

the new ideal of the American voter—a man who is physically and mentally brave and not afraid to face any subject, not afraid to be quoted in newspapers, or to face a crowd which has recorded an adverse opinion to his. This mental attitude of Governor Roosevelt's is well expressed in the speech he made on May 15th, at the dinner of the Independent club of Buffalo. Taken in connection with the extract from Mr. Bryan's speech the difference in the attitude of the two men is made plain by contrast and needs no comment.

"Oh, if I could only impress upon you the two sides of the question—that the rich man who buys a privilege from a Board of Aldermen for a railway which he represents, the rich man who gets a privilege through the legislature by bribery and corruption for any corporation, that man is committing an offense against the community which it is possible may some day have to be condoned in blood and destruction, not by him, not by his sons, but by you and your sons. If I could only make you understand that on one side, and make you understand on the other—make the mass of our people, make the mass of our voters understand, on the other—that the worst thing they can do is to choose a representative who shall say, 'I am against corporations; I am against capital,' and not a man who shall say, 'I stand by the Ten Commandments; I stand by doing equal justice to the man of means and the man without means; I stand by saying that no man shall be stolen from, and that no man shall steal from any one else; I stand by saying that the corporations shall not be blackmailed on the one side, and that the corporations shall not acquire any improper power by corruption on the other; that the corporation shall pay its full share of the public burdens, and that when it does so it shall be protected in its rights exactly as any one else is protected.'"

Advertising Beggars.

A newspaper has but one commodity to sell—publicity. If that publicity is presented to every one who asks for it, the newspaper soon becomes a benevolent institution and must be supported, as such institutions are, by free will offerings from the charitable. A man who would be ashamed to ask his grocer for a bag of flour or his tailor for a coat is not at all ashamed to invite an editor to an opening where his own wares are displayed and request a free write-up. The man may not even be a subscriber to the paper, he may never in any way have recognized the existence of the institution which he thinks to work for a puff. It has only become momentarily useful and if the editor is unsophisticated enough to give him for nothing the advertising he wants, the paper will be forgotten until the next annual blow out when the merchant or politician desires publicity again. Yet if the editor refuses to give his commodity to the man who asks for it he gets the reputation of not being public spirited, for every man considers that his own business is a great public blessing.

Reciprocity in business is practised by all merchants. The banker's family buys hardware, furniture, groceries, etc., of the dealers in those commodities who are depositors in his bank, in preference to competitors who deposit their profits in a rival institution. The rule stands the test of fairness for it works both ways, yet the same business men criticize an editor for applying it, and accuse him of being subsidized for the price of a subscription.

Every other letter in an editor's mail contains more or less cunningly disguised bait to secure free advertising. One of the most frequent and flagrant beggars for free advertising is Mr. Cutright of Omaha, who has been selected by the managers of the

Omaha Beer Plaisance to cajole country editors and editors of weekly papers, out of advertising by the offer of a pass into the grounds. It is a fakir's talent to get something for nothing, and Mr. Cutright may succeed in his plans unless he is defeated by the experience the editors have had with just such attempts. Eight thousand dollars was set aside by the showmen to pay for advertising in newspapers which were supposed to have found themselves and Mr. Cutright was employed to coax the rest to work for nothing. But the Nebraska exchanges do not appear to contain much advertising of the Omaha show.

Mr. Bookwalter's Russian Letters.

Siberia and Central Asia by John W. Bookwalter of Ohio, is a book of 548 pages and 294 illustrations. It is printed on fine, smooth paper with wide margins. It opens flat in one's hand like a silk-sewed bible. The mechanical appearance is especially grateful to a book reviewer to whom authors and publishers are accustomed to send defective or paper covered copies for revision. Thus an edition de luxe like the book under consideration, is of great importance to a book lover.

Mr. Bookwalter started from Moscow last July to journey through Siberia, designing to inspect the extent and quality of the railroad building done by Russia in the last ten years. The line of the trans Siberian railway runs in a general way through middle European Russia, the centre of the western part of western Siberia and along the southern border of eastern Siberia. Its western terminus is Moscow, and in the east Vladivostok on the Pacific ocean. One thousand miles of this railroad is completed and 6,100 miles are contemplated. "The railway, like all Russian railways is well constructed, the road-bed firm, track well ballasted, generally with stone, and easy gradients. The road has a five foot gauge, uniform with all the roads in Russia. This gives an ample breadth to the cars, which with their unusual height imparts an air of comfort to travel. The stations are handsome. It is a perfect delight to take a meal in the station restaurants. You can get soup, fine beefsteak, roast chicken, whole and done in Russian style, and a bottle of beer all for one ruble, or fifty cents."

Everything else is sacrificed to safety. "Besides the electrical and other appliances used in the best railway service, they have an immense army of guards, both for the train and the track. The road is divided into sections containing about two-thirds of a mile each. On each section a little cottage is built where the guard and his family live. It is the duty of the guard or one of his family to patrol his section night and day. As soon as the train passes the guard steps into the middle of the track, holds a flag aloft—at night a lantern—and watches the retreating train until it passes into the next verst or section. Where there is a heavy curve that prevents the view of a road for a verst, several guards are employed on a section. A train is therefore, never out of sight of a guard. Women often perform the service which is quite apart from that of the section gang, whose duty is to repair the road."

