

# New Randolph County Courthouse



The erection of this building has been under taken by the Democratic Commissioners and will be completed without a special tax or bond issue. This the Republicans declare they cannot do.

## END OF THE CAMPAIGN

Its Close Sees Democratic Hopes in the Ascendant.

### GOOD REPORTS EVERYWHERE

Factional Fights Among Republicans in Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin and Other States Point to Bryan's Election—G. O. P. Up to Its Old Tricks.

By WILLIS J. ABBOT.

This has been a curious campaign in many ways. The managers of both parties have watched each other warily and have day by day wondered what unsuspected attack might be made next day or next week. Now we confront the close of the campaign. I will have to concede to the versatile and active Mr. Hearst the credit of having done a few things that made both parties sit up and take notice. But the Hearst endeavors were annoying equally to each of the old parties. If he attacked Governor Haskell, who has since sued for \$200,000 damages, he attacked Senator Foraker, who thereupon retired from politics, and Mr. du Pont of the powder trust, who promptly withdrew from the finance committee of the Republican national committee. But thus far only Hearst has infused that particular sort of "ginger" into the campaign. True, President Roosevelt came to his aid, and a spectacle was presented of Roosevelt and Hearst as the chief mud slingers of the campaign.

But today that campaign is practically ended. From the Democratic national headquarters at Chicago most of the chiefs have gone to their homes to close the last week of agitation by their own personal efforts in the localities where they are best known.

#### Outlook in Some States.

From the Pacific coast I have received repeated reports from George Fred Williams, who has traveled through California, Oregon and Washington. He insists that the outlook for Democratic success in those states is most encouraging. He refers to a poll taken of one precinct in Spokane, Wash., which he reports in this fashion: "In this precinct 211 votes were cast in 1904. In that year Parker got twelve. In 1900 Bryan got twenty-three votes. The poll taken this year shows eighty-one for Bryan." This is, of course, only a straw. But when added to the report which comes from the Santa Fe car shops in Topeka, Kan., that where there used to be 2,000 votes among the workers for the Republican party and 800 for the Democratic party the figures are this year reversed, it suggests a certain change in sentiment. When to such instances as these we add the fact that from Colorado comes the report that the great mining center of Cripple Creek, which in 1904 went strongly against the Democratic ticket, is this year going to give a heavy plurality for Bryan and Kern we begin to see that the trend of sentiment among the working people is toward the Democracy. And, continuing, when from Indiana comes the news that the working people of that state are almost a unit in behalf of the Democratic candidates and so capable and nonpartisan a newspaper correspondent as Walter Wellman declares in the Republican paper which employs him that Indiana and Ohio are absolutely lost to the Republican party we of the Democracy believe that the hour of our victory is close at hand.

There are the states in which the fight is being waged and in which the issue must be regarded as doubtful, though personally I believe that in several of them Democratic success is assured: New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Nebraska and Kansas are this year as safe for the Democratic ticket as Texas. They are safe because their people have come to know Mr. Bryan better and believe above all things in his demand for the guaranty of bank deposits. But Ohio must be fought for and is being fought for. The Democracy has there a coherent and a harmonious organization. The Cincinnati Enquirer, which it had been feared would be hostile to the Democratic cause, has been doing admirable work in behalf of the national ticket. The Republicans in the state are torn with the dissensions between Taft and Foraker and the famous boss, George B. Cox. There never has been a more bitter factional fight than is now in progress in that pivotal state. And the Democrats, having a divided enemy, will reap the fruits of victory. In Indiana the strongest politician of the state, Vice President Fairbanks, was treated in the campaign for nomination with the grossest discourtesy. I am a mere observer of political events, not in any sense a politician, but I would ask any reader of this article whether he has seen in the newspaper reports of this campaign any indication of Vice President Fairbanks' activity in behalf of the heir apparent? If Fairbanks has been on the stump the newspapers have not mentioned the fact. And if Foraker has been on the stump since the treacherous letter of Taft concerning him was published nobody knows of that fact. With Fairbanks in Indiana and Foraker in Ohio and J. A. Follette in Wisconsin quietly in opposition to the ticket of their own party, what chance has that party ticket to win?

#### Cases of Coercion.

Toward the close of the campaign the Republicans are playing the old game of coercion. At the Democratic national headquarters there are letters and affidavits on file showing the desperate expedients to which the opposition is resorting in the hope of forcing

