

**The Democrat.**  
BRONSON & GARR, Publishers.  
MANCHESTER, IOWA.

Will the new shirt waist man scream at a spider?  
Brother Diaz of Mexico is on about as good terms with his job as any statesman now on the payroll.

A burglar in New Jersey tickles the feet of his victims when he is caught. This is to show them where the laugh comes in.

China has one-fourth of the world's population, one-twelfth of the world's land area, and it is likely, in the near future, to have the largest graveyard on record.

The Sultan is horrified at the treatment of Christians in China. We suspect, however, that he has a good chuckle all to himself after every thrill of horror.

It is really startling to learn that the New York "pantsmaker" have been attacked. One would naturally suppose that in Gotham they would be "trousers constructors."

The whale that sank the pilot boat has fed very nicely over his success, but some day he will try his little game on a torpedo boat and then old Neptune will see a commotion on his premises.

A religious (?) man rents a pew for \$5,000 a year and it has not been a very successful investment. He has not seen a cent of the advance on \$5,000. The eye of the needle will be extremely small for that man.

Writing love stories caused the insanity of a young woman of Cleveland. The particular difficulty is not specified, but it is probable that her mind became unbalanced from efforts to send a love letter to a man who had never been mentioned in the question, "How should men propose?"

The circumstance that three Paris physicians have, after deep and exhaustive investigation, discovered an anti-alcoholic serum is, of course, important. Its importance is somewhat lessened, however, by the circumstance that a San Francisco physician made the same discovery about four years ago. Being an American, he got some recognition. Medical discoveries, like other prophets, require a foreign trademark in order to secure attention.

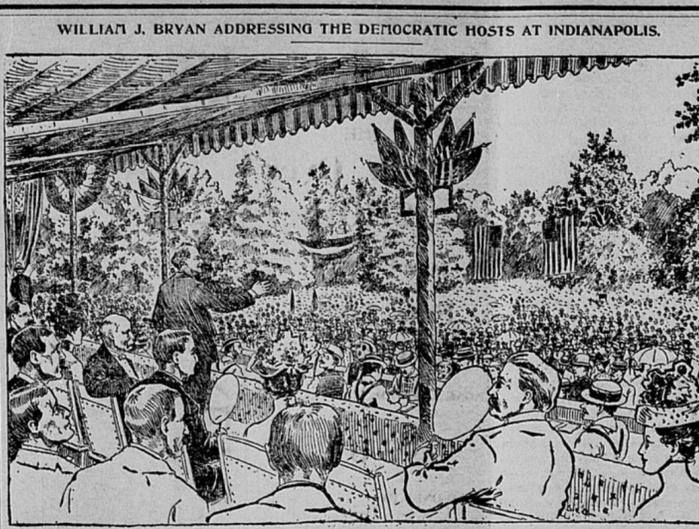
When it is said that the Deutschland has crossed the Atlantic at an average speed of twenty-three knots an hour the average landsman is much impressed. Yet he usually does not realize the full significance of the statement. A knot, or nautical mile, is 6,080 feet longer than a statute mile. The average speed of twenty-three knots means that the Deutschland made an average of twenty-six and a half miles an hour, or 336 miles a day. The most incredible performance of the human mind is the ocean steamship. The most incredible part of that performance is the marine engine.

The extraordinary carelessness of parents in leaving dangerous drugs within reach of children is a most heart-breaking and dangerous oversight. A few weeks ago a man bought some chloroform with which to kill a dog, and while waiting to use it, wrapped the bottle in a cloth and put it into a basket with other children's toys. It, presumably, fancied it a sick doll, and took it to bed with them. In the morning the child clasping the unopened bottle was found dead; the other unconscious, past recovery. A bitter experience emphasizing the need of care and of forgotten warning that the first essential for the family medicine-chest is a lock and key.

Miss Helen Gould knows how to be happy, though rich. The pretty story of the dance at Fort X, where, in which Miss Gould waltzed with the troopers and had a good democratic time, is one of many. It is the art of being human—human in manner, thought and sympathy. It is not easy for one overwhelmed with money to escape the sin of pride and avoid the aloofness which draws a line between fortune's pets and common humanity. But Miss Gould does it simply and naturally. It is an example worthy of imitation. Great wealth has made the means of happiness only when employed as other gifts should be—in making others happy. Selfishness is the one unfailing source of misery. To be happy one should think nothing of one's self, but everything of others. Miss Gould seems to be unostentatiously practicing this human art.

