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As was predicted, the Democratic State Convention at Grand Island on Tuesday of this week, the county option idea was snuffed under by an overwhelming majority, and Peckris Bryan, the one-time owner of the great unwashed, untried democratic hosts, was buried under an avalanche of anti-option sentiment, the convention lasting till after midnight of that day, the evening being spent in speeches by Bryan pleading with his party to take on county option, which was answered with whirlwind of speeches against his stand by such men as Mike Harrington and many others of the party leaders. Democracy comes before the people as an exponent of the saloons, brewers and distillers, and will be buried deep this fall beneath the moral wrath of the people that it will not even be heard of as a force of consequence in Nebraska for years to come. Poor old democratic dame, unloved from her seat on the democratic donkey and covered with derision. It looks very much now as if Jim Dahlman will be the coming democratic candidate for governor of Nebraska.

The Republican State Convention at Lincoln Tuesday was a whirlwind in favor of county option, a strong plank being placed in the structure in favor of that addition to the Stinson law. The convention went on record as standing at least two to one in favor of county option, the convention showing in every way its pleasure and will in taking upon its shoulders the responsibility for and in favor of that advancing step and more than willing to stand or fall in its behalf. The endeavor on the part of the minority to avoid incorporating a county option plank was met with such a decisive defeat on a roll call for the adoption of a substitute for the county option plank that it was not deemed necessary to have a roll call on the adoption of the platform as a whole and said platform was adopted by a viva voce vote amid such a whirlwind of "ayes" that the "nays" were but a gentle zephyr in comparison. Messrs. Cady and Aldrich were brought before the convention and made speeches, both being met with enthusiasm and friendly applause, but that which met Mr. Aldrich was so overwhelming that it was not necessary to await the action of the platform committee to know to certainty that nothing short of a plain and forceful county option plank would be received and adopted. It was one of the greatest and most interesting conventions held by the republican party in many years, and binds the party unequivocally to the administration and with sparse interest in the so-called ultra-surgent cause advocated by such pirates as Frank Harrison and his ilk.

In the election of representative from this county this fall, the question of county option is sharply drawn. There are only two candidates before the primary, W. S. Waite for the republican nomination and Louis Bein for the democratic nomination. Both are good men, are friends of the Northwestern editor, and in the business, commercial and social worlds are esteemed and honored citizens. In politics, however, Mr. Waite represents the policies of the republican party, while Mr. Bein is democrat of the staunchest kind. So far, these gentlemen can be worthily supported by their party adherents and know that they will uphold the tenets of his party. But there is one question before the public which seems to overshadow all others in the present campaign, and that is as to whether the entire people of the county shall have a chance to vote on the booze question. County option means that the people of the county outside of the towns shall have the right to register their vote for or against the license of spirituous, malt or vinous liquors within the confines of the county. Against county option means that those living outside the cities, towns and villages shall not say to whether such shall be sold within said municipalities. That is a clear proposition. County option does not say you must necessarily be in favor of the abolition of the saloons, but insists that the farmer who trades in town shall have a voice in saying whether there shall be or not. Is there anything wrong in that? Think it over. Mr. Waite represents the sentiment in favor of county option, while Mr. Bein represents the opposite opinion. This is the question that will decide the election of Mr. Waite or Mr. Bein. Political questions and party domination are overshadowed by this all-absorbing theme. And there you have the whole situation in a nutshell.

A letter under date of July 17th, at Seattle, from our friend, C. C. Carlsen, and his wife would say that evening by the "Jefferson" for Alaska. Friend Carlsen takes occasion to speak a warm word for the candidacy of A. E. Cady for governor, having known him intimately and been connected with him in business relations for many years in the past, and pronounces him as in every way calculated to make an ideal governor, should he be successful in the primary and regular election. The Northwestern editor has never met Mr. Cady, nor have we any intimate knowledge of his qualities of hand, heart and brain, save which his excellent and well known reputation over the state is publicly given out, but the endorsement of such men as C. C. Carlsen is sufficient to assure us that the people of Nebraska could not go wrong in investing such a man to the highest official position in the state.

