

BUTLER'S BIG GAME. EXCITING TIMES PROMISED AT POPULIST CONVENTION.

State Experiment Station. Reports Regarding Cotton Crop. Populists Want to Hear from Bryan. Still Insists on Fusion.

JOURNAL BUREAU, RALEIGH, August 8.

The co-operation heretofore existing between the State experiment station and the U. S. Weather Bureau has been discontinued, as the policy of the latter is antagonistic to a more perfect utilization of the climate and crop service in the different States, under a more direct control of the central bureau at Washington. At more important points throughout the United States a complete equipment for printing the reports issued by the weather bureau will be installed and doubtless the work generally will be improved in other ways. An equipment of this kind is planned for North Carolina. The State weather service remains a part of the experiment station and will have no connection with the weather bureau, although the work formerly done by the State weather service will be continued by the climate and crop service of the U. S. weather bureau.

The August Bulletin of the Agricultural Department will contain a complete list of all the cotton mills and other manufacturing in the State and hence will be of marked value. Cotton milling interests are now getting something of a check in the State, yet several mills are in course of construction and others are planned.

Next week the work of repairing the interior of the dome of the capital begins. Lumber for the scaffolding, which will be of great strength and height, was delivered today.

Gov. Carr and family are at Blowing Rock and in a few days go to Asheville. They will very probably remain in the mountains a fortnight longer.

All sorts of reports come in regarding the cotton crop. Some persons say the harvest is "off" badly on sandy lands and has caused great shedding of squares. On the stiff land near here the plants look well and there is promise of what may be called a fair crop. Cotton dealers laugh at the reports of injury. One farmer the other day insisted that the damage done amounted to one thousand bales a day. A dealer said that this would wipe out the crop of Wake in thirty days, the product being about thirty thousand bales.

Louis de la Croix, of Oxford represented the gold Democrats of this State at Indianapolis today.

Secretary of the Interior, Hoke Smith, is at Lincoln on a visit to Gen. R. P. Hoke and other relatives. He says he will support the National ticket. The Secretary is an enthusiastic wheelman and has his bicycle with him.

There is quite a little hitch as to who among the Populists invented the great thought of nominating the Vice-President before the President. W. A. Guthrie says he did and Hal W. Ayr says he himself is the man.

Populists of this county held their convention here today and elected delegates to the State convention next Thursday. Their leaders say they want to know what Bryan would say to the notification committee, as on this a good deal depends.

The general public has now caught on to Senator Butler's political shenanigans. He has played a big game and is still playing. It is very hard to say what he is after. The retention of his followers is great. Otto Wilson the chief one here is dumb as an oyster regarding what may or will be done at the Populist State convention. For instance Wilson can now name the nominee for Lieutenant Governor, but says he must not do so.

Senator Butler will make things lively for the Republicans as the Representatives of the trusts and monopolies. He will also make things quite lively for Sewell.

Dr. Cyrus Thompson, the president of the State farmers alliance, was here today on his way to Hillsboro to attend its annual meeting, the first in its new headquarters. The treasury will be in operation so the attendance can see some of their own leather. In a little while they can wear shoes of their own making. For a couple of years or more the fortunes of the alliance has been at a very low ebb and the membership list shrank nearly to a skeleton, but it is said there is now an increase in membership. The greatest membership ever given out was 105,000 and there were over 2,100 subscribers. No other party there are 10,000 members in good standing. The alliance organ, the Progressive Farmer, has a much larger circulation than Senator Butler's paper.

President Charles D. McVey of the State Normal and Industrial school was here yesterday in his return from the doctors and elders' Presbyterian institute at Red Springs, Robeson county, and says the attendance was quite large, at least 2,000 daily.

Letters received here say the Harrington telephone company of Richmond intends to establish an exchange here.

It is interesting and important to get at the light possible on the great question of the action of the Democratic State committee in proposing fusion with the Populists. Chairman Manly suggests strongly that time will show the committee acted wisely. But the amount of clamor against the action was a surprise, no doubt to the majority of the committee, in fact this is admitted. E. J. H. White, secretary of the Baptist state mission board, came in yesterday from the piedmont section and says that at Pilot Mountain and Beulah Baptist associations all the Democrats he talked with favored electoral fusion. To use his phrase the country people, Democrats and Populists are bound together by the silver cord and are nearer together than at any time since the war. The churches, he adds were once split but are now united on sil-

WILMINGTON LETTER. HOT WEATHER SEDUCTIONS FOR EXCURSIONISTS.

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COMMITTEE MEETING.

GREAT CHANGE IN SENTIMENT ON FUSION.

Democratic Committee Arrive. Anti-Fusionists Strictly in Evidence. Singular Evidence For Fusion Given.

