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FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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Republican Opportunity.

Republicans of Nebraska have an extraordinary opportunity presented in the coming primary. It is a foregone conclusion that Governor Shallenberger will be renominated on the democratic ticket despite all the Dahlmeyer bluff and bluster, and that whoever heads the republican ticket will have Governor Shallenberger to beat in the election.

Assuming all other things to be equal, which they are not, the personality of the republican candidate will determine whether or not the republicans will reap full advantage of the unpopularity of Governor Shallenberger, which in some quarters has developed into actual hatred. To be more explicit, if the liberal voters who are not particularly attached to any political party are narrowed down to a choice between Governor Shallenberger and a candidate in their minds typifying prohibition, they may forgive the governor's sins and vote for him again as the lesser of two evils. If, however, they are permitted to vote for a republican on whose word they may depend, and in whom they have confidence even though pledged to sign a county option bill, they will show the democratic governor that deliberate deception and coarse double-dealing are not paying political investments.

This is why we say that republicans are fortunate this year in having a man like A. E. Cady standing for the nomination for governor, and that they will lose a great opportunity if they do not go to the polls next Tuesday and make sure by their votes that he is nominated.

Two Kinds of Land Buying.

In the old New England states rich men are buying up old homesteads and in some cases entire villages and turning them into private country homes or reserves of one kind and another. In the west land is also being bought and sold, but in very different ways and for very different purposes. One man out here will buy a vast tract of country land, not to occupy as a rural dwelling place, but rather to subdivide and sell out in small pieces as rapidly as he can.

Perhaps it is not true, as eastern papers contend, that the people need more farming land, perhaps the New York Central railroad is all wrong in its mission of endeavoring to settle people in the country where they may have the chance of earning a better living than the restricted quarters which they are able to afford in the city. But it would seem that with all the comfort and luxury to be found in converting these New England communities into estates of one family, society would derive greater benefits if they could be devoted to homes for a greater number, if the land could be improved by fertilization and if the villages be left to those who need them as means of livelihood. In some cases it is said entire communities are obliged to pick up and move on to new settlements.

It is contraction in one case and expansion in the other. The west is charged with the work of finding homes for the many, while the east—this portion of it—is being preempted by a few who can afford the pleasure. The tendency is not conducive to the best results.

More About the Tail-End.

In view of the question of veracity that has been raised over the tail-end resolution supposed to have been tacked onto the republican platform in the confusion of the closing moments of the state convention, the following letter taken from the Lincoln Journal, signed by a well known delegate from Furnas county, which is in the Fifth district and geographically right close to Congressman Norris' home, may be of interest:

OXFORD, Neb., Aug. 3.—To the Editor of The State Journal: I noticed by Friday's Journal that Mr. Van Dusen gives the lie to the statement that the Norris resolution is a tail-end passed after two-thirds of the delegates had left the hall. Now, I believe that people can differ in opinion and not lie, and, as a delegate to that convention, I honestly believe the says on that resolution were the stronger, and that our esteemed chairman rather jocosely announced the convention by deciding otherwise.

I am glad to learn that my friend, Norris, was not the author of the resolution. Certainly he should pay to be delivered from his fool friends, as he seems to have no trouble in whipping his political enemies.

A. C. RANKIN.

Uncle Sam Liberia's Friend.

Those countries that became excited when the United States offered to loan Liberia \$1,500,000 with which to refund its public debt are getting over their apprehension, but the strange thing is that they should ever have felt the least concern in the matter. What was more natural than that Liberia should look to the United States for this assistance and that this nation should promptly give it? Liberia was given the nucleus of a nation by the United States, which sent negroes there a century ago to form a settlement of freedmen, and twenty-five years after exercised a sort of protectorate over them. Always this republic has been the friend and helper of Liberia, and the record of events is a splendid testimonial to the unselfish desire of a great Caucasian race to aid another people less fortunate in opportunity than itself. It is a singular evidence of American modesty and philanthropy that the history of Liberia is so little known,

comparatively, among the people of the earth.