In another column we publish the card of Frank E. Beeman of Kearney for congress from this, the Sixth District. The Northwestern is frank to confess it is against Mr. Beeman's contention that he is the proper man to represent this district instead of our present member, Hon. M. P. Kinkaid. Our reasons are quite plain. Some four years since, Frank Beeman stamped this senatorial district in opposition to our republican candidate, Mr. Thompson of Ravenna, for the state senate, making a foul trade against Mr. Thompson, one distinct time, we well remember, in the opera house in this city, and in support of the fusion candidate. Had there been ladies in the audience, Mr. Beeman's language would not have been so offensive, could not have been and the ladies remained in the hall. This is plain language, but those present will and do well remember the event and have not forgotten the occasion. This is enough to cause us to decline to support the candidacy of a man who will allow himself to so far forget what right-minded decency would suggest and what should not have belched forth from a man who expects and desires the support of republicans for such an exalted office. Then again, we fail to understand what, if anything, Mr. Beeman has done that should cause the republicans of the Big Sixth to turn their backs upon Congressman Kinkaid, who has proved a friend to the people of the district and done more for them than has any congressman in the history of the district. The Kinkaid sectional homestead law is of itself enough to cause the return of M. P. Kinkaid to the lower house of congress, and this is only one of the many things he has done of vast benefit to thousands of the people of the Sixth District. Mr. Beeman has been a candidate for either congress or some other office for the past dozen or more years, but we have no distinct recollection of his having done anything of great or ordinary merit entitling him to receive said nomination for congress and the subsequent defeat of Mr. Kinkaid. The Northwestern has no right with Mr. Beeman. Personally, he is a pleasant and companionable man, but politically he is not the man whom the republicans could wish to succeed the present congressman. That his fight on our congressman die not consummate in defeat does not lessen the offense.

A STATEMENT FROM CONGRESSMAN KINKAID

To My Esteemed Constituents: Upon the advice of many voters, I have become a candidate for a re-nomination for Congress by the primary election to be held August 18. During the present Congress I have faithfully supported the policies pursued and legislation recommended by Roosevelt, when President Taft, as evidenced by the excellent measures enacted at the recent session. In revising the tariff, I strived to have lumber and barbed wire placed upon the free list, and voted on separate schedules for revision downward generally, but after the bill had been in the Senate and in conference, it had to be voted upon as an entirety, with the alternative to pass it or defeat it and leave in operation the old law. A majority, including democrats with republicans, prevented a greater reduction of the rates. In favor of the increase of the tariff of the tariff board recently authorized and that in the future revisions be made of single schedules, when conditions warrant it, rather than that all schedules be revised at the same time, thus preventing "log rolling" by protected interests. I favor the adoption of the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States permitting the taxing of large incomes; also, the election of Senators by direct vote.

As about three-fifths of the announcements of my competitor consists of an attack upon my record, I shall give it such brief notice as the nature hereof will permit. The reference incidentally occurring last winter in the Ballinger-Pinchot investigation to my purchase of a quarter-section of coal land in Alaska, carried with it the information, derived from official source, that the transaction

At the last moment, Rod Smith of Ravenna, formerly private secretary of Congressman Green and Neville, when they were in the public eye, filed as a democratic candidate for state senator in this 6th district. He comes out as a fervent county option and is out for the purpose of getting the democratic nomination away from Mr. Bodensen of Kearney, who is out as a county option candidate. This makes added interest in the senatorial fight among the democratic brethren in this and Buffalo counties.

That is all some people seem to know about the quality of shingles. If shingles were made just to spank children with almost any kind wood do, but if you want to keep the rain out of your house for years without repair you will have to use a different standard to judge by.

If You Don't Draper's Studio you certainly will be punished for your carelessness. About the worst punishment that a big, grown up man can receive is to know that he has been "stung".

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Frank E. Beeman Republican Candidate for Congress.

