

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

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trustee, and in many instances the men who have sought to be appointed oil inspector or elected sanitary trustee were quite as able and efficient as the men who tried to obtain the higher office. With few exceptions the candidates for governor, and I am speaking of republican candidates now, have been small men, with nothing to commend them for the office. They have been mere politicians, with a pull of varying length. The governor of Nebraska has a great responsibility resting upon him. He has to pass upon many questions of vast importance to the people of the state. He must uphold the dignity of the state. There is something for him to do besides write arbor day proclamations and receive the boys from Jones' Cross Roads. The governor should be a man who is able to measure up to the gubernatorial standard with more success than the gentleman who now holds this high office. He should be one of the first citizens of the state, and not a jackleg politician. He should not be an oil room manipulator or a professional lobbyist. He should not be a man whose character is under suspicion. He should not be a man with nothing to commend him save the fact that he is a good fellow. A big man is wanted for this big office. There is a strong sentiment setting in in favor of making a new departure in the selection of candidates for state offices at the coming republican convention, and there is a strong probability that the men who are conspicuously wanting in proper qualifications will be promptly passed by.

Every once in awhile something is said about a clean sweep in the state house. A weekly paper in Omaha has intimated that there will be a fight on Superintendent Corbett and there have been one or two answering echoes. Mr. Corbett has made a singularly efficient officer. No superintendent of education in recent year has given such satisfactory service. His influence has been felt throughout the state, and the work of public instruction has been materially advanced during his incumbency. It was Mr. Corbett's misfortune to become involved in a distressing incident early in his official career which has been wilfully distorted and used to create prejudice against him. No one who has made an investigation of the facts has failed to be convinced of Mr. Corbett's innocence. His reputation is in itself sufficient refutation of the charges. Mr. Corbett thoroughly deserves a re-nomination, and the republicans of the state will hardly overturn precedent and do an injustice to an innocent and worthy man at the behest of a few misguided people animated by a prejudice.

The Kearney Democrat has an adequate idea of the qualifications that should distinguish a mayor. That paper says: "What Kearney needs is a mayor with John L. Sullivan's constitution, Levi Morton's money, Ben Harrison's chilled steel heart, Bill McKinley's gall, Tom Reed's nerve, Grover Cleveland's backbone and J. G. P. Hildebrand's voice. Then something would be done." The Democrat is right. Something would be done. And if Kearney is going to get such a mayor Lincoln would like to put in an order for one too.

Some optimist who thinks politics in this city is yet susceptible of reform, is

agitating the adoption of the Crawford county system of naming and selecting candidates for office. The republican county central committee was asked to give the voters an opportunity to adopt or reject this proposed measure, but the committee discreetly turned the project over to the convention. In the meantime the supporters of the Crawford system are not idle. They have called a mass meeting for this evening to take steps to force the party to take some action.

If anything ever needed reforming the present system of nominating candidates for public office certainly does. It could not possibly be any worse. So that the Crawford county plan, whatever its defects may be, must be an improvement. It has been in successful operation in various parts of the country, and has answered a good purpose in reducing to his proper level that high

personage, the Ward Politician. The plan is at least worthy of consideration, and the republican party can hardly refuse to give the voters an opportunity to express themselves on it.

Chancellor MacLean was formally inaugurated last week. The exercises incidental to the installation took on the form and importance of a state ceremonial. The president of the University of Minnesota, Dr. Northrop, and Chancellor Snow, of Kansas university, and other intellectual big wigs, to say nothing of the massive chief executive of Nebraska, and the scintillating Mr. Estabrook, and the urbane congressman from the Third district, Mr. Meiklejohn, and our H. H. Wilson, of pronounced democratic beliefs, and hosts of other notable personages lent lustre to an occasion that will be memorable in educational annals. The new chancellor's address was in the nature of a promulgation of policy, something like a governor's or a president's message. It outlined the ideas of the new executive head of the university, and afforded an insight into his character that no previous public appearance has given. The address concerned itself chiefly with scholarship. It was noticeable that it did not take up the question of the possibility of securing 2,000 or 20,000 students in a given time. It did not deal in quantities of one sort or

another. What it did do was to appeal for quality. It was apparent very soon after Chancellor MacLean's arrival in this city that his aim was to bring about an advancement in scholarship in the university. This idea was most emphatically brought out in the inaugural address. And after all it is far more important that the University of Nebraska should turn out a thousand scholars than three thousand were holders of diplomas.

Mr. Estabrook, in his address on behalf of the regents, was something of a surprise. He has been known as the most finished speaker in the state. Last week he made his debut as a wit, and his humor is equal to his oratory.

Mr. Wilson's address was also a departure from the conventional. He was thoroughly democratic. He glorified the university as a poor man's college. It was created and owned by the people, the common people. It did not owe its existence to a bequest of a rich man who had wrung his wealth from the people. Mr. Wilson's speech was thoughtful, and was one of the striking features of the exercises.

Governor Holcomb, the populist, has not received a large amount of consideration in this city; but I am not overstating the truth when I say that two thousand people pitied him as he

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