Here comes a day when this struggling power finds itself engulfed in debt, and it comes, of course, to the United States, the nation that has always been its benefactor, for relief. Uncle Sam does little more than endorse Liberia's note for the comparatively small sum of \$1,500,000, and more than one European power raises the cry of suspicion. It is natural for Europe to impute to such acts on the part of other governments motives of self-aggrandisement, either in political advantage or territorial aggression, but has the history of the United States in Cuba and Porto Rico been in vain? England and France, moreover, must not begrudge any advantage little Liberia can obtain so long as its feeble condition is largely due to the unequal competition it faces in the civilization of these European nations.

Interest in Francis Race.

The race between former Mayor James A. Reed of Kansas City and former Governor David R. Francis of St. Louis for the democratic senatorial nomination in Missouri attracts more than statewide interest, for if Francis should win there and later in the legislature it would, in all probability, add one more to the list of democratic aspirants for presidential honors in 1912. Former Governor Francis has been flirting with this ambition for a long time, but conditions have never been propitious for actually launching his candidacy. The fact that he was a member of the old Cleveland cabinet at once discounted him for high honors so long as Mr. Bryan held unhonored sway over the party, though toward the last there has been some pretense at reconciliation with the Peersless.

The fact that Missouri already has one democratic presidential candidate in the person of Joseph W. Folk is not at all likely to deter the Francis aspirants, should he succeed as senatorial candidate, for he is not a Folk man and cares nothing about any plans Mr. Folk may have made for his own future.

But some doubt surrounds Francis' ability to defeat Reed. Though never ranked in the Francis class, Reed is yet popular in the country districts, where he, like Folk, has cultivated the people's friendship by playing reformer, although usually referred to as of the grandstand order. He was mayor of Kansas City, and though Francis when in his thirties served as mayor of St. Louis and was elected governor of the state before he was forty, later serving as secretary of the interior in Mr. Cleveland's cabinet, Reed has his following among the younger democrats of the state and may be able to outrun his elder opponent in the primaries. He naturally would have the Folk support, both for the reason that Folk and Francis are not political allies and because Francis' defeat would eliminate him as a possible opponent of Folk.

Our Abominable Primary Ballot.

Notwithstanding all the newspaper words of warning and all the efforts at instruction, thousands of voters in Nebraska will in all probability be disfranchised at tomorrow's primary by the abominable ballot. This ballot is another of the reminders which we have of the incompetence and misdirection of the late democratic legislature and it ought to be an object lesson to every voter of the necessity of rescuing the law making power from the hands of these democratic law butchers.

Once more, however, before it is too late, let us tell what the voter must do, or rather must not do, to make sure he does not spoil his ballot. Each person entitled to vote will be given a ballot containing the names of the candidates for nomination on all party tickets arranged in parallel columns under the fitting party headings. The ballot is to be marked with crosses opposite the preferred names, but the crosses must all be in but one party column. Placing cross marks in more than one party column is contrary to the law and the whole ballot so marked must be thrown out and not counted.

Still another confusing feature is presented by the fact that we hold separate although simultaneous primaries for school district and for city officers with separate and distinct ballots. Here in Omaha each voter will have three separate ballots to mark, and the option of choosing his party column and the prohibition against putting crosses in more than one column applies to each of the three ballots.

We submit that if anything were calculated to disgust people with the direct primary and to discredit its popularity this disfranchising ballot and odious open primary is in a fair way to succeed in that object.

Among the lawyers at the Douglas county bar stand higher and are at the same time more popular with their associates than James E. Rait, who is out for the republican nomination for county attorney. Every lawyer in Omaha who would give an unprejudiced opinion would say that Mr. Rait would be a competent and trustworthy man in that office. Republicans should vote at the primaries for James E. Rait for county attorney.

