

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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BEFORE AND AFTER TAKING.

In a frantic effort to elect Mr. Bryan without approving Bryanism, the New York World is making a desperate fight against President Roosevelt and what it is pleased to term "Rooseveltism." In a triple-headed editorial scream, the World declares that there in the lifetime of the republic has never been greater need of a virile, aggressive, uncompromising opposition to the party in power—to Rooseveltism, militarism, jingoism, centralization, personal government and panic. The World has a hope in Bryan. In an impassioned appeal to the Nebraska leader, it declares that "if Mr. Bryan should avoid all appeals to class prejudice; if he should prove that he is not the old Bryan, but a new Bryan, courageously leading the popular protest against the excesses of Rooseveltism, he can then appeal with fair prospects of success to the great independent vote."

The World is in position to judge whether Mr. Bryan will rise to the emergency, or is capable of arising to it. The World knows Mr. Bryan and has followed his career very closely. In February of the present year, only seven months ago, the World published a "Map of Bryanism," in pamphlet form, containing much of Mr. Bryan's record and a good deal of Mr. Roosevelt's. In that document, we find this from the New York World, in the form of an open letter to Mr. Bryan: Do you think that your theories would stand the test of a shadow of a chance against Mr. Roosevelt's record of actual achievement? For forty years democrats have denounced Wall street, the corporations, the money power, monopolies and railroad corruption in all its forms. But what democrat has ever done as much as Mr. Roosevelt to remedy the abuses which were in actual practice against the abuses of Wall street and the excesses of organized wealth than all the democrats of the United States put together. After what President Roosevelt and the republican party have actually done in the way of regulating railroads, would the American people trust you in preference to them to enforce Mr. Roosevelt's rate law? After what he and his administration have actually done in the enforcement of the Sherman law, would the people trust you in preference to them to curb monopolies?

No explanation is given to show why Mr. Roosevelt, who was the object of the glowing tribute of the World in February, should now be the object of the paper's vicious attacks, nor why Mr. Bryan, who was considered wholly incompetent to cross swords with Roosevelt in February, should be picked as the deliverer of the country from Roosevelt policies in October. The record fails to show that either Mr. Bryan or Mr. Roosevelt has done anything in the seven months to justify the new relation in which the New York World now holds them. To prove that the World was familiar, in February, with Mr. Bryan's record, the following excerpt is reproduced from the World's now famous, wholly accurate, "Map of Bryanism": To call the long roll, therefore, we find that you, Mr. Bryan, as the foremost popular candidate in America, have supported and voted for candidates who represent the following political principles: Protection, as to all, without the concurrence of other national Government loans to farmers. Government ownership and operation of railroads. Greenback inflation. Government ownership of telegraph and telephone lines. Election of United States senators by popular vote. Initiative and referendum. Election of United States judges by direct vote and for short terms. A scheme to pack the supreme court of the United States. No government "by injunction." Opposition to private contracts providing for the payment of gold. Government ownership of interstate railroads and state ownership of state utilities in cities. Stripping the United States courts and counteracting the jurisdiction over questions arising under the constitution.

A man of your ability and address, Mr. Bryan, cannot forever assal constitutions, courts, law, wealth property, credit, national honor and private faith without building up a following which will have to be reckoned with sometime. It cannot forever inflame social discontent without creating class hatred and sowing the seed of a class war. If the New York World has discovered any reason why Bryan, who was denounced in February as a demagogue, should now be considered a safe and sane statesman, abundantly to be trusted, and that Mr. Roosevelt, who was applauded in February for doing more than all the democrats put together in regulating governmental abuses, it should take the people into its confidence. The public is disposed to accept the estimate of the two men made by the World in February.

FUTURE OF OMAHA WOOD MARKET. The people of Omaha, and especially the business interests of this city, are justly jubilant over the successful establishment of a wool market in Omaha and the progress already made in securing recognition for this market as a wool storage and distributing center. There is no question that Omaha can become a wool market of the first magnitude, if normal conditions continue without interference or disturbance, because this city is the focal point for a great wool-producing region in which only a beginning has been made in the way of sheep raising. The sheep country tributary to Omaha extends to the north and west of us all the way into and across the Rocky mountains and, so long as the industry remains profitable, sheep raising is sure to expand and the wool from the backs of the sheep is sure to be sent in greater volume to Omaha to find its market outlet. The future of Omaha as a wool market depends, however, as we have said, upon the maintenance of normal conditions and the principal factor in the maintenance of these normal conditions is the protection of the sheep-raising industry by the tariff on wool. This is where the tariff issue touches Omaha directly and vitally. Mr. Bryan when in congress introduced and

championed a bill for free wool and he has put himself on record repeatedly against the protective duties which have fostered the sheep industry.

