

Nebraska

EDGAR HOWARD

Democratic Candidate for Lieutenant-Governor

During the next legislative assembly in Nebraska will appear three problems for the betterment of the conditions of all the people of the state, but particularly for the betterment of the condition of the agricultural interests. Legislation will be asked for to enable the people to form public water-power districts on Nebraska creeks and rivers for the purpose of generating electricity and carrying it at low cost to the homes and barns of the farmers, as well as to the homes and business houses in the towns. Another legislative problem will be the devising of a workable warehouse law, modeled upon the principle of our splendid law which guarantees the deposit of money in the state banks. If we could have had such a law in Nebraska when the wheat crop was harvested last summer the farmers of the state could have saved millions of dollars which is now in the pockets of the big grain speculators. Thousands of farmers were compelled to sell their grain when the price was at the bottom, because they had no storage room for it, and many sold at fifty cents a bushel less than they could have received if they had been able to hold the grain a little while.

Still another legislative problem confronting the new legislature will be the demand for a maximum long-distance telephone law, just like our present maximum telegraph law. The law forbids a telegraph company to charge more than 25 cents for a ten-word message between any two towns in Nebraska, but the great Boston corporation which controls the long-distance telephone business in Nebraska is allowed to charge as high as three dollars for a three-minute phone message between distant points in the state. Automatically every family has felt the power of the big corporation to exact unfair tribute, and the people will be expecting the legislature to grant relief. It will be well for all the voters to talk to the legislative candidates about this needed legislation.

Edgar Howard, the democratic nominee for the office of lieutenant-governor, is advocating this proposed good legislation, and all Nebraskans who desire this legislation accomplished should try to elect as lieutenant-governor the man who has done more than any other to arouse public interest in these three propositions which will mean so much of good to Nebraska if they can be accomplished.

GRANT L. SHUMWAY

Democratic Candidate for Commissioner of Public Lands and Buildings

Mr. Shumway has all the qualifications necessary to fill the position of commissioner of public lands and buildings. In discussing the policies with which he would have to deal if elected Mr. Shumway says: "I favor the investment of school and public moneys in securities within the state. Much Nebraska money has been invested in bonds of Idaho and other states while we have within our own state many latent resources, sleeping for lack of encouragement of capital to develop them. Millions of dollars run annually to waste for want of money to dig irrigation canals and develop fertile lands. The great central Nebraska project sleeps for that reason. Our lack of control of rivers and our undeveloped water power is a far greater waste. The fall of the Platte is greater than ten Niagaras.

"Why not invest all of Nebraska's millions in Nebraska school, road, county, municipal, industrial and community bond issues? Why not invest at home instead of thousands of miles away, which always helps the other fellow develop his industries? Why not invest in safe and sound securities where we can supervise the investment instead of seeking 'invisible investments' somewhere in the distance? Why not

a water power development and the perpetual revenue from the horse power developed? Why not have million dollar institutions strung out across the state, continually pouring wealth into our state treasury as taxes and revenues? The income would support our state institutions, build our highways and bridges, and do much more.

"I believe in good roads and the construction thereof, keeping as far as possible within the smaller unit, each county and road district doing the work within the district. Overhead expenses and top-heavy bureaus are dangers of centralization in road building. However, the state needs a system of trunk lines and the nation a system of transcontinental highways, and in this it will be necessary for co-operation. If elected I will be a member of the board of state highway commissioners and will do my utmost that Nebraska secures its full proportion of the sums appropriated by congress for good roads, without favor to anyone; such money to be expended under the direction of local people.

"The commissioner of public lands and buildings is a member of nearly every state board that has to do with the control of school lands, investment of public money, taxation, equalization, irrigation, highways, bridges and drainage. Though considered one of the minor offices of the state, it will be found to be very important.

"If elected, my services shall belong to the state, and I hope it will mean something to the taxpayers, aside from the constructive policies which I will help to promote."

Grant L. Shumway should receive the support of every Nebraska voter who favors the development of Nebraska's resources for the benefit of all the people of the state.

GEORGE E. HALL

State Treasurer of Nebraska

Mr. Hall, state treasurer of Nebraska, is a man who knows his own mind. Nobody who has watched things at the state capitol closely during the past year and a half will question that statement. It used to be said of some men who served as state treasurer at different times that they were "bossed from the outside." Nobody has ever accused Hall of any such thing.

The principal charge brought against Treasurer Hall by his critics, in fact, is just the reverse. It is that he "won't take advice." His friends put it differently. They say:

"When George Hall makes up his mind that a thing is right or wrong, he acts accordingly. He doesn't play politics in the way that many public officials do. He follows his convictions and doesn't stop to figure out what the political effect may be upon himself."

