

# BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT

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## WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

David Overmyer Talks of the Past, Present and Future of Kansas Politics.



UNION will make way for amalgamation. Principles will fix party lines, and not names. The people of Kansas have not changed, it is the parties which have changed. Thus declares Hon. David Overmyer in a recent interview with a Kansas City times reporter.

Mr. Overmyer related some late political history. "The campaigns of 1882 and 1886," he said, "were fought over a State issue—prohibition. In 1886 the great heat of the consuming fire of monopoly was beginning to be felt. The republican managers indicated their ultimate preference by trying to destroy John Anderson, the republican champion of the people, of the Fifth Congressional district. The people did not yet see the drift of the machine. It may be doubted if those in charge all saw it.

"In 1888 was fought in Kansas the first great battle against monopoly. That campaign witnessed a great debate in all parts of the State over tariff. No such campaign had been known in Kansas up to that time. The republican leaders abandoned the people, abandoned their former professions, and went over to the so-called protection, and under the impetus of a Presidential election carried the State by an immense majority. They did so in large part by the votes of men who were not in sympathy with their apostasy to Western and Kansas interests, but were not yet ready to break with their party.

"The defeat of the Republicans in the elections for the Legislature in 1890 and the overthrow of Ingalls were the direct result of the splendid discussion of the economic issues in 1888 by sturdy and able Democrats and enthusiastic and ardent union laborites.

"Since 1888 Kansas has never for one hour been Republican in sentiment or principle, for while in 1890 the Republicans, by the most questionable methods, contrived to eke out a beggarly plurality for the State ticket; and while in 1894, with four tickets in the field, they again elect their State ticket yet since the rise of economic issues they never have been in possession of both houses of the Legislature, and have lost the electoral vote of the State in two successive Presidential elections.

"The State is no longer Republican simply because the Republican party no longer espouses the people's cause. It no longer speaks the language of Kansas. It deserted the people of the west upon the tariff in 1888, and deserted them upon the money question in 1896. Within ten years it has completely changed front in Kansas, but the majority of the people have remained where they always was—true to themselves and true to the West.

"Bryan's majority in the State was about 13,000. If the opposition to the Republican party remains united, Republican chances of again carrying the State are very remote.

"But what of the future?" was asked. "The course of a great political party," Mr. Overmyer replied, can not be determined by considerations of men and patronage, but must be determined by considerations of public policy. The people at large don't care whether this man or that man fills some appointive office or employment. They want just and humane laws and honest, intelligent, economical government. They know that the Republican party, ruled as it is by special and selfish interests and the organized rapacity of the country, can not give them relief. They know that in Kansas a large majority of the people are opposed to the Republican party. The political leader, therefore, who seeks to introduce confusion and dissension into the ranks of the op-

position should be prepared to justify his course upon principle. He need not hope to enlist popular sympathy in any disappointment he may feel about the bestowal of patronage.

"Parties and issues are not made to order. They arise out of conditions. The condition of the masses of the people of this country is such that they will continue to demand relief from the hydra-headed economic despotism which is steadily and rapidly impoverishing and degrading them. They demand, as leaders, men who will cut and slash, not at one, or even at two, but all the heads of this monster—men who will fight monopoly and privilege in every form—men who will fight protection and the gold standard—men who will demand just taxation, direct taxation, not only on incomes but on inordinate wealth—men who will take the transportation tyranny by the throat—men who will demand that railroads shall be in fact what they are in theory, public highways—men who will limit corporate activity to a minimum—men who will put the makers and operators of trusts in the penitentiary, where they belong—men who are not afraid to trust the people even with the power of direct legislation—men deeply resolved that the masses shall have the benefit of improved methods of production, and that a few shall not own all the property of this country—men who realize that the burning issue of the hour is industrial, financial, economic emancipation.

"These are the views of the men of Kansas who, calling themselves what they might united in voting and carrying the State first for Weaver, the Populist and next for Bryan, the Democrat. Petty, designing and disgruntled politicians whose goal is the pie counter, will find that they can not easily separate these allies. To separate now would be to destroy all hope of popular amelioration by peaceful methods.

