

THE COURIER

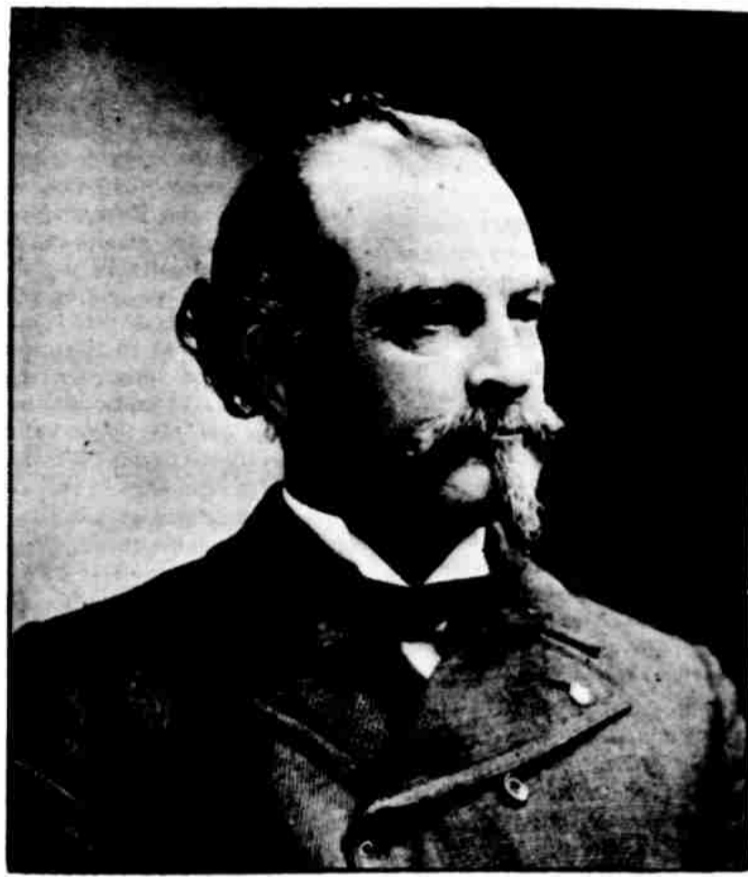
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GEORGE W. MARSH.



GOVERNOR EZRA P. SAVAGE.



HARRY C. LINDSAY.

BATTLE FOR GOVERNOR'S TOGA

**Bartley Pardon the Lance by Which Opponents of Governor Savage
Hope to Unhorse**

Present Executive and Land a New Man in the Executive Chair

With the pardoning of Joseph Bartley and the accompanying storm of criticism from the republican press throughout the state, the busy, buzzing bee that has been tickling the ambitious ear of aspiring politicians has begun beating a merrier tune. Incipient hopes that were being carefully nourished for 1904 are being forced to develop by hot house methods, hastened by the possibilities of an earlier budding.

That Governor Savage will be a candidate for the nomination is not questioned at the present time. Nothing but a sudden and unexpected turn of the horoscope will place him hors de combat and, despite the adverse comment his administration has brought forth, he will be a powerful opponent to overcome. Nevertheless there are those who, while professedly resting their fate with their friends, are perfectly willing to measure strength with him.

Perhaps the most dangerous rivals of the governor, from present indications, are H. C. Lindsay of Pawnee City, chairman of the republican state convention, and A. E. Cady of St. Paul. Tentative candidates of less promise are C. F. Steele of Fairbury, president pro tem of the senate and acting lieutenant governor, and G. W. Marsh of Falls City, secretary of state. Dr. J. L. Greene of Lincoln and J. H. Van Dusen of South Omaha, personal friends of Governor Savage, are willing to enter the fray provided the governor is not a candidate. If he aspires to another term they avow their

willingness to assist him in realizing his ambition.

The Bartley pardon will be an issue in the pending campaign. From all indications it will be the chief rallying cry of all anti-administrationists, of whatever party. Unless Bartley should take it on himself to rob the governor's critics of a generous portion of their ammunition by making entire or partial restitution, Savage's position will be seriously stormed and the outcome at this date is wrapped in amazing uncertainty.

With the issue fixed, it is generally conceded that H. C. Lindsay occupies a position of extraordinary strength. An intimation of the argument of his friends may be gleaned from a recent editorial utterance of a republican newspaper of Pawnee City, the home of Mr. Lindsay. In effect it said:

"Harry C. Lindsay should be the next republican candidate for governor. Governor Savage's action has divorced him from the party and proved him to be utterly unworthy of confidence. Mr. Lindsay is heartily in sympathy with the governor's critics. It was knowledge of what Savage intended doing in the Bartley affair that caused Mr. Lindsay to take his trip to the Pacific coast at the close of the last campaign, leaving his resignation as private secretary in the governor's hands, to be acted on at his discretion."

It is possible that Mr. Lindsay may be diverted from his ambition to become Savage's successor, for he has been in a receptive position for a federal appointment for some time. If

nothing is realized from this source before the fall campaign opens, Mr. Lindsay will be found a dangerous competitor of all comers, say those who profess to know. As chairman of the republican state committee he occupies an especially strong position. He knows the state organization thoroughly, being in touch with the leaders in every county, and in many of the precincts. He knows exactly where and how to place his hand to bring about the desired result in any community. As present censor of postoffice applications his power is also increased.

With or without Lindsay in the race, A. E. Cady of St. Paul is conceded to be a promising competitor of all, with the issue conceded. He has been a prominent figure in republican councils for several years. At the last republican state convention, when the now famous resolution was passed asking Governor Savage to revoke the pardon of Bartley and order him back to prison at once, Mr. Cady was one of the chief speakers in support of the measure. A delegate remarked:

"When Cady and Judge Jessen had finished, there remained nothing to be said."

Cady comes from the North Platte district, and is conceded to be one of Rosewater's favorites. It is said in Lincoln that if no truce can be patched up between Rosewater and Savage that Cady will doubtless get the support of Rosewater and, much as this may be belittled and scoffed at, it is a quantity respected by all the politicians. And this leads to another observation.

Republican leaders realize that they have not the state assured by such a majority that internecine fights can be tolerated without danger to republican interests. That there has been ill feeling between Rosewater and Savage no one denies. The cause, to one who has not had the experience, seems ludicrous. When Savage was lieutenant governor last winter and the legislature was in desperate throes trying to elect two United States senators, Savage was not asked for a suggestion until the last day.

Savage has a sensitive nature and felt deeply the sting of being ignored. When he was called to the governorship when Dietrich was elected to the senate, he all but refused point blank to take the office. It required the most careful of manipulation, and the greatest persuasion to keep him from resigning and thus allowing President of the Senate Steele to become the official head of the state.

When he finally did accept the position, against his better judgment, he did not go for advice to the men who had been prominent before the legislature. Then Rosewater began to feel the humiliation of being left out of the councils. When it began to appear that Savage would in all likelihood, have the power soon to appoint a fire and police commission for Omaha, in the light of a recent decision of the supreme court, the Omaha editor insisted on having a say. So persistent were his demands, that finally in pique, the governor returned rather a harsh

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