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Nebraska Politics

[From The Democrat, Omaha. Neb.] When Edgar Howard is elevated to the high office of governor of the great state of Nebraska there will be some wailing and there will also be some rejoicing. Keith Neville has made a good governor in the estimation of a majority of the people in this state, and his political friends will regret to see him leave the office. The fact that he took six years of military training in a college will be of great benefit to him in the position of colonel of the Seventh regiment, and his friends anticipate that he will make a military record for himself that will be gratifying. If the Seventh regiment is ever mustered into service by the federal government Edgar Howard will automatically become governor. And he will make a good one. Long years of experience, both in politics and business, has fitted him well for the place. Positive in his views, he has never flinched in backing them up, both with jaw-bone argument and in the columns of his paper. And take it from me, Howard is no dwarf when he takes the bit. In the numerous scraps he has put up in Nebraska during the last twenty-five years he sacrificed about everything except his family ties and his personal friends. Money never had much charm for Edgar. His newspapers and his printing plant have always enjoyed a splendid patronage, but no one familiar with facts ever gave Edgar much credit for managing the business end of the office with any great degree of success. Others on the staff attended to this. His forte was to write and to fight for principles he believed in. Defeat never even ruffled his convictions. Regardless of whether he was right or wrong you will have to give him credit for being sincere and regular. He always went one way. And the star, in my estimation, that shines brightest in his career, is the fact that he never deserted a friend. Loyalty is his middle name. He would split his last dime with a friend. In fact, if he was certain it was a case of need, you wouldn't have to be even an acquaintance, to say nothing of being a friend. His big heart is overflowing with charity in the broadest sense of the word. No human being is too humble to get an audience with Edgar Howard, and I predict that his "private" office door will be swung wide open more hours than it will be closed. The man don't live who can truthfully accuse Howard of dishonesty or what is politically termed, grafting. One time last winter during the session of the legislature a lobbyist, in the strictest confidence, asked me if I thought Howard could be "approached." I replied that I did not know, but judging from a close personal friendship of twenty-five years standing, that in case the effort was made, the fellow had better see that his life insurance was all paid up and to also write a nice little note to his family bidding them a fond goodbye." To be sure Howard is human. He has most of the habits a redblooded American accumulates by spending a life time in the atmosphere of a newspaper. And he is not hypocritical about it. But extremely temperate in all of them. He conforms to the teachings of the Episcopal church as closely as the average member, Always a gentleman. Courteous, polite and entertaining because he is intelligent. Could a man of this calibre be anything but a good governor? Not on your life. Howard is broad. Broader than many think. He has set convictions of course, and insofar as his authority goes as governor he will no doubt inject them

wherever he finds an opening. But Nebraska, for being so fortunate as

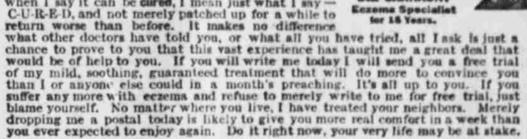
have no fear that he will over-reach to even have the prospect of securhis constitutional rights. I not only ing such a fine specimen of American congratulate Edgar, but the people of manhood as governor of this state.

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