"It may therefore, be safely predicted that the present coalition will be maintained with the result ultimately of amalgamating its elements into a composite mass, Sore-headed and disappointed men, if they expect any political future, will do well to remember that the condition of the people will determine the course of men and parties, and that unless some unforeseen good fortune shall come to this country, the present political situation will not only continue but will be intensified.

"Not that one party shall be wholly ignored, as in 1892, but that all in sympathy with the masses shall be recognized as in 1896, remembering always that in numbers, knowledge and civic discipline of true Democracy—the Democracy of 1896—are the potentialities without which the pioneer corps of scouts and skirmishers can never gain a victory for the people."

The DEMOCRAT "didn't do a thing to" Dan Coughlin last week. Our readers may have supposed that some new Frenchman had been engaged as manager of J. A. Rehn's racket and dry goods department. But such was not the case it was just a "case" of badly mixed type, that is all. There is nothing French about Dan, as can be settled to your entire satisfaction by reading his well written ad this week, and then calling on him at Rehn's.

On Thursday and Friday evenings April 15th and 16th, Kueffer Bro. will appear at the Grand opera house with their musical concert and Stereopticon Exhibition. A good two hours' entertainment is guaranteed. Admission 15 cents. The Ness county paper's speak very flattering of their show.

They tell that Mr. Litchfield, the view artist, planted his instruments in the middle of the street, anchored them down with railroad iron, and prepared to get a snap shot at the "twister" that threatened Claffin recently. But the "twister" proved only to be a "straight" blow.

A Prospective party for the CANADIAN NORTHWEST passing through MINNESOTA and DAKOTA will leave Great Bend the first week in May. Anyone wanting a pleasant trip and free land should join the party. For information, apply to M. Gillmore.

## LOCAL HAPPENINGS.

Spring chicken will soon be ripe. Now Mr. Guttersnipe, "will you be good."

Harry Turck was up from Ellinwood Monday.

What a dam—p wet country this has got to be, anyway

The city election is over. Now what will you talk about?

Harry Brooker was up from Hutchinson the last of the week.

B. T. Cutler has sold his billiard ball business to J. L. Bleiler.

The township assessors are pretty well through with their work.

Word is received here that Elmer Dawson is quite dangerously sick.

Mrs. J. Rasor returned last week, after an absence of about three weeks.

County teachers association meeting at Great Bend on Saturday, April 10th.

The "Rabbit's Foot Athletic Club" of this city, is arranging a prize fight.

O. J. Richards was up from Hutchinson to spend Sunday with his family.

C. H. Mayer, of Olmitz, was doing business with the county clerk, Monday.

Get your name on the DEMOCRAT list and receive the news fresh each week.

The county commissioners will meet the first Monday in each month hereafter.

The Capital Elevator was blown down, at Bazine, Rush county, Friday night.

Somebody has given that "returning prosperity" a lefthanded blow over the heart.

Wm. Hossack and Ed. Gano are in Utah this week, after another lot of cattle.

Mrs. George Parker from Hoisington visited her parents, O. A. Martin's Sunday.

Mrs. John Dickson visited her son, Frank, who is at school in Wichita, last week.

The Topeka Advocate has been made the official state paper. A very proper selection.

Delbert Stryker went to Topeka last week, to assume his duties as bond clerk in his uncle's office.

What's the reason we do not now-a-days make the kids drink saffron tea, in the spring time?

Councilman George Kincaid is having his livery stable office repapered and fitted up in good shape.

Jimmie Slinn has had his shoe shop repapered and floored, and is now as neat and clean as a new pin.

It would not be a bad idea to have a cyclone cave. Dig you one before spring work is rushing you.

Mrs. C. E. Bradley, from Logan county, Kans., is visiting with the family of Postal Clerk Freeland.

A whole lot of people were in town Monday, all speaking in a good vein—all on account of the big rains.

Bishop & Co. are making a bid for your cash by cutting the price of groceries all to pieces. See their ad.

Chas. Pelter has rented the Jake Miller barn, and Mart Swift now makes headquarters at the Spencer barn.