Our Birthday Book

August 15, 1910. Walter H. Page, editor of the World's Work, was born August 15, 1855, at Carey, N. C. He used to be editor of the Forum and Atlantic Monthly and is a member of the book publishing firm of Doubleday, Page & Co. Edison P. Rich, general attorney of the Union Pacific, is 92 years old today. He was born at Griggsville, Ill. He was educated at the University of Nebraska and at Johns Hopkins university. He was a member of the legislature in 1889 and served two terms as regent of the University of Nebraska. He is also a member of the law firm of Rich, O'Neill & Gilbert. H. C. Bostwick, president of the South Omaha National bank, was born August 15, 1844, at Trenton, N. J. He has been in his present position since the bank started in 1886. He is also interested in a number of other banks. Mosher G. Colpetzer, treasurer of the Chicago Lumber company, is just 33 years old today. He is an Omaha-born boy and a graduate of the Omaha High school and started in as telegraph messenger for the Montreal-Telegraph company in 1873. He was promoted to his present position in 1887. John B. Sheldon, superintendent of telegraph for the Union Pacific, is just 36. He was born in Ottawa, Canada, and started in as telegraph messenger for the Montreal-Telegraph company in 1873. He was promoted to his present position in 1887. Evidently the wild and woolly west has moved eastward some 2,000 miles. On Monday there was a holdup just outside of New York city, a street gang fight in which thirty shots were exchanged and two participants killed, and the next day the mayor of the city was shot down by an assassin.

Around New York

Bylines on the Current of Life as Seen in the Great American Metropolis from Day to Day. The old boys of today, whose memories hark back to their youthful sight-seeing tours of New York, will recall the thrills experienced in the same museum. Beside the door the figure of a policeman as large as life and as cheery as a live one. The gallery of wax figures of crowned heads tormented in royal regalia. A succession of chambers of horrors depicting some notorious crime or tragedy of mystery. Occasionally some comic picture or amusing mechanism relieved the somber strain and checked the closing desire of red blooded persons to take a parting fall out of the cap at the door. Twenty or more years ago, a visitor to the big city rarely passed by Wood's or Buber's museums. The former disappeared several years ago. Huber's went under the hammer last week. The extinction of the business, the New York Sun surmises, is due to the passing of the burlesque spirit, which would not patronize theaters, preferring the sedate and sombre atmosphere of wax figures. Public taste has changed, old forms of amusement cease to amuse and finally vaudeville and moving pictures hastened the demise of the museum of ancient times.

FARM LAND VALUES.

Effect of National Development and Gainful Prices. New York Journal of Commerce. It is reported that practically all the agricultural schedules of the census have been received at the bureau in Washington. They have not been fully tabulated, but the process is said to be advanced. The general statement of the various features about the principal crops, areas cultivated and values of land can be made. Among other things it is stated that the returns show "an enormous growth of land values practically in every section thus far studied, and that some sections "the returned land values will indicate an almost phenomenal increase." In some states the figures are said to show an increase of two and one-half times or nearly that "not marked" where new lands have been taken up and brought under cultivation. This, if verified, must be considered an interesting and significant fact, and it provokes the inquiry what has caused such an advance in agricultural land values. It may be said that it is due to increasingly profitable crops, but what are they due to? The cause, where the crops are not increased in quantity of land under cultivation, and according to all accounts it is not improved cultivation and larger yield due to more intelligent and skillfully directed industry. It is mainly high prices obtained for products, and these are due to increased demand in proportion to supply. In other words, it is the growth of population and the development of industrial and commercial communities, the multiplication of markets and better means of access to them, and a consequent increased demand for farm products out of proportion to the increase in supply. This has greatly enhanced the value of lands in the middle west. The same forces increase the value of land in the industrial and commercial communities themselves. If the census ascertained and reported the value of all lands independent of buildings and improvements provided the value of the land should have a measure of the vast heritage of wealth produced by the people as a whole rather than by individual effort.

PERSONAL NOTES.