In building the new road into Siberia the Russian directorate follows a curious plan in regard to the location of the stations along its right of way a plan which Mr. Bookwalter approves, but which seems to an American the rankest injustice to the first

or original settlers. In America we call the men who go far enough ahead of the railroad to have settled and made their plans of life quite without reference to the railroad, frontiersmen or backwoodsmen according to our point of view. Whatever their name they are adventurous, brave and willing to accept the conditions of a new and wild country. Daring to go out and possess the land they, if any, should reap the reward, of their brave venture. But the Russian Railroad company does not locate its stations on towns already existing, but selects localities on the steppes or prairies of Siberia where only the vast herds of cattle watch the arrival and departure of trains. Mr. Bookwalter thinks such a policy expedient because he thinks it will get the Tartars accustomed to the railway gradually. Then he tells how the old towns which were prosperous before the R. R. Co., carefully laid out its route several miles away from them, have fallen into ruin since. Americans believe it is better to be shocked, to have old habits uprooted, to be intruded upon, in short, by something new, noisy, and dirty, than to be left to crumble in a forgotten and deserted corner.

The Steppes of Siberia are like the prairies of Nebraska in richness of soil, uncertainty of waterfall, in the vast herds of horses and cattle the Tartars pasture on them, in the large fields of corn in the southern part and in the small grains grown in the northern and central part.

In Siberia and Central Asia may be found the common things we want to know, the aspect of the country and the people, what they eat and wear, what their houses are built of, and the furniture they have in them. The effects of the railroad construction have already begun to appear. Externally in the nervousness of England as the terminals creep nearer China and India and in Russia in the migration of Russian farmers into the steppes. Any Russian who wishes may take up eighty acres of land in Siberia and the government will loan him a sum of money without interest sufficient to start him in a new country.

The half tones that reproduce the photographs which Mr. Bookwalter took in Russia are remarkably clear and interesting. They are selected by an American who is at once a good business man, a lover of learning, and an extensive traveller and they show, without being a railroad prospectus, what and what sort of building has been done, and the lay of the land as well as the picturesque ruins, churches, city walls and native costumes. In spite of the many traveller's books on Russia which are being published daily I know of none, so satisfactory for so many reasons as this of Mr. Bookwalter's.

The State University.

The schools all over the country and especially in Nebraska, are closing an unusually successful season. Our own State university is growing and prospering more rapidly than the people of the state realize. It is extremely fortunate in its Chancellor who steadily, with more than human tact, patience, energy and ability, has guided the university through a difficult period including a trying legislative session. Chancellor MacLean has a night and day working capacity and he does not measure his time by the tea hour scale, but works night and day for the university. Every alumnus who has received the priceless gift of an education from the state is under obligations to Chancellor MacLean for the success with

(which he is conserving the resources and enlarging the usefulness of the university. It is difficult to believe that any alumnus whose horizon has been expanded by the generosity of the state will hesitate to recognize the value of and be grateful to a man through whose efforts the blessings of an education are being extended to a larger and larger number of the youth of the state. We have freely received and if we can not as freely give, we can, at least cultivate the negative virtue of doing nothing to harm an institution which is educating the generations of Nebraska.

When the demands upon the time, the conscience, and the mind of the head of a great school are considered the largeness and completeness of the answer made by Chancellor MacLean is apparent. The governing boards of other and more composed schools than the Nebraska State university have lately invited Chancellor MacLean to accept a presidency, but the people of the state, the alumni and the undergraduates of the university earnestly hope that he will not be tempted to accept any offer which will take him away from this university.

First Nebraska.

The last review of the troops of the First Nebraska may be held in Lincoln. Prominent politicians, plain citizens and the patriotic generally are working for such an event. The boys of the First have conferred more distinction upon Nebraska than any one else who has ever borne the name into a foreign land or into other states of this. To be sure Mr. Bryan is a Nebraskan but no one except Senator Allen has ever talked so long at a time, Mr. Bryan is in the way of being a phenomenon, and all the world knows it. We can not boast that Nebraska did it. Besides speeches are not deeds and when he had a chance to endure till the end he did not take it. Senator Thurston has said valiant things too, and Mr. T. Sterling never forgot to honor Nebraska as secretary of agriculture, and both by a famous administration and by the good words he spoke of the state he has extended its fame. Many other men from Nebraska have become famous and have not forgotten to share it with the state, but they went out by themselves and the world may justly think them phenomenal. But the members of the First Nebraska enlisted from Stromsberg, Crete, York, Seward, Grand Island, Omaha, and Lincoln. They may as justly be considered a type of the young man in Nebraska as they have been brave, obedient and equal to the occasion so will Nebraska be in the day of trial. Though among ourselves it is well enough to admit that the young fellows who enlisted were the bravest and choicest of the youth of the state. Their selection was not quite at random for the physician's examination was rigid and many offered who were not chosen. The strong and the well are braver than the sick, and those that enlist at the first call are what is known as the flower of the youth.

What is left of the First Nebraska has the strongest claim upon our affection and our admiration. A final review in the capital, the state whose name in the regiment has borne so well, would give the citizens of the state an opportunity to express their appreciation.

PHILOSOPHIES.

We know not what doth lie beyond the Door,
But chained and guarded here, behold us grown
Enamoured of our Cell in scrolling o'er
With tales of freedom each confining stone.

—Harper's Magazine.