The election of Mr. Bryan, followed up by his free trade tariff, could not possibly be anything but a set-back to Omaha's wool market, while the election of Taft and endorsement of the protective tariff will insure its continued forward strides.

Every person in Omaha who votes for Bryan and democratic free trade by his vote knocks upon Omaha's wool market. Our people have just put in much time and been to no little expense to get the wool market started. We submit that it would be foolish for them to vote at the coming election to undo their own work.

MR. TAFT IN THE SOUTH. Practical politicians will agree, perhaps, that Mr. Taft has been wasting his time by making a tour of the south, at least so far as the effects of the trip upon the present campaign are concerned, for there is but slight prospect that any of the states he has visited will be found in the republican column on election day and there is urgent demand for his voice and presence in states that are considered debatable. Mr. Taft's determination to make the trip, however, is characteristic of the man. He has felt it to be his duty to make a tour of the south and he has never shirked a duty. He has insisted that a presidential candidate who makes speeches at all should not ignore any section of the country, merely because it was politically hostile to him, and he has insisted that it was his duty to win as many votes in the south as possible, even if he could not gain a sufficient number in any state to count for him in the electoral college. "The southern states are a part of the union," says Mr. Taft, and it is contrary to their interests to remain a permanent asset of the democratic party of the north, to be delivered en bloc no matter what the interest or issue at stake." Reasons for his trip, reasons that must appeal to thinking southern voters, were expressed at Chattanooga when he said:

If the south wants political influence it has got to exercise intelligence in the discharge of its political duty. Ask yourselves where would be your cotton manufacturers, your furniture factories, if the republican policy of protection was departed from. How is it that our democratic friends can go on voting one way and hoping to God that something would happen to make their votes count for nothing? There comes a time when you can run adherence to traditions into the ground, and I think that time has come now.

There could be no more glorious outcome, for the south, of Mr. Taft's trip than that four or five of the southern states should lay the race issue aside and vote for their interests and the popular ticket. It would cause a speedy and needed realignment and reorganization of the democratic party, for the wholesome good of both parties. The democratic party would become much more efficient and attractive if it became a national rather than a sectional party. The south is injuring itself by being a "perpetual asset" of the democratic party of the north, swallowing issues that are nauseating and candidates who are obnoxious, solely because it has orders from headquarters to do so.

Mr. Taft may not gain any electoral college votes by his tour of the south, but he will gain approbation from all classes for being big enough to lay prospects of immediate political reward aside long enough to give expression to a national spirit that protests against an abnormal political condition that does not promote the national welfare.

A CENSUS OF THE TREES. The National Conservation commission has undertaken the big task of making a census of the trees of the nation, the proposition being to have the standing timber of the country counted in order that plans for the conservation of the forests may be entered upon with accurate information as to supply now on hand. The enumeration is deemed essential, in view of the conflicting opinions of experts as to the timber now on hand and the time it may be relied upon to last. Secretary Wilson of the Department of Agriculture declares that we are cutting more timber each year than grows in three and that the available supply will be exhausted within twenty years. Other experts insist that the visible supply of timber has been underestimated and that the country has sufficient stock in sight to meet demands for a half-century.

The forestry bureau at Washington estimates the standing timber, board measurement, at 1,000,000,000,000, which is about an average of the high and low estimates of other experts. The annual consumption is estimated at 100,000,000,000, so the available supply cannot last more than a dozen years. The annual replacement, of course, will lengthen the time for the final exhaustion of the available supply, but no accurate method has been devised to estimate this annual replacement. The national forest reserves now cover 165,000,000 acres of ground and the produce of those areas can be carefully and accurately ascertained and the cut made to correspond with the replacement. It is important that the country should know just how much lumber is annually required, the quantity held by the federal government, the states and individual owners, and to what extent forest culture must be increased to supply the present and probable future demand. The proposed census will, therefore, be of great value in opening the eyes of congress and the legislatures of the states to the importance of more comprehensive measures for the encouragement of forest culture and the prevention of waste. The

public right in this great national resource is greater than any individual or corporate right to destroy the country's timber for immediate profit.

INTEMPERANCE IN THE ARMY.