By the magic touch of consolidation in capital of two big drug concerns, \$3,000,000 before the merger, was instantly inflated to \$15,000,000. The poet who sings about "When I Was in the Country" mocks the master temper of the season. "How Dry I Am" is the reasonable record for the machine and precious little of it goes a long way. South Australia's new labor premier, Mr. John Verran, has placed himself and his party in line with the forces that make for social and moral reform. Having denounced gambling, Mr. Verran preached a sermon at Fort Pirlie to a Christian League conference. Edward Northan, a bright, quick-witted boy of 12, the great-grandchild of the late President Harrison, is "singing" back of Chubb's boarding house in Ann Arbor, on the way Edward does it makes the job much less of a come-down than most people would think it for a president's grandchild. Count Zeppelin says that the general use of airplanes will have a disastrous effect on furred and feathered game. All animals show fear at their approach. Partridge, quail and other game birds cover and hide themselves, and domestic cocks utter warning crows as if they perceived some gigantic bird of prey. Although King George is almost a total stranger, he is the owner of a private distillery which produces excellent Scotch whisky. The king's distillery is on his Scottish estate at Balmoral. For a long time it was operated commercially by a dealer, but when the lease lapsed to the crown, Queen Victoria continued its operation. The claim of Frau Duktewitz of Posen born February 12, 1876, to be the oldest woman in the world is now contested by Mrs. Raba Vasika, who was born May 1784, in the little Bulgarian village of Bavelisko. The record of her birth is preserved in a neighboring monastery. Mrs. Vasika for more than 100 years regularly worked in the fields. Given up by his relatives as long dead and almost forgotten by them, Edward Clark, who in 1887 went to the gold fields of California, returned to Providence, R. I. last week and went immediately to join his only living brother at Oak Bluffs. For 87 years, none of the Clark family some of whose members live in this city had heard a word from the western mine.

TAPS ON THE FUNNYBONE.

"A friend of mine who visits that new married couple saw the husband, one day, tapping stones at his wife. "Good heavens, relative, said he. "Not a bit of it. She was just tickled to death. They were diamond stones."—Baltimore American.

REAL BIG BUSINESS.

Vastness of the Transportation Industry of the United States. St. Paul Pioneer Press. The extent to which the transportation industry figures in the interest of the country is strikingly illustrated by the report of the Interstate Commerce commission. On the 234,888 miles of road in the country are 1,662,523 feet. The par value of the railway property is \$1,496,888, and during the last fiscal year there were carried 891,473,426 passengers and 1,866,557,741 tons of freight. The gross earnings of all the roads for the year ending June 30, 1910, were approximately \$2,600,000,000. Of this immense sum 41 per cent was paid for operating expenses, 17 per cent for interest on bonds, 17 per cent for taxes, and 25 per cent was used for betterments and improvements. Dividends absorbed, 7.23 per cent, or less than one-fifth the amount that was paid for labor.

LOWA'S CURIOUS PROPOSAL.

Suggested Reduction of Width of Public Roads. Boston Transcript. Governor Carroll of Iowa proposes to reduce the rural highways of the state, which now average sixty feet in width, to forty, turning the margin of ten feet on each side into use by the farmers in raising corn. He computes that this transfer would result in an added yield of \$600,000,000 per year. That he should even propose such a thing shows how completely cultivated the better Mississippi valley states have become. No one riding through rural New Hampshire, for example, even if its highways were needlessly wide, would propose the turning of any part of them back to private owners to enlarge their crops, since so much of the land they now have lies in disuse. A good solution for the Iowans might be for the public to retain title to the highways at the full width, but to allow a strip of ten feet on each side to be utilized by the owner of the adjoining property until such time as the growth of population made it desirable in any place to employ the whole street surface. This is the system in the District of Columbia, and it works admirably. It will be many years before rural Iowa will need highways more than forty feet wide, and the present tendency of good road construction is toward an improved road surface, but one relatively narrow; to macadamize a space wide enough for one machine, letting the turn-outs take their chances with the road, as nature left it, has become an exceedingly practical method of road improvement at moderate cost.

Talks for people who sell things

There is a hatter in Chicago who believes in advertising—he has had proof of its power. This is the story: His location was good, his hats were good, he charged fair prices—and he never advertised. Perhaps he thought the hats would sell themselves, perhaps he didn't believe in advertising, or thought it undignified. At any rate he did not advertise. He tried as hard as he could to make a success, but business was pretty bad—after awhile it got worse and he was on the verge of bankruptcy. One day a newspaper man went to see him and talked advertising. The hatter man figured that things couldn't be worse, so he grasped at advertising as a way out of his difficulties, as a drowning man grasps at a straw. As a starter he tried Panama hats. The newspaper man got up some bully good copy and illustrations, and it seemed that every man in Chicago wanted a Panama—he sold hundreds of them. By and by more copy ap-