

when it does there will be no more Gugenheims and Morgans and Rockefellers.

An expert in Chicago declares that gas may be made and sold at a profit for 65 cents. Huh! If some one will show us how to extract the gas from the average political platform and pipe it to the people, we'll sell it for half that per thousand feet and in a few years make Johnny Rockefeller look like a past due note at the bank.

The state banks of Nebraska are now operating under the guarantee law. We will watch with interest to see if there be a rush to these banks with the accumulations of tarnished gold and silver coins and musty greenbacks long hidden in stockings and old shoes and stovepipe holes. If we have not been misled as to the effect of a guarantee law the deposits in the aforesaid banks should show a wonderful increase by the time next statement day rolls around.

It would be just Nebraska's usual ill luck to have J. W. Crabtree remove to another state. Why is it that Nebraska, with an enormous permanent school fund, and always boasting of her interest in education, allows so many of her best educators to be lured to other states by better salaries? What state is in better shape to pay good salaries to teachers than Nebraska? A few years ago we let Prof. Ross get away from us, and Ross was then, as now, the leading sociologist of his day. We let Carroll Pearse get away, and Pearse is one of the biggest men in the educational field. A short time ago Prof. Davidson was allowed to get away, and Nebraska has great need of men like Davidson. Prof. Bishop resigned the state superintendency to accept a professorship at Ames, and the professorship pays twice as much as the office of state superintendent in Nebraska. Now Superintendent Crabtree is considering a tender of the principalship of a Wisconsin normal school, the salary being double that he is now receiving. He is worth as much to this state as an educator as he could be to Wisconsin.

LABOR DAY ARRANGEMENTS.

The trades unionists of Lincoln have wisely decided not to have a parade on Labor Day this year. Instead they will have a family picnic at some resort, probably Capital Beach, at which time they and their friends will be privileged to listen to some speaker of national fame. Instead of spending money on a parade the unionists will devote whatever a parade might cost to the defense fund now being raised for the McNamaras, charged with dynamiting by the Merchants and Manufacturers association. Also, whatever proceeds above expenses there may be from the picnic will be used for the same purpose. It is purposed to have the Labor Day speaker discuss the McNamara case fully and fairly.

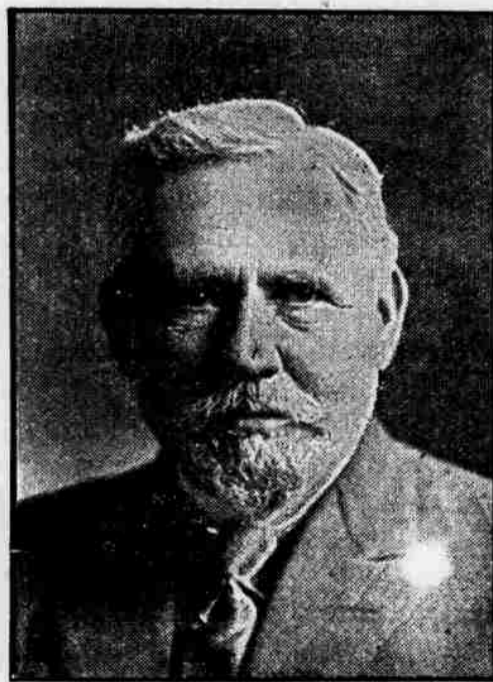
Trades unionists are not striving to prevent justice being done to any who may

commit crimes in the name of unionism. On the contrary, they ask only exact and even justice. They believe the McNamaras innocent, in which holding they act in conformity with the law, which holds every man to be innocent until proved guilty by a jury of his peers. They believe that money in plenty will be provided for the prosecution of the indicted unionists, and they do not mean that the indicted men shall be railroaded to the gallows. They intend seeing to it that the McNamaras have every opportunity to make adequate defense, not only because the McNamaras are union men, but because the prosecution is not nearly so much interested in finding the accused guilty as it is in securing a verdict from the public against the trades union movement. The McNamaras are mere pawns in the game that is being played by men who will halt at nothing to break down the only barrier that stands between the workers of this country and industrial serfdom.

The trades unionists of Lincoln, in common with their fellows everywhere, should, and doubtless do, feel a personal interest in providing an adequate defense for the men now charged with the awful crime of dynamiting. If these men are guilty, no honest trades unionist will oppose the utmost punishment provided by law. But they do insist that the accused have a fair trial, trial before an unprejudiced court. More they will not ask for; less they will not submit to.

FRANCIS G. HAMER.

Judge Hamer, republican candidate for the nomination for judge of the supreme court, is one of Nebraska's earliest pioneers. He still owns the homestead which he and his wife entered nearly



forty years ago. Judge Hamer served upon the district bench for a number of years, and his record was a credit to himself and satisfactory to the people. He is the only republican candidate living west of a line drawn through the state north and south and bisecting York and Norfolk. His ability is beyond question, and as a member of the court of final re-

sort he will give to Nebraska the ripened experience of an able lawyer and a trained jurist.

THE TRACTION PROBLEM.

Will Maupin's Weekly holds no brief for the defense of the Lincoln Traction Co. On the contrary, it is more inclined to assist in the prosecution because of that corporation's sins of omission and commission. But first of all this newspaper desires to be fair, and it is of the opinion that fairness has not been accorded the Lincoln Traction Co.

We hold that the stock of the corporation is unduly watered, but that does not mean what it might have meant a few years ago before regulation came into effect. Even though the company were stocked and bonded ten times more than it now is, that wouldn't have any effect on the public, for the very simple reason that the corporation is allowed to pay but 8 per cent dividends on its actual physical valuation—the valuation being fixed by the state railway commission. The only people who suffer because of water in the stock are those who have invested their good money therein. With this fact in mind one may more readily grasp other and really important facts.

For instance, why should the Traction Co. be assessed at \$57,000 a mile in the paved districts while the Burlington is assessed at only \$51,000 a mile—remembering that the Burlington tax includes terminals, rolling stock, etc., distributed over the system, while the Traction tax does not include anything but the rails. The power plant; rolling stock, etc., are listed separately and taxed separately.

The Traction Co. is compelled to pave between rails and a certain distance out-sies, and to keep same in repair. What justice is there then, in compelling the company to pay tax on the paving?

Again, if the company is compelled to pay tax on that paving, why is it not allowed to include the value of the paving in its physical valuation and pay dividends thereon?

The Traction Co. is assessed more per mile in the paved districts than the Missouri Pacific system, the Northwestern, or the Rock Island system—remembering that the railroads tax includes everything, while the Traction Co. tax includes nothing but the rails, roadbed and paving.

Once more: The Traction Co. is allowed to pay but 8 per cent dividends on a valuation fixed by the state railway commission. The lines outside of the paved districts are assessed for taxation at a total of \$499,500. It is allowed to earn dividends upon a commission fixed physical valuation of but \$175,250.

Still again: The Traction Co. is allowed to pay dividends of 8 per cent on a physical valuation arbitrarily fixed by the state railway commission. An accident or a visitation of providence compels the company to replace property valued at \$25,000. The company of course must