

MEN AND MATTERS

The fling of Richard L. Metcalfe for governor was something of a surprise, although it is not difficult to understand why Mr. Metcalfe acquiesced in the demand of so many influential friends. There are many reasons why Will Maupin's Weekly is glad that "Met" filed; many reasons why it regrets it. His candidacy means that democrats will have an opportunity to make another choice between splendid, upstanding, progressive democratic candidates. If nominated and elected the state will have a governor it will always point to with pride.

The most regrettable feature of Mr. Metcalfe's candidacy is that it will lug into the campaign that old liquor fight—which always means in Nebraska that the democrat will get the worst of it. This is not at all due to the fact that the democratic party is the whisky party, but to the fact that the republican party, always the beneficiary of the liquor influence, ever manages to make it appear that it is the only "God and morality party" in existence. Thoughtful people will remember that the only progressive liquor regulation secured in Nebraska during the last quarter of a century was secured through a democratic legislature and a democratic

governor.

Yielding to pressure brought by friends, Mr. Metcalfe consented to become a candidate, but there are those who fear that Mr. Metcalfe has unwittingly allowed himself to be used by an element that thinks considerably more of some personal ends than it does of democratic success. However, if this be true, and this element expects to control "Met" in the event of his nomination and election, it will be sadly deceived. Metcalfe is not in the habit of being controlled.

With Morehead, Metcalfe and Pool already in the race, and with Berge on the eve of filing, the democratic situation is becoming somewhat "balled up." We regret that Mr. Pool did not see fit to file for some other state office—secretary of state, or auditor, for instance. He would have had little opposition for either place, and in this wise he would greatly strengthen the ticket.

The fact that ex-Governor Shallenberger and Mayor Dahlman were companions on a recent trip to Texas, participated in by about 200 other Nebraskans, has given rise to the rumor that they "mixed medicine" on the trip. Having been a member of the party, and traveling in the same car with those two prominent democrats, the editor of Will Maupin's Weekly is in a position to say that there was no "medicine mixing" on the way. The presence of Sir Walter George, by grace of republican votes treasurer of the great state of Nebraska, rather prevented the talking of democratic politics. Not that Sir Walter was averse to political palaver, but there was a feeling that the excursion was not the proper place for political discussion. However, when any two or more of the democratic members of the party got together there was, of course, some discussion of the outlook.

Mayor Dahlman figures that they can not beat him for a place on the Omaha commission next April, and he is satisfied with that. Governor Shallenberger is confident that he will secure the senatorial nomination. Further than the discussion of his own candidacy the governor refuses to go.

We are rather anxious to see what Mr. Bryan will have to say regarding Governor Wilson's admission that he was an applicant for a Carnegie pension. Seldom has Mr. Bryan become so wrought up over any question as he was over that Carnegie pension scheme. Now that Governor Wilson stands revealed as having applied for a pension it will be interesting to read Mr. Bryan's views thereon. It is the

calm and unbiased opinion of this newspaper that the Wilson boom has waned sadly during the last three or four weeks, and that the Harmon boom has increased in corresponding ratio. And yet we hold that Champ Clark is still the logical candidate.

When Champ Clark said what he did about Canadian annexation he told the absolute truth—which is not a politic thing for a politician or a candidate to do. Yet everybody knows that Clark was right.

Not being a political organ Will Maupin's Weekly is not interested so much in individuals as it is in the good of the country. The candidates it sees fit to support will get that support, not because they are democrats or republicans, but because they are deemed to be the best men. With this in mind this newspaper has no hesitancy in saying that democracy will make a mistake if it nominates

it was a farce, failed of its purpose, was an expense that did not pay adequate returns, and manufactured perjurers. A score of men have told the editor that he was right—but not one of them would allow himself to be quoted as favoring a radical change in the law, or even a repeal thereof. The primary law, like many other laws, was enacted more from sentiment than anything else. It was a sort of political fetich. There are some laws that everybody wants on the books, but which nobody wants enforced. We venture the assertion that a majority of the people would like to see the primary law repealed. Men who have the courage to admit it are almighty scarce.

Judge Field has declined the wooden horse so kindly proffered him, the aforesaid horse being labeled "congressional nomination." Judge Field acted, as usual, with wisdom. Doubtless many of the men asking him to make the congressional race were actuated by a desire to have a first-class candidate. But we opine that others thought more of sidetracking

CURRENT COMMENT

who called the "Taft rally" in Lincoln a few days before Christmas. It was a mighty bad time of the year, which may account in large measure for the slim attendance of republicans outside of the pie counter adherents. The meeting was interesting for several reasons. One interesting feature was the speech of Captain Clare Adams. It carried us back almost a generation, when the ensanguined garment was always fluttering, when the corporation lobbyist was in his glory, and when a handful of men in each party controlled its nominations. It's a far cry from the day when Latimer and Ridley were burned at the stake for heresy, but Captain Adams would bridge it at a jump and gleefully pile the faggots about the man guilty of even intimating that the g. o. p. could do any wrong.

an asbestos cat in a foot race through hell. LaFollette knows this as well

take no stock in Dr. Borglum's "tainted veal" theory, nor in the theory of some others that our water supply is bad. This editor had a dose of the prevailing epidemic last week, and he was a thousand miles from Lincoln, hadn't eaten any veal for a month, and had not consumed any Lincoln water—and very little of any other kind of water—for more than eight days. Yet he was doubled up into knots and suffered excruciating tortures. The prevailing epidemic is what old-fashioned doctors used to call "winter cholera." Too much grub, too little exercise; too much vitiated atmosphere brought about by furnace heat and felted-windows, and too little fresh air. The doctors and the scientific sharps don't know any more about it than we do, and our guess is as good as theirs.