The state treasurer's office is a place where a man has to know his own mind if he is going to manage it with an eye single to the interests of the state and its people. He handles cash and securities amounting to \$15,000,000 a year. He is responsible for a million or two of state funds deposited with banks.

Treasurer Hall's requirement for county treasurers and state departments to pay all state funds into the treasury monthly (which was never done before) has made it possible for the state board of assessments to reduce the state taxes during 1915 and 1916 \$1,000,000 lower than they were for 1913 and 1914.

Treasurer Hall's wise and careful handling of state funds entitle him to re-election.

MR. BRYAN IN MONTANA

[From the Missoula, Mont., Missoulian, Sept. 25]

Two Missoula crowds heard powerful addresses by William Jennings Bryan yesterday, and though the scanty moments between lectures were monopolized by leaders of Montana democracy most of the day was dedicated to matters appropriate to the Sabbath.

In neither of his addresses did Mr. Bryan speak of partisan issues. To both the audiences he faced he gave religious lectures, free from any trace of party feeling.

Before 3,000 people at the state university in the afternoon he appealed for nation-wide wo-

man suffrage; denounced the liquor traffic, and sketched a plan for world peace, based upon application of the philosophy of Jesus Christ. In the evening, addressing all who could crowd into the spacious auditorium of the Presbyterian church, Mr. Bryan lectured on "The First Commandment," rebuking the worship of false gods.

Governor Stewart accompanied Mr. Bryan to Missoula. The city's guest was welcomed wholeheartedly by admiring audiences. The great democrat's hold upon the popular imagination was revealed in the attention given his lectures and the sharp applause which greeted all he had to say.

FROM COMMONER READERS

Following are some of the letters received from Commoner readers:

John J. Murphy, Williston, N. D.: You will find enclosed list of 2,500 voters from my county. I enclose draft for \$62.50 to pay for sending the October issue of The Commoner to each name in this list.

Edwin L. Durkin, New York City: Enclosed find check for \$25 for which kindly mail campaign numbers of The Commoner into localities where they are most needed. I feel confident that the campaign of fact which you are carrying on for the President is sure to prove effective and gain results in his re-election.

Mr. J. W. Waddle, Roosevelt, Ariz.: I am enclosing herewith \$5 for which please renew my Commoner subscription for a year, and for the balance of this money send extra copies of The Commoner into close congressional districts and close states, where it will be most helpful in the campaign.

W. S. Ellis, Jonesboro, Ark.: I stepped out for a few moments today and made up a little club of subscribers, all in this town. Enclosed find my check for \$8.40 to pay for the enclosed list of fifteen yearly subscribers. If I had the time I could get a thousand in a few days. I certainly hope the present administration will win out by a large majority.

L. B. Lester, Batesville, Miss.: Enclosed find check for \$3.20 to pay for two yearly subscriptions at your campaign rate, and remaining \$2 to be used to pay for eighty copies of The Commoner at 2½ cents each — you to mail them from your September or October numbers—the papers to be mailed direct by you to forty persons for the two different months, or eighty persons for one month in any doubtful or close state; if you do not have the names to send them direct then have the national committee supply you with such names. Of course I could supply the names but in Mississippi that would be a waste of money, as there is no doubt about how this state will go in the fall election. I want to get Mr. Bryan's facts and figures and logic into the hands of independent republicans and progressives in doubtful states. I consider that my small contribution expended in this manner will do more good, and bring more thinking men under the democratic banner than \$100 expended on any other literature.

W. P. Holmes, Sherlock, Wisc.: I am enclosing check for \$10, which represents donations to the democratic national campaign fund for myself and Messrs. L. F. Dickert, L. S. Dell, J. W. Waterman and J. H. Garwick. In offering this donation it bespeaks our feeling in our great President and manifests our interest in the re-election of Woodrow Wilson. It may be interesting that the donators are commercial travelers and we fear not to trust the future industrial as well as social welfare of the nation to the care and guidance of our honorable President.

U. S. G. Pettycrew, Dunkirk, Mont.: Enclosed find check for \$5 for the Wilson campaign fund. I admire a man who has brains enough to make argument without abuse. To my mind abuse is the weapon of the hoodlum.

D. Downey: Enclosed find \$1.00, my contribution to the democratic campaign fund to help to continue in power the present administration, which is moving in the direction to again give to the people the governmental freedom which belongs to them.

Copies of this issue desired for campaign use will be mailed in bulk or to separate addresses at the rate of 2 1-2c per copy. Order early.