

long ways toward putting Nebraska back in the column of republican states at the next election.

There is no reason or excuse why the legislature should make any mistake in this matter, because it has a long list of splendid men to select from, such men as Lambertson, Field, Hayward, Whedon, Hainer, and if you are to go north of the Platte, Webster. Men whose republicanism is of startling worth; any one of them would be a creditable representative of Nebraska. They stand for the highest ideals of Republican statesmanship and represent the highest and best in politics. They have been active in season and out of season, on the stump, in party councils, caucuses and conventions, doing yeoman service for their party and have by their sterling integrity and the principles they have advocated earned the confidence and respect of the party and their claims upon the party for the office of United States senator, are entitled to the highest consideration.

D. E. Thompson is a candidate for the office of United States senator, or thinks he is. Could anything be more ridiculously absurd? It is preposterous that he should announce himself as a self-constituted candidate for this office. Think of the unblushing effrontery, the reckless audacity that prompts this man to (unsolicited by anyone) announce to the public that he is a candidate for the office of United States senator. In the name of high heaven what reason can he, or anyone else, give why he should be United States senator? What claims has he upon the party or people of this state for this high office? Who requested him to be a candidate? Who solicited the service of his matchless statesmanship? What party service has he rendered to even entitle him to be a candidate? Has he ever taken any part in the councils of the party? Has he ever manifested sufficient interest in the welfare of the republican party to attend as a delegate a caucus or convention, either city, county, state or national? The only interest he has ever manifested in politics is to further his own, selfish purposes, such as getting an exorbitant lighting contract for the city of Lincoln; controlling and manipulating the mayor and city council for the purpose of getting some unfair and unjust advantage of the city and to this end he has almost universally supported and helped to elect every dishonest and incompetent man that has run for a city office in the last five years, and when he can make a more favorable deal with the opposition or fusion candidates he has supported them, thus showing that his whole purpose in politics is for personal and selfish objects.

Thompson's politics has always been on a low, selfish plan, base, corrupt and tricky candidates have not met with Thompson's opposition and condemnation, the question and motive that seemed to control him was purely and solely, "If I help that man can I use him?" and the question as to whether or not he was fit for the office does not seem to be a part of his code of political ethics. He has not stood for or represented in politics that which was highminded, clean and respectable; his brief political career has been on a low, ignoble plane, pondering to the low, sordid and corrupt, and we candidly think that he has done more in this community since his advent into local politics to debase and debase the political morals than any ten men in it. He might be a power for good in this community, but he cannot forget his own personal selfish ends and gain long enough to serve the public for the public good. Who can point to anything noble and

manly in politics that Thompson has ever done for the benefit of the party and the people? In 1896 he supported for a delegate to the republican national convention Bud Lindsey, a former colored saloon keeper, for further discription see police records. In preference to C. H. Gere, editor of the State Journal, and C. O. Whedon, one of our most prominent attorneys and respected citizen.

Why is it that D. E. Thompson is so almost universally distrusted in this community? Why is it that the people of this city have so little or no confidence in him, and that this is true no one can successfully deny?

When he offered to pump the water for the city for several thousand dollars less than the city could do it itself, his offer was rejected and scorned because the council thought it was the first step toward the private ownership of the city waterworks. The people distrusted him. He is distrusted by the public because his political life has been on a low, selfish plane. He is almost universally found working for, advocating, supporting and trying to foist upon the people some corrupt, dishonest man, because he thinks he can use him, and he does use him for his own selfish purposes to the detriment and injury of the general public.

Is this the kind of man to send to the United States senate? Will he represent the highest and best in politics? Will he voice the highest, noblest and best sentiment of the people of this state?

An editorial in the State Journal of December 6 on the subject of the next senator says "the man who is chosen must be a recognized political leader." Fancy, if you can, the great republican party of Nebraska following and D. E. Thompson leading.

This would be a spectacle for the Gods.

At the republican banquet in Omaha a few nights since, Judge Hayward said in the course of his speech what was in effect the following:

The trouble with the republican party in this state commenced with the failure of the Capital National bank and the gang of corrupt hoodlums and manipulators who were connected with it. When Mr. Hayward said this men looked at each other and at D. E. Thompson significantly. Mr. Hayward is reported to have answered in the affirmative when asked if this particular portion of his speech was deliberate.

In this connection Mr. Thompson's anxiety to connect his name with that of the most prominent candidate may be noted. All the country newspapers of the state are being visited by friends of Mr. Thompson urging the publishers thereof not to array themselves against his candidacy if they cannot support it. It is also suggested that if the paper is advocating Judge Hayward as United States senator that it would be very well received if the editor would just mention in speaking of Mr. Hayward that Mr. Thompson is the next strongest candidate. The object of such a request is apparent.

Among the incidents of this week that we are laughing and talking about is one connected with an editorial by Mr. Gere in the Journal of December 6 entitled "The Next Senator." Mr. Thompson evidently read the editorial and concluded that he was not the kind of man Mr. Gere had in mind when he wrote: "It is the conviction of republicans everywhere that the future of the party depends largely upon the character and ability of the man that shall finally be selected to succeed Mr. Allen. He must be a man who has the respect of the party at large and whose record has

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been clean and whose canvass shall be above reproach. He must not be directly or remotely connected with scandals that have in the past brought the party to disgrace and caused its defeat. He must have clean hands and be a recognized political leader, a man altogether competent to represent a great state in the highest court of the nation."

Mr. Thompson cut the editorial out of the paper and meeting Mr Gere accused him of roasting him—Thompson: The quickness with which Mr. Thompson is in the habit of resenting unlabeled newspaper paragraphs referring to politicians who attempt to direct public affairs in the interest of their private business, or to men who have axes to grind at the people's expense, is one of the interesting characteristics of his present activity. It is scarcely shrewd though to accept the classification of opponents so readily. The editorial in question represents the attitude of the best republicans so fairly that the rest of it is herewith reproduced

"Every republican in the legislature is responsible to his district and the party for the manner in which he casts his vote and the motives that prompt his selection of a candidate. If the great mass of republicans in the state, the people who have no axes to grind, no personal favors to solicit, should be disappointed in the outcome of the senatorial election, the prospects of future success at the polls in the present close state of voting will be exceedingly small. So much depends on the wisdom of the choice next month of the republican caucus that it is not at all to be wondered at that there is much unrest and anxiety.

It will be well for the members elect to declare themselves as early as pos-

sible to relieve the anxiety and to relieve themselves also of the suspicion of waiting for bids. When a man makes up his mind and declares it while he is in touch with his constituents, in accordance with the best opinions of those who elected him, he avoids a great deal of the criticism that is apt to follow him if he doesn't know whom he is for until the last moment, just soon enough to cast his ballot. Many members have doubtless done so, but there are said to be others who don't expect to know what they are going to do until they get into caucus."

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