

*State Historical Soc*  
*Box 156*

# THE COURIER

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## OBSERVATIONS.

**I**N a few weeks now the real main-spring of Lincoln's business life, the schools, will be restored to its place and business, of all kinds will feel the effect of a student population from outside of Lincoln of from three to four thousand persons. The various schools in this city cause to be expended among the merchants of the town from \$10,000 to \$15,000 per week. The schools are a good thing, and they should be encouraged. The coming season promises the largest attendance yet recorded and this one element alone will give stimulus to all kinds of local trade.

At a meeting of one of the ward delegations interested in the candidacy of certain men for the office of judge of the district court, prior to the convention, a delegate expressed the wish that the time might come and come quickly when candidates for judge would be removed from the general scramble for political office. He regretted that the candidates for judge were compelled to get down on the bailiff's level, and run with him, at the same time, for a nomination. This sentiment, which has had frequent expression in these columns, was received with a considerable demonstration of approval. This subject has been seriously considered of late, and it is possible that the people who are interested in improving the judiciary system, placing it beyond the reach of partisan politics, may see this change effected at a day not far distant. Judges of our courts should not be in politics. They should not be politicians, in the ordinary acceptance of the word.

For the last five years people have wondered at the seeming success of a man in this city whose name and enterprise were under consideration in last week's *COURIER*. With absolutely nothing to commend him, without money, without credit, with antecedents that were calculated to inspire instant distrust rather than even a modified confidence, this man, an empiric in his business, almost an object of ridicule, by dint of perseverance and that supreme assurance which the perfect fraud always possesses, did push his enterprise along, erect buildings, lure patrons into his scheme, and achieve a certain modicum of success that many an abler, better man would have fallen far short of. This man's career has been a mystery and a surprise. Of course it had to come to an end. And it came; but it was long delayed. Most impecunious adventurers of this type are given to setting up elaborate structures in Spain; but few of them are able to get the brick and mortar together in their own land as did this promoter. If the person who makes two blades of grass to grow where formerly but one grew is entitled to credit. I suppose the person who creates some-

thing out of nothing is fairly entitled to some consideration, and this the promoter did.

The sensational preacher still continues on his bent. Last Sunday he preached on "Sensational Preaching." In justification of his course he said Luther was a sensational preacher. Now, using the word in its broadest sense, there are two kinds of sensational preaching. One kind is represented by Martin Luther and a representative of the other may be found in Rev. Byron Beall; and between these two men and

Mr. Beall to assume that because Luther aroused men's minds by his appeals to reason and intelligence, and assisted in the Reformation, he provided a precedent for the bombastic buncombe with he, the Rev. Beall, seeks to keep himself before the public.

It is said that the Associated Press will call the feverish Mr. Rosewater to account for those inflammatory dispatches he caused to be sent out from Omaha. The people of the country really thought there was a reign of terror in Nebraska and riot in Omaha, whereas the inflam-

old residents of Lincoln are requested to lead their co-operation in this enterprise. A number of sketches are already arranged for and I can promise the readers of *THE COURIER* much entertainment in these reminiscences. Life in Lincoln prior to the eighties was neither prosaic nor conventional. The west was wild and Lincoln was a frontier town. The people were few in number and bound together by a common interest that made the population practically one big family. People saw far more of each other and knew far more of each other in those days than they do now. Life may have had its hardships, but it was full of zest, and I doubt if any of the old settlers look back to the early days without a certain regret, and a feeling that whatever may be their present condition or lot, there are no times like the old times. Much information that is of real historical interest is passing away unrecorded with these first comers, and it is the purpose of *THE COURIER* to secure this material before it is too late. Will those who can, assist in this endeavor?

Next week Miss Harris will assume her duties as associate editor of *THE COURIER*, and Miss Cather will also commence her contributions to the theatrical and other departments of this paper. Incidental to this enlargement of the staff a great many improvements and new departures are now being considered, and these plans will be developed as rapidly as possible. Arrangements are being made to secure correspondents and representatives in all of the important towns of the state, and subscriptions are now being received from many points in Nebraska.

The Lancaster county republican convention was held this week. Two weeks or even a week ago, no political prophet was able to pick the winners. The trend of opinion was that an element of the party other than that which finally dictated the nominations would control the action of the convention. As it turned out the convention came nearer being what a republican county convention should be than any similar gathering in recent years. The people, not the professional politicians, dominated, and the ticket selected is singularly representative and clean. Monday's convention demonstrates the fact that however strongly entrenched certain politicians and interests appear to be the people can, at any time, rise above them, and dictate nominations and control the action of the party all along the line. No set of politicians is able to hold away when once the people are fully aroused. The people are as a rule easy to manage, and it is only occasionally that they exert the power that is in them. The advantage gained in this week's convention should be followed up, and if the interest that was then manifested can be kept alive, it will be kept up.



WILLARD KIMBALL.

their methods there is a space so vast that even thought itself can scarcely span it. The one kind of sensational preaching seeks to storm the citadel of human intelligence by the sledgehammer blows of honest conviction and earnest purpose directed by an honest mind. That was Luther's kind of sensational preaching. The other kind is a flippant and inconsequential striving after effect, a blatant appeal to ignorance or prejudice, an attempt to arouse curiosity, to provoke comment, to achieve notoriety; a manifestation in which there is neither intellectual power nor real sincerity of purpose; a dress on the surface that attracts the frivolous, the fanatics and the foolish. It is idle for

mation and riot and disorder were confined to the brain of the editor of the *Omaha Bee*. Some sort of restraint, or punishment, or treatment should be devised for Mr. Rosewater, and there should be no delay in applying the same.

The men and women who came to Lincoln in the early days when the town was in the swaddling clothes of infancy, are no longer young. They are along in the meridian of life and beyond, and they are beginning to pass away. While there is yet time *THE COURIER* proposes to secure from these pioneers the material for a series of sketches of "Early Days in Lincoln," which will be commenced at once. All