RALEIGH, N. C., August 10.—The following persons arrived here today to attend the Democratic State Committee meeting: Clement Manly, W. H. Kitchin, J. B. Young, Herbert Clarkson, R. L. Durham, D. J. Peabottom, G. S. Boudreau, J. R. Webster, Paul H. Means, J. D. Glenn, W. C. Douglas, L. L. Stevens, Geo. B. Patterson, F. D. Winston, W. D. Melvin, W. B. Rodman, J. A. Brown, A. C. Avery, A. E. Walters, Geo. A. Jones, J. H. Poir, R. D. Gilman, W. T. Lee, E. J. Hale, S. Gallert.

Some members said frankly that there had been an unimpeachable of sentiment since July 30th, regarding fusion, and they declared that they had no idea that the committee would tonight agree to fuse.

Some of them said that Paul B. Means who at last meeting was browbeaten for his attack on fusion, would tonight have plenty of supporters, and that no motion to reject any anti-fusionist would, tonight, be made though one was made in the Means case.

A delegate told me that the reason why the committee had before decided that fusion was proper, was because chairman Jones had recommended it, and not because of any exhibit showing grave weakness of party.

Others said that had the members of the committee in person been here July 30th to vote, there would have been different results. In other words that the vote was due to proxies.

Western members are solid against fusion. It is said positively that tonight nothing more is accomplished between the Populists and Republicans, or between Populists and Democrats. In other words all hands are playing for position, and trying to fix the responsibility.

Richmond Pearson arrived this afternoon from Ocracoke to remain during the week.

AMERICAN SHIP LOST.

Disaster Occurred in May—Details Have Just Been Received at the State Department—Twenty Persons Were Lost.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 8.—The Falkland Islands, off the east coast of Patagonia, were in May the scene of a marine disaster involving the loss of nearly twenty American lives, which as yet remains wrapped in mystery.

Consul Miller reports that on the evening of May 14 news was brought to Port Stanley that a large ship, evidently of American build, had struck off the Billy Rock, and was in danger of breaking up.

The sea, however, was running so heavily that Capt. McPherson found it impossible to get close to the ship. He brought her, however, near enough to count fourteen men in the rigging, who had him in English and begged him to rescue them. The vessel was a large wooden ship of about 1,800 tons register.

Capt. McPherson put back to port for a life boat, and returned immediately, but before he reached the ship she had broken up, and quantities of her cargo were floating in all directions. Capt. McPherson and his rescue party stood by all night in the hope of picking up survivors, but after sixteen hours of unwearied effort, gave up the hope of saving life, and returned to Port Stanley.

WASHINGTON LETTER. The Party Managers Under Hot Criticism.

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Senator Jones, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Mr. Mark Hanna, Chairman of the Republican Committee, and Senator Butler, Chairman of the Populist Committee are each, under a hot fire from members of their own party. Senator Jones is sharply criticized for what has been done by Mr. St. John, the Treasurer of the Democratic Committee, at the elaborate and expensive headquarters he has established in New York, for the populist interview which he has repudiated, and for general dilatoriness in getting down to work.

Mr. Hanna is found fault with because of his autocratic methods, and Senator Butler because he has not made his appearance at Populist Headquarters in Washington since he was made Chairman of the National Committee. From this it will be seen that so far as fault finding is concerned it is about a stand off all around. So far as smoothly working machinery is concerned, the Republicans, both in their Congressional and National Committees, are far in the lead. They daily send out from Washington, ten times as many documents as their opponents. However, it has from the first been generally understood that the silver or Democratic campaign would not get under way until Bryan made his speech of acceptance. As he will do this at New York city on Wednesday of this week, his party managers may now be expected to begin to hustle.

The gold Democrats are not numerous in Washington, outside of the holders of prominent positions under the administration, and whatever disposition they might have felt to endorse over the call for a gold Democratic convention, to meet at Indianapolis September 2, was quenched by the appearance the same day, of an authorized interview with Ex-Secretary Whitney, declaring that McKinley would carry New York by 200,000 majority. They know that Mr. Whitney never talks for publication except for a purpose, and that his purpose in this case was to throw cold water on the idea of putting up a gold Democratic ticket, by letting it be seen that himself and other influential gold Democrats intended to throw their influence for McKinley. It is generally believed in Washington that a gold ticket will be nominated, but even the silver Democrats, who want the ticket put up to prevent gold Democrats voting for McKinley do not believe that it will receive support enough to make it a factor in the election, in any one State. The politicians of all parties, almost without exception, believe that the silver and gold line will be so tightly drawn before election that everything else will be forgotten, and that McKinley will get practically all the gold votes and Bryan all the silver votes.

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Honest Money League.

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Wants More Attention.

LONDON, August 11.—Li Hung Chang is deeply grieved over the lack of attention shown towards his proposed visit via the United States.

Today he accepted an invitation to travel to the Pacific coast, over the Canadian Pacific Railway.