Miss Jennie Laidlaw, now a typo on the Ellinwood Leader, was up to visit her parents in Great Bend Sunday.

Geo. W. Norris, one of Claffin's substantial business men, was over to the county seat on business Monday.

Hub Stover, of Claffin, and J. M. Traylor of Cleveland township, did business in Great Bend last Thursday.

The troubles of the candidates for city offices are now over. And some of them "ought to be thankful for that."

Many motives lead to church, as each observer knows; some, we surmise, to close their eyes, but more to eye their clothes.

Those who bet on George Moses and John Dawson being elected had a sure sinch on winning. But nobody thought of betting that way.

Tom Brewer was down from Pawnee Rock Monday. He says the silver forces there are preparing a "roast" for the derelict legislators.

Garden making is the order of the day. Young vegetables had better not get too fresh however, as there are liable to be some hard frosts yet.

G. N. & E. R. Moses have a live American eagle, and a live wild goose in their furniture show window, which attract considerable attention.

We have had to issue a supplement the past two weeks, to accommodate our advertisers. And there has been no patent, plate stuff used either.

A young married man down in the 4th ward wishes he was a somnambulist, so he could walk the floor with the baby without losing so much sleep.

The old council and school board held farewell meetings, Monday night. The council will meet Friday night to canvass the votes cast in the city election.

Guy Verbeck, of the north part of the county, is home again from the east. Guy thinks that Barton county will hold her own with any place he has been.

The boys are playing marbles, the women are making garden and the big hulks of men are down on Allen's corner telling about how it happened last Tuesday.

Judge Andrews, of LaCrosse, was a Great Bend visitor last Saturday. He has no kick on account of his judicial district being enlarged by the abolishment of Vandiver.

Will some of our farmer friends trade us a good plug of a buggy horse for fruit trees from the Great Bend nurseries? Call at this office, and see what we have to offer.

According to the Kansas City Times "Thomas Moses and James Samuels" each had buildings blown down at Claffin, last Wednesday. That's tough on Tommy and Jimmie.

THE new tariff law very appropriately dates from April 1st. It will in time prove the greatest "April fool" the republicans have ever perpetrated upon the American people.

One of the first things the new administration ought to do, when it gets properly organized for work, is to condemn a whole lot of defective walks and wood crossings about the city.

The Ellinwood Leader, in another "open letter," announces that that is the last it will have to say concerning Superintendent Harrison and the school scrap. Sensible announcement.

A few of the friends of Frank B. Patterson called at his home last Thursday night and gave him a birthday surprise party. "Hard boiled eggs" were the special feature of the evening.

Miss Carrie Lightbody came back, from Clinton, Mo., the first of the week, and will take the position of book keeper at the Walnut Creek Mills, made vacant by the resignation of Miss Louie Frost.

Keep this fact in mind: The DEMOCRAT is not filled with patent medicineads, or plate matter furnished free of cost by eastern politicians. It is not \$1.50, or \$2.00 a year, but straight \$1. a year to everybody.

L. C. Miller, of Great Bend, and Miss Cora Johnson of Reno county, were married last Saturday at the residence of Frank Dell, Judge Breeden performing the ceremony. The DEMOCRAT extends congratulations.

A soaking rain fell over the whole county last Friday night, soaking the ground up thoroughly and filling the creeks to raging torrents. A cold, heavy north wind following all day Saturday, making outdoor business very unpleasant.

The ladies of the Friends' church gave a Japanese Fan Drill and Musical, at the Hoisington opera house on the night of the 6th inst., which is reported as being highly pleasing and reasonably profitable.

Tuesday was an awful disagreeable, wet, cold day for election purposes. You fellows who got left can lay the blame to the weather.

