

*Refused*

*W. J. Peck  
R. S. Brown B.*

# THE COURIER

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## OBSERVATIONS

The State Journal has for some weeks been pursuing a policy so un-journalistic and so downright dishonest that it has disgusted and stirred to protest persons who have born in silence that newspaper's past offenses. This flagrant violation of the principles that underlie honest journalism is the more striking and noticeable because the young man who is responsible for the Journal's policy is the same person who essayed to conduct a school of journalism in the state university, who ventured to instruct young men and women in the business of conducting newspapers. If Mr. Jones imparted to the students in his school ideas at all similar to those which form the basis of his conduct of the editorial policy of the Journal then there has been instilled into the minds of a number of ambitious young people an insidious poison that may bear fruit in works of dishonesty and corruption that will be harmful beyond all computation. It is the settled policy of the Journal to distort, exaggerate, corrupt and malign. Falsehood is, with it, a favorite weapon. Its latest exhibition of venality is the series of "Jo" letters. These letters are written by a newspaper man of much ability and honorable intentions. They are so palpably distorted, inaccurate and untrue that there is no question but that the writer was told just what to say. The idea is to deceive the people of Nebraska as to the real conditions that obtain in this state and to malign other states. The "Jo" letters are gratuitous. The conditions in Nebraska are well understood. They are not so bad that they have to be

lied about. The truth will out, "Jo" or no "Jo," and no good can be accomplished by misrepresentation. If the facts in Nebraska have been misrepresented then the letters from other states are so largely false that they insult the intelligence of the Journal's readers. There is some truth in what the correspondent has written from the southern states at the Journal's direction; but there is much that is manifestly false. The sentiment "Stand up for Nebraska," has nowhere found a more earnest or persistent advocacy than in these columns. It is possible to

when a republican ticket is nominated in that county the utmost strategy is used to secure Rosewater's opposition in order that the ticket may be elected by a large vote. There is a story afloat that there were grave fears during the summer and early fall that Mr. Rosewater would support the ticket in the late campaign, and for a time the leaders of the republican party were greatly disturbed, and almost on the point of giving up the fight. It was felt that if Rosewater and the Bee were for the ticket nothing could save it. It was then that a little body of prominent re-

once settled down to the task allotted to it, found it very easy to switch Mr. Rosewater into another camp. The work was well done and the most enthusiastic republican could not have wished for a more violent or virulent policy on the part of the Bee than was manifested from the beginning to the end of the campaign. Reference to the votes cast at the late election will show the gratifying results of the course pursued.

The World-Herald has an editorial on Bishop Bonacum and the priests of this diocese entitled "Might against Right," in which the position taken is that the bishop is wholly wrong and the priests wholly right. The same cheap sentiment that made Mr. Bryan a populist makes him jump to the conclusion that the bishop is the sole offender. Mr. Bryan and his class are so ready to believe all that is charged against those in power, so ready to believe that all right is on the side of those who are combatting what Mr. Bryan calls "might," that they often overlook considerations of wisdom and truth. Bishop Bonacum is no doubt vulnerable. For instance there seems to be evidence that he manifested, through his priests, a pernicious activity in politics in the campaign just closed. He seems also to have been somewhat too rigid in his relations with the priests. But the priests have certainly done their part in bringing on and keeping up the ferment. The Church of Rome has a certain, well developed policy that it has followed almost since its institution. Bishop Bonacum has been a stickler for that policy, while the priests have been disposed to follow various tangents, and this difference has caused much of the trouble. The World-Herald might get to the bottom of the matter and give the public some valuable and interesting information. Thus far most of the matter that has been published has been grossly unreliable.

I am in receipt of the following interesting communication from Mr. H. E. Newbranch:

You have seen fit, in the last issue of your valuable paper to grant to me and my mental status a great deal of prominence. Having stated the case, and settled it, from your own point of view, I trust you will allow me a few words in my own behalf. And first, as to the University of Nebraska. The university is a non-sectarian people's school, devoted to the promulgation of science, letters and independent thinking, but, at the same time, its influences are, for the most part, Christian influences. It is far, very far, from being a "nest of infidels." Now, as to myself. You charge me, first, with being young, and, this established, with being a "youthful cynic," and say that my ideas are mere boy's fancies. Granted this be true, what of the following? "Virtue, starv-



Walker Whiteside

be loyal and fair at the same time. Standing up for Nebraska does not mean distorting the facts and making false reports. Every person who knows anything about Nebraska knows that the Journal's letters about this state were utterly unreliable. Every person who knows anything of the other states visited by "Jo" knows that his reports from the south were bald misrepresentations. Is this journalism? Is this honesty?

The republicans of Douglas county have learned the deadly power of Mr. Rosewater's favor, and it is said that

publicans got together and discussed this matter in a very serious and earnest way. Mr. Broatch and other gentlemen who expected to be nominated by the republicans said very plainly that they would not care to take the risk of running for office if Mr. Rosewater supported them, and intimated that something would have to be done to secure his opposition. Accordingly a committee was appointed for the purpose of arousing the antagonism of the editor of the Bee. It has never at any time been very difficult to stir up Mr. Rosewater to an opposition of republican candidates, and this committee,