Will Maupin's Weekly now comes forward to claim a vindication for all the good things it said about Dan V. Stephens prior to his election to congress. Congressman Latta died on September 11, and Dan Stephens became congressman on December 9. The sergeant-at-arms of the house, who is also house paymaster, tendered Stephens the salary for the time between Latta's death and Stephens' election. Mr. Stephens declined to accept it, saying he had not earned it. The money was covered back into the treasury. That is, we believe, the first time such a thing ever happened. We recall with vividness what Ernest M. Pollard did under similar circumstances. He, like Stephens, was elected to fill a vacancy caused by the elevation of Elmer J. Burkett from the house to the senate. The sergeant-at-arms of the house tendered Pollard the salary for the time between Burkett's elevation to the senate and Pollard's election to the house. Pollard accepted, and when criticized for it defended his action. That he never earned the money, and was not entitled to it, no one will deny. But it remained for Dan Stephens of Fremont to do the square thing. And we are prouder than ever of Dan, and of the humble part we had in helping send him to congress.

J. J. and J. B. McNamara were taken to San Quentin penitentiary on December 10. That, however, does not close the incident. It is merely the beginning. No one believes that the McNamaras originated the dynamiting campaign, nor that they alone were concerned in it. There must have been others. It is the duty of organized labor to join hands with the authorities of the law in an effort to ferret out the other guilty parties. It is also organized labor's duty, right now, to clean house. The thug, the dynamiter, the bomb-thrower and the disturber must go. And so, also, should organizations of capital clean house. The sweat shopper, the child-slaver and the labor hater must be driven from the temple.

In this connection Will Maupin's Weekly desires to state that it gave of its means to the defense fund raised for the McNamaras. It does not begrudge a penny of it. But it is now willing to give twice as much towards a fund for the relief of the families of the victims of the McNamaras' diabolical act. And it believes that the American Federation of Labor should get busy and be just as active in raising this relief fund as it was in raising that defense fund. Come on, President Gompers!

Mrs. William Golden of Norris, Ill., is a grandmother at 29. Her oldest daughter, aged almost 15, is a mother. Mrs. Golden has been married twice. The brother of her second husband is the husband of her oldest daughter. Mother and daughter became mothers about the same time last week. The grandmother of the daughter's baby is also the baby's aunt. She is also the sister-in-law of her daughter, and the daughter is her mother's sister-in-law. The two brothers are brothers-in-law also, and one is also father-



WE RAISE THESE HOGS IN NEBRASKA

Folk for the presidency. We are from Missouri—literally and figuratively—and therefore somewhat familiar with Missouri people and conditions. Somehow or other we never could arouse much enthusiasm in our own heart for Joseph W. Folk. In the matter of "heap talk" he is a wonder. But it is our candid opinion that he lacks several metres of measuring up to presidential size.

Fred D. Cornell, for many years city agent of the Missouri Pacific in Lincoln is no longer connected with that company. We are inclined to congratulate Fred upon this fact, while commiserating with the Missouri Pacific management. With his wide acquaintance, his high standing in the

Judge Field than they did of his personal fortunes. A republican nomination for congress in the First district is not the cinch it used to be. Nor is it improbable that something may turn up that will make it necessary for Judge Field to get into the senatorial fight. The republican senatorial situation is by no means settled.

One fails to understand why Banker Walsh should have been paroled and Banker Morse compelled to remain inside the prison walls. The one pardoned—and since died—rather gloried in his crime. The one refused a parole gave up everything he had, and his wife sacrificed everything she had, to make restitution. Banker Morse, by

And of course John L. Webster made an eloquent speech. Colonel Webster never makes any other kind. And he is never so eloquent as when discoursing upon the glories of the g. o. p. We regret, however, that in his remarks to last Thursday's gathering he failed to refer to the price of wheat. We'd give a pretty penny to once more hear Colonel Webster discourse upon the price of that cereal.

Colonel Webster intimated that he would not vote for LaFollette even if he were nominated. But of course he would. However the colonel was safe in so intimating for LaFollette doesn't stand any more show for a nomination this trip than a tallow-legged rat has of getting away from



THE OMAHA SMELTER

community and his ability, Mr. Cornell is now in a position to get somewhere on his own merits. It will be some time ere the Missouri Pacific secures as its Lincoln agent a gentleman who can stand between its poor service and the general public with the grace and courtesy of Fred Cornell. Because he is a "good Injun" and deserving of success, Will Maupin's Weekly is wishing it for him—and wishing as hard as it knows how.

In last week's issue of Will Maupin's Weekly the editor very frankly told the public just what he thought about the present primary law—that

all the rules of the game as played today, is entitled to speedy release.

Of course, if Ned Brown will accept a seat in the state senate again the republicans of Lancaster would be foolish not to send him back. By the same token, those who have the best interests of the county and the state at heart would also vote for Brown, regardless of party affiliation. We trust that Ned Brown will lay aside his own personal interests and agree to run for the senate again.

We admire the nerve but condemn the judgment of the Taft supporters



OMAHA'S PETTICOAT LANE

as anybody, but now is a mighty good time to jockey for a running start in 1916. Taft will be re-nominated, hands down. If the democrats act wisely—which is seemingly impossible—Taft will be defeated. Then LaFollette will step to the front as "the savior of the party," and 1916 will see him fairly sure of accomplishing his laudable ambition to be president of these United States.

We have never secured a diploma from a medical college; we have never completed a course in chemistry, and we don't know a blooming thing about bacteriology. But, just the same, we