voters to do its will. We have, for example, an affidavit from a traveling man who knows of what he is speaking and who testifies that he was instructed to send orders to his house which were to be filed if Taft was elected and a duplicate order in which the papers were to be reduced if Bryan was elected. The understanding was that the duplicate order was to be used to affect public sentiment and not to be considered by the house. We are in possession of information which shows that a certain great bank in Chicago after bringing a man clear from Idaho to consider a proposition for placing a certain number of bonds informed him that because of fear of Bryan's election they would not even discuss the matter. The bonds were to be based upon a water power and electric power proposition. What in the world the election of Bryan could have to do with the success of such a business enterprise in a town of the far northwest is hard to determine. Yet it appears that the Republicans pretend to think that there is some sort of sinister influence that the president might exert over a municipal monopoly. Whether they have as yet appealed to telephone companies and street car companies for funds I do not know. But there has come to the national committee headquarters a letter which to a great extent justified the complaint of the man from Idaho that he was prevented from placing his bonds of an electric light and power company because of apprehension that Bryan might be elected. This letter came from Tennessee. It was addressed to the head of an electric power company, pleading for a contribution to the Republican campaign fund on the ground that everybody who was interested in furnishing power from a central station or furnishing light or heat should contribute toward the election of Taft and Sherman because their election was vital to the success of that business. The letter, which I have in my possession, is written on the letter head of the Republican national committee and signed by a subofficer of that committee. It is clearly official. The point which might be raised about it is this:

What has the president of the United States or the vice president to do with the electric lighting, traction or power companies of any city? Why should those companies be asked to contribute to a campaign fund on the plea that their interests are vitally involved? In Chicago there has been a long fight for the municipal control of electric traction and power companies. Why should the right of a city to control these companies be complicated by any sort of federal interference? And if there is to be no federal interference why should the Republican national committee in an official document soliciting funds declare that the interests of electric companies operating from a central station are vitally bound up in the election of Taft and Sherman? Of course Taft's brother is at the head of most of the public service corporations of Chicago, and Sherman is largely interested in those of his home town of Utica, N. Y., but these mere facts do not seem to justify the collection by the Republican national committee from all other public service corporations in cities, towns and villages of a fund to be used in debauching the ballot and carrying the election by the methods of the vote buyer.

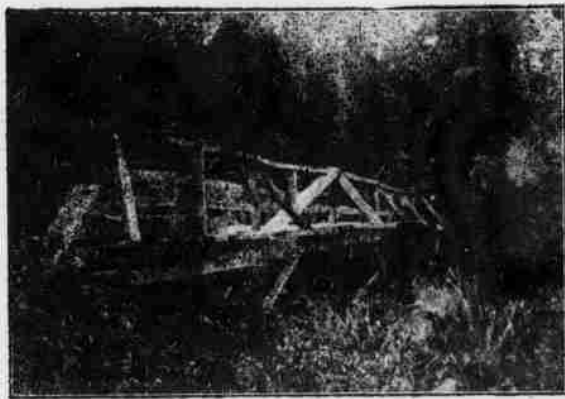
#### How Big Bankers Bank.

There has been an illuminating illustration of the way in which those people who describe themselves as the big bankers conserve the money of their depositors. The National Bank of North America, conducted in the city of New York, passed through the purchase of a large block of its stock into the hands of one Charles W. Morse. Mr. Morse had in his head the aspirations of a Harriman without the traits of that eminently practical man. He tried to control and was for a time successful in controlling the supply of ice for the great city of New York and did not worry when the people of the sweltering tenement house districts suffered in the sultry summer days because they could not pay the monopoly prices the ice trust exacted. Then he tried to make the Atlantic ocean his own, and for a time it appeared that every coastwise line of steamships would pass into his control. The latter operation proved too much for his financial abilities. In attempting to carry it out he had tried to gain control of several banks and did control four. What is his future is immaterial. But we find that the official report of the investigation into the affairs of the National Bank of North America shows that the responsible officers of that bank lent to an office boy nineteen years old \$310,000 on collateral furnished by Morse which is today practically without value.

Now, what the bankers who oppose the guaranty of deposits say they want is careful regulation. Well, they have had it. They had it in the case of the National Bank of North America, which was investigated at regular intervals by national bank examiners. But notwithstanding these investigations this loan was made and others of the same sort, and the bank went down in chaos and collapse.

Mr. Morse was no doubt a "great banker." Probably he would describe himself as one of the greatest of all. He would no doubt be highly indignant at the suggestion that any organization, whether national or co-operative, should guarantee the rights of the depositors in his bank. At the same time it would appear that as the government was not able to avert the jeopardizing of these deposits by the loans which he forced and the avails which he used it might have been well to have had a guaranty fund that would have protected the people whose money he used.

Chicago.



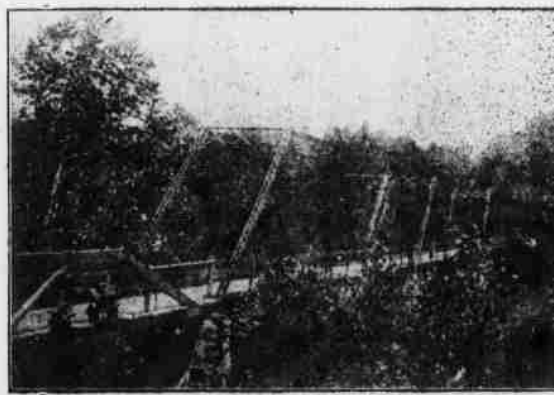
Bridge Across Mill Creek at Stinson Place



Bridge Across Deep River at Ramsour



Bridge Across Caraway, 2 Miles From Henry Parker's



Bridge Across Deep River at Enterprise