good deal like that of a friend of mine down in Kentucky. He went out in the country to address a political meeting in a school house. For an hour and a half he whooped it up in his best style, but couldn't get a rise out of his audience. The people sat still, just looking at him. He put on more steers and hit the air harder than before. Still there was no applause or demonstration either of approval or disapproval. They just sat there and looked at him. At last he thought he would test the sentiment of the crowd in another way. So he brought his speech abruptly to an end, and, turning to the chairman of

the meeting, offered a resolution to be adopted. This also was received in dead silence. No one offered to second whereupon my friend called out:

"Will some gentleman kindly second my motion?"

"At this juncture a tall, lanky fellow in the rear of the hall shouted at the top of his voice:

"Second your motion yourself, you big slob."—Walter Wellman in the Record-Herald.

**Origin of Uncle Remus' Stories.**  
Many great works of genius, as is well known, have been produced by accident, and an author is seldom the best judge of his own works, says Current Literature. When Joel Chandler Harris wrote the first of his "Uncle Remus" stories, and presented it for publication, he did so with a hundred misgivings. He was not sure that his ventures in negro folk-lore would prove successful. He could not know that they would bring him world-wide fame.

At the time described Mr. Harris was a young man of 23, employed on the Atlanta Constitution. Sam W. Small, afterwards a revivalist, who had been writing for the same paper a popular column of negro story and dialect, had just resigned from his own works, says Current Literature. The managing editor of the Constitution, wishing to continue the feature, said to Harris one day: "Joel, it seems to me you could do that sort of thing to a tee. See if you can't turn in something tonight."

The young writer's memory flitted back to his early days on a plantation. All the quaint settings of negro life—the little cabins, the fiddling darkies, the wrinkled story-teller, the black "mammies," the noisy corn-shuckings, the bob-tailed rabbits disappearing along the road—came hurrying from the past. Late that afternoon he turned in his copy. The next day his reputation was made.



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