

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

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

in Kansas City. Monday morning he appeared before the ministers' meeting and in a strong paper advanced the idea that laws should be created to restrain the marriage of man and women who are morally and mentally unfit to become the parents of children. "In that way," he said, "there will be far less need for asylums and hospitals. I don't think the scheme will be impracticable in the twentieth century."

This preacher, Dr. T. P. Haley, has the correct idea. But it will be a long time before it is popular. Apparently the great mass of the people are in favor of unrestricted marriage and unrestricted divorce. They want the laws to be such that they can experiment with matrimony, and resort to divorce for a license to go on experimenting. They want matrimony open to all, even to the lowest and basest, and they want divorce so easy that it can be had for the asking. The people must want all this for they have so provided by law.

It may be that Dr. Haley's idea may be practicable in the twentieth century. But a considerable advance will have to be made before the people are ready to adopt this plan. It is unquestionably right. But it sometimes takes right a long time to establish itself. In it is the solution of many of the social problems of the day.

When Mr. T. C. Martin, editor of the Electrical Engineer, visited Lincoln on the occasion of the inauguration of Chancellor MacLean he made some entries in his note book. On his return to New York he expanded these notes into an article on "Electrical Engineering at the University of Nebraska," which, with handsome illustrations, appears in the last number of the Electrical Engineer. The article is comprehensive and does infinite credit to the university in general and the electrical department in particular. The following is a paragraph from the article.

It is proper, in closing this brief review of the splendid work thus being done by a western university in higher technical education, to note that the success already reached must in no small measure be attributed to Professor R. B. Owens. No elderly man would have cared to take up the task that he assumed some five years ago of organizing the new department; but even in a country where youth is counted chief among the virtues, it is a little surprising to see the responsibility resting upon the subject of this personal note. Professor Owens might in a sense be taken as typical of the energetic New South, for he was born on a plantation in the southern part of Maryland, a state of which his mother's great grandfather was the first democratic governor. He spent three years in an old military school of Maryland, and was the youngest to graduate since its founding in 1774. After a brief connection with the old Baxter Motor company, he resumed study at Johns Hopkins university, under Dr. Louis Duncan, and stood well in mathematics and physics. He was then for a time with the Excelsior company in New York, and put in and superintended the Thomson-Houston station at Greenwich, Conn. Study was not neglected, mean time, for in 1891 he received the post-graduate degree of E. E. from Columbia college, in the first class to receive it in America, having been a student under Professor Crocker. When the University of Nebraska wanted to make its new departure, Mr. Owens was invited to go out there, and he was made adjunct professor of electrical engineering. In 1894 he became

full professor of electrical engineering, and in 1895 he assumed full charge of the department of electrical and steam engineering. He was a member of the international electrical congress in 1893, and a judge of awards in electricity at the Columbian Exposition of that year. He is a member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. Prof. Owens' forte strikes one as that of organization. He is moreover appreciative of the practical and commercial side of engineering, and while he encourages his students to grasp theory with full realization of its meaning, he aims also to make them take hard-headed views of the problems of engineering, as they are to be found, in actuality, on the prairie floors and broad rivers of the central west.

The two daily papers in Omaha are trying to find out which is doing the best job in "Standing up for Nebraska." It would be a good thing if all the newspapers in the state would enter into this competition.

THE EDITOR.

THE OMAHA JOHNS

Webster has been described as a "dresser from Dresserville," says "Met" in the World-Herald. He is reputed to possess the most extensive wardrobe of any man in Omaha and he uses it. Cowin is a good dresser, but raiment with Cowin is not a weakness. He wears good clothes, but does not have the passion for variety that Webster has. Thurston has devoted too much attention to political fences to give much thought to dress. He is "neat but not gaudy." On the contrary, Thurston impresses one as a man whose wife must be kept busy looking after the details of his raiment. He has the American characteristic of leaning to old clothes. He prefers an old suit pressed by his repair tailors to one of the latest pattern. If Webster leans to any particular section aside from an entire wardrobe, it is to vests, and he is the only man in Omaha who sports one of the chromatic order. Cowin leans to spring overcoats and Thurston's only serious care is trousers. Thurston's trousers will bag at the knees, and while he does not mind it, frequent rebukes on the point by his good wife have, it is said, stirred within the senatorial breast the only anxiety for the senatorial wardrobe.

Every history of Nebraska and of Omaha is full of details of the career of Thurston and Webster, but not so with Cowin. Mention of Cowin necessarily

appears frequently in all of the local histories, but he seems to have avoided anything in the nature of "write ups, and the only available sketch of his life is found in a paper covered book entitled "Omaha Illustrated."

CREATURE COMFORTS

Where is the man with discernment,
With judgment and faculties ripe,
Who, loving the creature comforts of life,
Scorns a book and a corn-cob pipe?
With cheery blaze in the hearthplace,
An armchair, and warm-slipped feet,
Thus equipped with the tome and the corn bowl,
What joy can be find more sweet?
What then if the storm rages wildly,
And the wind howls a wild refrain,
He is far away in a world of delight,
Removed from life's sorrow and pain.
Have the storms of the world dire oppressed him?
Is he weighed down with the strife?
'Tween the whiffs of his pipe and the leaves of his book
There he finds the true solace of life.
Not for me the Havana or meerschaum;
When gloom from my mind I would wipe,
'Tis then that I find the most comfort and cheer
In a book and my corn-cob pipe.

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