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THE POLITICAL POT.

KEEPS MERELY BOILING AT THE STATE CAPITAL.

Change in Date of Republican State Committee. Colored Vote for McKinley. Lookhart to be Nominated. Gossip is Various.

RALEIGH, N. C., Aug. 7.—The Republican State Chairman changes the date of the State Committee meeting from August 11th to August 13th.

It is remarked that this is probably done to give the Republicans an opportunity to make the last bid for the Populist support.

The chairman of the Republican congressional committee of this district, says he knows only two colored Republicans who will fail to vote for McKinley.

James A. Lookhart will be nominated by acclamation for Congress by the Democrats of the Sixth District.

Cyrus B. Watson was here today on his way to Goldsboro to speak on Saturday. He is doing the campaign, discussing the National and State issues.

J. B. Watson, of the Central Democratic committee, says the action of the State committee in changing the date of the convention will be the death of the Populist support.

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TREASURY OFFICIALS SURPRISED.

Pleased With the Receipts Despite the Depression.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Treasury receipts have been running during the present month at a rate which has rather agreeably surprised the department officials in view of the general depression in business. The receipts for July were larger than for many preceding months, but the increase was attributed in part to the payment of annual incomes under the Internal Revenue law. The customs receipts for July last fell \$1,000,000 short of those for July, 1895, while the internal revenue receipts were \$1,400,000 larger. The figures for August are of a different character.

The first eight days of the month have shown receipts of \$7,388,129, of which \$3,474,402 has been from customs, \$1,475,784 from internal revenue and \$437,943 from miscellaneous sources. The corresponding figures for the first eight days of August a year ago were \$4,305,414 from customs, \$3,315,802 from internal revenue and \$489,245 from miscellaneous sources, making a total of \$8,110,461.

The figures show a loss in custom and in the total receipts this year, as compared with last, but in the proportion in favor of internal revenue receipts is perhaps a little than in July of the present year.

The increase in internal revenue receipts have taken place, in spite of dull trade, because of the exhaustion of the supplies of whiskey withdrawn from bond before the new law took effect. The customs receipts are still small, but are likely to be maintained at a higher rate during the remainder of the month than they were during the closing days of August a year ago. The expenditures for July were so large, on account of the beginning of the new fiscal year, that no accurate deductions can yet be made as to their average for the year.

The deficit for the fiscal year has reached about \$21,000,000 of which \$13,000,000 was in July and \$8,000,000 during August. This is no indication of a deficit at the end of August, because the interest and pension payments have been largely anticipated during the first week. It is expected that August will show a surplus, if receipts continue at their present rate, which would afford total receipts of \$28,000,000.

A surplus in August would not indicate that the Treasury was on a self-supporting basis, because August is not one of the months when the big quarterly interest payments are due, but it would indicate a favorable condition of affairs, and the probable reduction of the deficit at the end of the year.

There is some doubt whether the large appropriations made by the last Congress could be met, even if receipts rose to \$20,000,000 per month, but receipts of that amount would reduce the deficit to a small figure, and would indicate the success of the existing tariff in providing revenue for the scale of expenditures existing when it was enacted. It is believed that the revival of business, consequent upon a sound money victory in November, would do much to eliminate the revenue problem from practical politics.

The National Democrats.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—Mr. W. D. Byrum, chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Democratic party is receiving a large number of communications from Democrats in every part of the country regarding the selection of delegates to the convention at Indianapolis on September 21. Many of them come from States which were not represented at the recent conference, and the belief of the leaders of the party and the hotel people of Indianapolis is that the attendance at the national gathering will be much larger than they originally anticipated. The Denison Hotel has received several additional requests for rooms. Main's delegation asks for 12 rooms, Massachusetts for 10; Wisconsin wants rooms for 24 delegates; Michigan, for 10, and the New York Sun sends a request for rooms for its staff.

The call for the national convention was mailed to the chairman and delegates in the various States. The address to the public is being prepared, and will probably be ready for publication about the end of the week. Secretary Wilson has named Evans Woodson, of Indianapolis, as his assistant. His duties will be devoted to preparing the preparations for the convention and to the business end of affairs.

The Sun's Eclipse.

LOSINOX.—Much interest exists in astronomical circles as to the success of the several expeditions sent out to various parts of the world to study the total eclipse of the sun. A special dispatch from Valparaiso, New York, says that the members of the expedition sent Vanuatu, near New York, by Mr. Downing, of the British Naturalists, were unable to take any observations that will be of value. The early phase of the eclipse was clearly seen, but its totality was obscured by thick clouds, which rendered the taking of observations impossible. The temperature at the beginning of the eclipse was 44 degrees. During the eclipse it fell to 42 and then rose again to 41, when the shadow passed from the sun.

Among the observers at