It is a matter of historic record that courts martial adjourn at 3 p. m. each day out of respect for an old precedent, established in the British army at a time when all the officers were members of the nobility and therefore "gentlemen" and, according to custom, "no gentleman is supposed to be sober after 3 o'clock." The American army fortunately has not followed the British custom in the matter of intemperity, but it is only of late years that it has been considered bad form and injurious to the good of the service for an officer to indulge his cups liberally. The demands for the improvement of the standard of the army, both as to officers and enlisted men, has resulted in some drastic action in checking excessive drinking. An instance in point is furnished in the case of Captain Hancock of the coast artillery, who has just been reduced in lineal rank upon conviction of using intoxicants to excess.

In approving the sentence of the court-martial, General Frederick D. Grant wrote: Under modern conditions there does not exist in the United States a large corporation engaged in industry, manufacturing or transportation that would retain in its employ a position of trust and responsibility a man with the personal habits of intemperance such as is proven the accused has had. The standard of efficiency in the army, instead of being lower, should be higher than that required by the most perfectly organized corporation, and the evil effects upon discipline of an example of chronic alcoholism in one selected for command are too great to be tolerated. For these reasons the sentence is believed to be inadequate, and is therefore reluctantly approved. The department commander trusts that this trial and the resultant punishment will convince Captain Hancock, if he desires to remain in the service, of the necessity of a complete change in his habits.

The incident is chiefly significant in that it places official discountenance upon the old habit of drunkenness so common in other days among both officers and gentlemen. That published list of contributions to the Bryan campaign fund falls to disclose the \$10,000 raised by the Bryan volunteers of Nebraska. Under the Nebraska corrupt practices law this money is to be accounted for just as much as the donations direct to the campaign treasurers, but, evidently, the democratic manipulators have no more intention of observing this law this year than they have in previous years.

Preliminaries have been completed for the enlargement of the city jail and its temporary use by the county while the new county building is in course of construction. This ought to settle the jail problem in Omaha for some time to come, but it does not satisfy the need of a workhouse, which must be the next addition to our punitive institutions.

The next legislature of Nebraska is going to have a safe working republican majority in both houses. That much is conceded by everyone. If Douglas county wants to have a delegation at Lincoln that can be relied on to look after its interests it will see to it that it sends a republican delegation able to keep in touch with the majority.

American astronomers insist that the new comet has a tail and the French astronomers deny it. We hope the Americans are right, as this is a poor year to work up enthusiasm over a bob-tailed comet.

The Lloyds are writing insurance against a European war and offering odds of 33 to 1. Lloyds do not believe there is any more chance of an European war than there is of Bryan being elected.

"For argument's sake," says a democratic spellbinder, "let us concede that the charges against Governor Haskell are true." The words "for argument's sake" are wholly superfluous.

Mr. Bryan's biggest campaign contribution, so far as published, comes from the regularly retained lawyer of the traction monopoly at Denver. Will the money be returned? Hardly.

A Connecticut man has been fined \$20 for kissing his own wife in the park. Still, he got off cheaper than if he had been caught kissing some other man's wife in the park.

A New York athlete is asking \$20,000 from a girl who flitted him. He cannot be much of an athlete or he would be ashamed to admit that a girl threw him.

Former Senator Clark of Montana says Bryan will not disturb business. For a number of reasons, one of which is he will not get the chance.

Carnegie Forgets His Rule. Boston Herald.

ON PRESIDENTIAL FIRING LINE.

Mr. Bryan's Crooked Views on Economic Questions. Pittsburg Dispatch (rep.).

A remarkable illustration has just been given by Mr. Bryan of his inability to get a straight view of economic questions. He has given this example in Nebraska, where he is covering the towns in which Judge Taft and Governor Hughes made speeches. It will be recalled that in Nebraska Mr. Taft called attention to the price of wheat in democratic times and the change since then. The difference is greatly to the advantage of the farmer, since the price of wheat departed from Mr. Bryan's imaginary parity with the price of silver.

Now Mr. Bryan says to his fellow Nebraskans: "Has not the price of wheat advanced in free trade England as well as here? Has not the price of wheat gone up all over the world as much as in this country under republican rule?" And Mr. Bryan fondly believes this is a crushing answer to the argument of Mr. Taft. He is apparently as sure now that conditions in this country do not affect the price of wheat as he was in 1894 that America could ordain the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 "without the consent of any other nation."