I am a candidate for the republican nomination for Congress from the sixth district. I believe in good government, a square deal, and that the Roosevelt policies should be put into operation. I have always been opposed to boss rule and machine politics.

I believe a congressman should have convictions and courage enough to vote them; that he should not dodge, side-step and vote "present"; that he should not surge at home and stand pat at Washington. That he should keep his anti-election promises and vote against Mr. Cannon for speaker after having promised the people to do so; and he should not vote to tax barbed wire at \$5.00 per ton after publicly announcing that it should be placed on the free list.

A congressman is elected by the public and paid by the public to serve the public and not to serve himself. He should be satisfied to render public service for the public salary and not seek to further enrich himself at the expense of the public by acquiring coal lands in Alaska, belonging to the public domain. His duty is to conserve the public resources and not to absorb them unto himself, and Mr. Ballinger's assistance in acquiring a coal claim in Alaska is not sufficient proof of either the regularity or the ethics of the transaction.

CONGRESSMAN KINKAID was in the city last evening meeting his host of friends and political constituents. There is no doubt expressed but that the judge will win a re-nomination easily, having only little opposition, and that by Frank Beeman of Kearney, whose republicanism is of such a doubtful nature as to preclude his candidacy from being taken seriously.

We made a provoking error last week, in publishing the list of candidates to come before the primaries, in that the names of Congressman Kinkaid and F. E. Beeman were inadvertently omitted from the list by the compositor. The scarcely ever falling accuracy of the Northwestern force of compositors caused the proof reader to be careless last week, hence the slip mentioned above.

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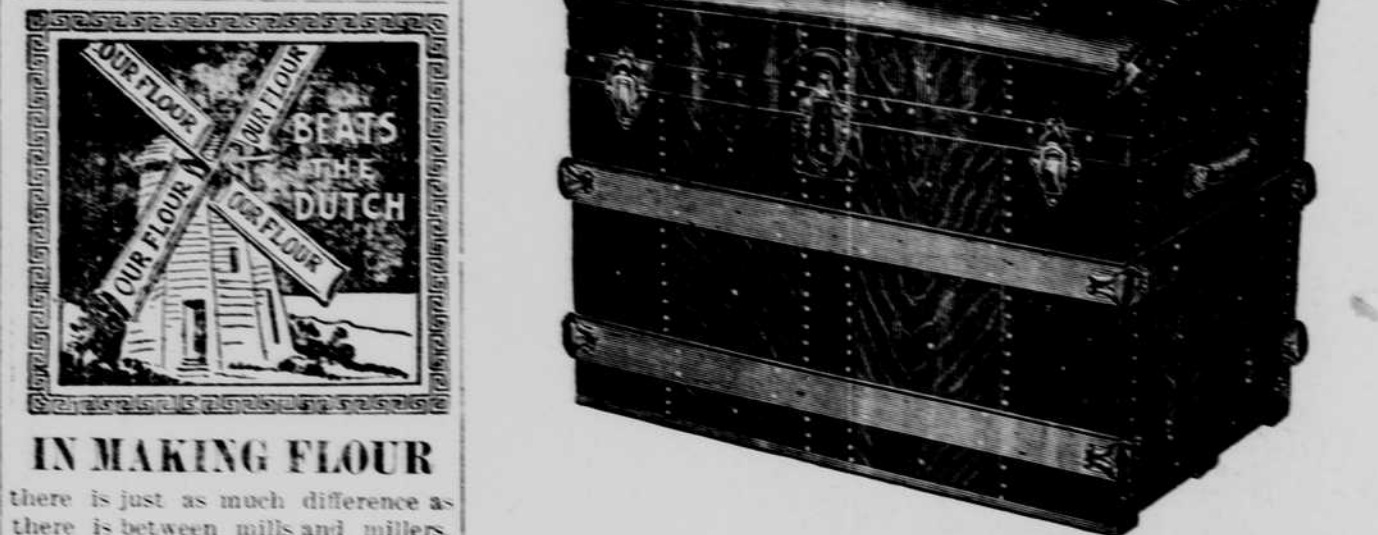


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