Once more the dark shadow of tragedy rests upon the Italian peninsula, as it so often has rested in its great past. The assassination of King Humbert of Italy at Monza, the ancient capital of the Lombard kings, comes with a greater shock of surprise now to the civilized world than it would have done eight or ten years ago, when his country was staggering under the enormous burden of taxation necessary to keep Italy in line with the other members of Europe's famous "League of Peace," the triple alliance. Had it occurred even so late as the Abyssinian war, when Italy turned to its king and exclaiming, "Where are the legends? Where are the legends? Where are the legends?" it would, in either of these cases at least, have been explainable, even though unjust and foolish. Coming now when Italy, though still under heavy burdens, has reached a condition in striking contrast to that of eight or ten years ago, when she has healed, partially at least, the wounds of Adowa, the dastardly crime which has shocked the world lacks any explanation except the obvious and charitable one of insanity. It is true the socialists and anarchists as late as 1888 succeeded in raising riots which at one time seemed to threaten the perpetuity of the government, but the people as a mass did not sympathize with these riots to order and settled progress. The peasantry have been gradually gaining in comfort, education and self-respect; the country is at peace; the son of Victor Emmanuel was recognized as the "royal king" who always kept his word; as the "gentle king" who the monarch always courteous to his humblest subjects; and as the "soldier king," whose valor was never questioned. Under these circumstances it is charitable to believe that the assassin who has plunged Italy in mourning is insane. Should it prove otherwise the terrible crime would make the friends of progress and order throughout the world less optimistic in their hope and belief.

The action of the officials of the Rock Island Road in placing a ban on cigarette smoking on the part of employees, following similar action by the Burlington road, will not fail to impress the



WILLIAM J. BRYAN ADDRESSING THE DEMOCRATIC HOSTS AT INDIANAPOLIS.

**CAMPAIGN IS OPENED.**  
BRYAN'S INDIANAPOLIS SPEECH THE KEYNOTE.

Wave of Democratic Enthusiasm Felt All Over the Country—Presidential Candidate's Plain and Forceful Declaration of His Intentions.

Washington correspondence: Bryan's speech of acceptance at Indianapolis starts the Democratic campaign with a wave of enthusiasm which can be felt all over the country. His denunciation of imperialism will rank as an effort of oratory worthy to be placed beside the utterances of Jefferson and Lincoln, when those great leaders discussed the principles upon which human liberty and independent government is founded. Bryan's analysis of the whole situation is clear and convincing. He has a remedy and he gives it so that no man may mistake its meaning. He says that, if elected, he will at once convene Congress in extra session and recommend an immediate declaration of the Central and South American under the Monroe doctrine and as we are pledged to protect Cuba.

What a contrast is this plain declaration of intent to the "scuttie" policy in McKinley's speech of acceptance. Every voter knows that if the Philippines are guaranteed independence and protection the war will be over. Our army can practically be withdrawn. The only obstacle to his address. Circumstances have made it the burning issue. No patriot could regard anything else as of importance compared to it. The Republicans are already howling because they are not pushed to the front. When that question is the leading issue in '06 the Republicans wanted to talk tariff, now that it has become an academic question they want to use it as a scarecrow and divert attention from the shameful record of the administration on imperialism.

**Republicans Are Divided.**  
One straw indicates how greatly divided the Republican party is on the leading issues. The Democrats are composed of speeches delivered by the publicans in Congress against imperialism, against the Porto Rican bill and in favor of effective trust legislation. This is supplemented by letters to newspapers and extracts from public addresses of men who have been Republicans, but who are unable to follow McKinley when he turns his back on the fundamental principles of government.

The Democrats have not given the Republicans any such material. Their course has been consistent from the first. Instead of losing members, their ranks are constantly strengthened by the accessions from the Republican ranks. The Republican abuse of such men as Webster Davis, for instance, only shows how keenly they are hurt by these defections. Not even Tom Reed can be ejected into making speeches in his home State. He has never loved McKinley and he seems to be finding a quiet satisfaction in viewing the middle into which the administration has gotten its affairs.

Bryan made a point worthy of consideration when he pointed out that nearly all the large cities of the country are under Democratic rule. This means that the Democratic machinery is available for the national campaign. And it also means that Republican coercion and repeating tactics cannot be so successfully used on the wage workers in these large cities as this campaign is in '06, because the Democrats will be in position to check such arbitrary and dishonest methods.

The Standard Oil Company has paid thirty-eight millions in dividends this year, and by the end of the year will have paid 48 per cent on its capital stock, which means about 250 per cent on its actual investment. This combine not only controls the oil output of the country but has a controlling voice in a half dozen other important industries, and through its banking interests gets right into the United States Treasury. Its National City Bank had influence enough to get the Secretary of the Treasury to turn over to it the use of millions of dollars for which it gave no security and paid no interest. Is it any wonder that Hanna goes to New York to collect a fat contribution from interests of this sort? They own about everything in sight and are willing to put up a few hundreds of thousands to resist the administration which has proved so subservient to their interests in the last four years.

The Labor Department, which is a government department conducted by Carroll D. Wright, comes to the front in the Industrial Commission and the bulletin. It is based on testimony taken before the Industrial Commission and tries to show that trusts have raised wages. The facts really are that highly skilled labor, through its organization, has forced an increase of wages in a number of departments. The trusts

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The nations are falling into line to save the birds. The first official step was taken by a nation not usually credited with being in the van. At the request of the Chinese Government, has prohibited the exportation of pheasant skins, because the birds were being ruthlessly sacrificed and were likely to become extinct. Economic measures make the preservation of birds a necessity, and nations are coming to realize the fact.

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The trustees of an insane asylum were making their annual tour of inspection. As they were walking through the grounds, they came to a party of workmen repairing a wall. One of the harmless patients, apparently assisting in the work, was pushing a wheelbarrow along upside down. A kind-hearted trustee said to him, gently: "My friend, you should turn your wheelbarrow over."

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