Such is Mr. Bryan's peculiar mental strabismus on all financial and economic questions. From free trade England and other posts and the price of wheat. To the minds of ordinary mortals it appears the price of wheat is controlled by the law of supply and demand, not by the price of silver, as Mr. Bryan once claimed. The supply now is somewhat greater than during the democratic times, when the price was the foreign demand, that is, from "free trade England" and from "all over the world." It is not much, if any, greater now than then. Where, then, is the difference that gives cause for the farmer's broad smile? It is created by the demand of the home market, set up under republican politics. This is the sound logic of Mr. Taft. But to Mr. Bryan, having abandoned his imaginary relation between the price of silver and the price of wheat, the prosperity of American manufacturers has nothing to do with the advanced price of wheat, because the price has gone up all over the world.

Those laborers who have come here from Europe to share in our prosperity since the passing of Mr. Bryan's repudiation threat in 1896 have been added to the number of the world's wheat eaters. In their native countries they did not eat wheat, because they could not afford it. Yet Mr. Bryan asks his fellow farmers in Nebraska how could the republican policies have affected the price of their product? His case is hopeless!

Fifty Per Cent Trust Remedy. New York Tribune (rep.). The destructive effects of Governor Hughes' criticism of Mr. Bryan's trust regulation scheme are obvious from the Nebraskan's attempt to reply to it. At first Mr. Bryan apparently tried to ignore the New York governor's criticism, and so after several weeks he has been forced to take it up and endeavor to combat it. In doing so he adopts the regular device of the controversialist whose case has been hopelessly demolished—namely, a personal attack upon his adversary. Mr. Hughes is an eastern man, Mr. Bryan writes his hearers and, therefore, properly an object of suspicion. Can anything good come out of New York? Several rich men contributed to Governor Hughes' campaign fund two years ago. And, last of all, he vetoed the 2-cent fare bill.

These are the only answers the democratic candidate has to Governor Hughes' convincing demonstration that his trust plan is nothing but a dream, the wild guess of an utterly impractical man at the campaign starting point. Mr. Bryan presents no reply to the question that his 50 per cent remedy would do nothing to cut out that Governor Hughes pointed out are not explained away, except that Mr. Bryan declares that his remedy would not be applied to monopolies existing under patent rights. All that he has to offer in defense of his claims is an hazy and indefinite as the scheme itself.

Campaign Honors. New York Evening Post (ind.). Now that a Jewish citizen, 106 years old, has returned from Jerusalem in order to vote for the republican ticket, there could be no doubt, that if election it were not for the fact that someone out in Ohio or Kansas an almost equally aged German citizen grasped Mr. Bryan's hand and said: "I have voted for every anti-democratic candidate since Jackson, but you are a good man, Mr. Bryan, and you vote this year for you." It is such conflicting factors that make the task of the political prophet exceptionally hard this year. Here, for instance, is the forecast of Mr. Alton B. Parker's farm who is a republican, but is going to vote for Bryan this year. But against him we may have to count the factors of Mr. Hitchcock's office boy who has been won over from a life-long affiliation with Tammany to enthusiastic support of Taft. In West Virginia, the father of eleven sons has assured Mr. Taft that twelve republican votes may be had from his household, but at the same time he read among the enthusiastic Bryanites of Guthrie, Okla., the father of twenty-eight children, of whom twenty-one are alive. On the whole the safest thing is to hold that the candidate who gets the greatest number of votes will win.

Rather Cheap. Kansas City Star (ind.). Let it be noted once more that for a big man Mr. Bryan can do some surprisingly small things.

For example, in discussing the effect of his possible election, in a speech delivered at Tecumseh, Neb., Mr. Bryan said: "There will be a panic in one family, and that will be the Taft family, for Mr. Taft's federal salary will be withdrawn for the first time in twenty years."

Mr. Bryan? You infer that he is, but you know that he is not.

Has any other man in the public service given better value for the federal salary he has received than has Mr. Taft? It is believed that Mr. Taft has the prosperity of his country much more at heart than he has his own salary. Considering this reference to salary, one can not be so sure about Mr. Bryan.

Taft Presents the Facts. Baltimore American (rep.). Those who have been reading Mr. Taft's speeches during the present campaign must have observed that the republican presidential candidate illustrates his argument continuously by the citation of circumstances. He is not given to a fanciful, glittering generality sort of speech-making. As he himself has expressed it, he does not "float away into the cerulean" but he proves his statements with the care of a lawyer arguing a case before a critical and discriminating judge.

A Barometer that Tells. Baltimore American. The American people spent this year nearly \$200,000,000 on base ball. There have been some floating theories that the country has not entirely shaken off the effects of the 1907 panic, but there is nothing panicky-looking about those base ball gate money assets