## CITY ELECTION TABLE, APRIL 6, 1897.

CANDIDATES.	1st Ward.	2d Ward.	3d Ward.	4th Ward.	Total.	Majority.
<b>Mayor—</b>						
Geo. N. Moses, C & R	140	103	223	135	512	511
<b>Clerk—</b>						
Geo. Crummack, C	80	103	126	58	367	23
J. A. Townsley, R	30	85	116	78	309	
<b>City Treasurer—</b>						
Louis Zutavern, C	84	95	129	78	386	125
E. W. Hoisinger, R	34	68	106	72	280	
<b>Marshal—</b>						
Geo. W. Moore, C	35	59	124	69	287	84
R. T. Ewalt, R	52	119	135	68	374	
<b>Police Judge—</b>						
W. M. Gunnell, C	57	90	131	66	344	67
R. T. Ewalt, R	38	74	112	59	283	
<b>Justices of the Peace—</b>						
J. H. Jennison, C	23	65	95	36	219	5
D. J. Newton, C	33	51	77	53	214	
B. F. Ogle, R	25	32	83	33	173	2
A. J. Buckland, R	23	51	53	24	151	
<b>Constables—</b>						
W. H. Zutavern, C	37	44	89	30	200	35
J. W. Dawson, C & R	47	92	131	81	351	143
J. R. Brown, R	58	36	52	31	177	
<b>Street Commissioner—</b>						
W. A. Rush, C	57	112	160	66	395	173
J. P. Slomger, R	34	56	83	50	223	
<b>School Treasurer—</b>						
A. C. Allen, C	56	86	113	58	313	21
G. L. Chapman, R	38	87	123	74	322	
<b>Conciliated—</b>						
W. F. Hensen, C	30				30	21
Jas. Savage, R	51				51	
<b>School Board—</b>						
Ed. Tyler, C	47				47	8
C. G. Morrison, R	39				39	
<b>Councilman—</b>						
John Dickson, C & R	185				185	185
<b>School Board—</b>						
Wm. Osmond, C	85				85	1
C. E. Dodge, R	81				81	
<b>Councilmen—</b>						
G. C. Kincaid, C	126				126	9
Thos. Clayton, R	115				115	
<b>School Board—</b>						
D. C. Luce, C	147				147	46
M. L. Crow, R	101				101	
<b>Councilmen—</b>						
H. L. Shure, C	56				56	16
L. N. Withide, R	74				74	
<b>School Board—</b>						
L. N. Woodward, C	87				87	45
E. P. Smith, R	41				41	

The "Citizen's Ticket" wins. The candidates on it who are elected are: Geo. Moses, Geo. Crummack, Louis Zutavern, W. M. Gunnell, J. H. Jennison, W. H. Zutavern, John Dawson, W. A. Rush, Ed. Tyler, John Dickson, Will Osmond, and D. C. Luce—12. The straight republicans elect R. T. Ewalt, B. F. Ogle, G. L. Chapman, J. Savage, Tom Clayton, L. N. Withide and E. P. Smith—7. Twelve to seven is not bad. Next time lets make it 16 to 1.

A monkey may be taught to drink, smoke or chew tobacco, but you can't teach him to circulate campaign lies. In this the monk is one grade above some fellows who were on the streets a few days since.

Evidently Great Bend has outgrown the time when unscrupulous ward heelers could run her affairs. And "we ought to be thankful for that."

The curfew bell will continue to ring at the usual hour, and "Uncle Dick" will pull the string—and any other old thing that needs pulling.

George Caraway was elected a member of the board of education in the part of the school district outside of the city limits.

Buck's majority for justice of the peace evidently sailed away in that air ship recently seen down about Kansas City.

Jennison 1st, Ogle 2d, Newron 3d—and Buckland also ran.

O, the bosses' friends "were not so many."

Bill and John will serve the papers. "Ships that pass in the night"—air ships.

Notice the change on G. N. & E. R. Moses' ad.

Rev. S. P. Glass and family removed to Ness City this week.

The board of county commissioners meet next Monday, the 12th inst.

The Ellinwood ticket was elected, Monday, from top to bottom. Good!

Ladies should read the announcement of the Cyclone, to be found elsewhere.

"The war is over." Will the Trib; une and all such old fashioned cranks take notice.

Charlie Vancil, the U. S. mail messenger had his usual weekly runaway Monday night.

The New York Store has something especially interesting in its advertisement this week.

Drs. Cashman & Sapers, the specialists who have been here the past week, are at Ellinwood this week.