

CAPITAL CITY COURIER

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TALK OF THE TOWN

There is now no longer any doubt that Lincoln is soon to have competition in the electric and gas light supply. The capitalists who some time since secured the possession and control of the Home Electric railway, formerly the consolidated Lincoln City and Capital Heights street railways, are preparing to embark also in the manufacture of electricity for illuminating purposes. These gentlemen have an abundance of capital and none of them have yet been suspected of an inclination or an aptitude to throw any of it away in fruitless and unprofitable enterprises. They confidently claim that they can furnish electric lights at a rate far below those now paid in this city and still realize a handsome dividend from their investment. They are obliged to erect a new power house soon for their street railway, which will be extended this spring some ten miles along the principal streets, and propose to put in an illuminating plant at the same time. They are also figuring on a \$275,000 plant for the manufacture of fuel and illuminating gas, and in case certain pending financial negotiations are effected, will put in the gas plant also. They appear to entertain a suspicion that the council is very friendly to the existing company, as they have been doing some testing in that line. Although the company already possesses an electric lighting franchise, the same which was granted the old Lincoln City Electric Street Railway company, it has seen fit to ask the council for a franchise, and developments thus far have not been reassuring. Two meetings passed ere they could get their ordinance introduced. If this is an honest movement to establish competition in the illuminating and fuel business, it is of the utmost importance to the people that the franchise be granted, but there is room for the suspicion that it may be a movement merely to create sympathy for the company, which it is likely to need when it undertakes to traverse with its street railway certain streets in the business center upon which it now has designs, or it may be to compel sanction of its occupancy of those streets by the powers that be. There is certainly trouble brewing in the street railway field, as the Lincoln street railway has occupied all of the down town streets and those leading to the depots, and the Home company has determined to get down town to the depots by some means. The proposed electric light ordinance was read for the first time at the council meeting Tuesday night. It asks simply a franchise to build, operate and maintain a plant for the manufacture and distribution of electric light and illuminating and fuel gas. It provides that within ten months after the passage of the ordinance the company shall expend at least \$50,000, and that when completed it shall not charge the city or its citizens more than \$1.50 per 1,000 feet of illuminating gas, \$1.50 per 1,000 feet of fuel gas, \$8.50 per month for all-night 2,000 candle power electric lights or \$5.50 for midnight lights. These prices will be a substantial gain for consumers over the prices now exacted, and it looks a little strange that there should be men in the council who would stand up and vote to say that the people shall not be given the advantage of such a gain. But there are such men in the council, although the promoters of the new plant say that it will pass. There should, however, be a clause in the ordinance preventing a possible consolidation with the old company. The old company, it was intimated at the last council meeting, will claim an exclusive franchise, but an examination of the statutes will show that there is no such thing in this state as an exclusive franchise to be obtained except by the purchase of city councilmen. It has been intimated that the new project is simply a scheme to blackmail the old company, but mature reflection will show that blackmail is impossible, as the council has the right to grant any and all applicants franchises, and in fact it is its duty under the spirit of the law to afford the people all of the advantages to be derived from competition. The new company must, to hold its franchise, conform to its agreements, and when it does so it will be blackmailing nobody.

One of the proposed amendments to the city charter is the establishment of a property qualification to entitle one to vote in an election involving the issuance of bonds. The measure is one which certainly appears just and equitable, as the owners of the city's property are empowered to say whether or not they should be taxed for special purposes. As a rule men who do not own property do not, unsolicited, take

enough interest in such propositions to turn out and vote. It is the property owner who is interested. If such a proposed measure is calculated to help the city the property owner, who will be benefited thereby, may be relied upon to recognize that fact and render it every support. If it is calculated to help chiefly one man, or a few men, he may also be depended upon to do about the right thing in the matter. Men who own property to be effected by such measures are little apt to be corruptly influenced in these particular matters, and when they vote for bonds for any improvement it may be depended upon that it will be a general benefit to the city. As the law is at present a few men, by the judicious expenditure of a few thousands among the floating and transient population, may carry almost any proposition, no matter what unjust oppressions it may impose upon one citizen for the benefit of another. There are hundreds of men who conscientiously refrain from voting on bond propositions, as they deem it the right of property owners to say whether or not their property shall be subjected to special taxes. If all men were as conscientious there would be no need of any restraining law, but they are not. Some men would vote for anything, no matter how unjust, that would inflict a tax upon his neighbor's property, and do it from choice, but the majority of men who had no interest at stake would require some inducement. This inducement is too often forthcoming.

The city council has accepted the proposition submitted by the Burlington and Union Pacific railroad companies looking to the erection and maintenance of a viaduct over the thirty-four tracks of those companies on O street. By the terms of this accepted proposition these companies are to furnish to the city as it may be needed a sum sufficient to build the viaduct, estimated at from \$130,000 to \$150,000, and pay all abutting damages. The further provision is that when it shall have been built the city shall forever maintain it at its own exclusive cost. The money derived from the granting of crossing privileges to street railways shall go to the city to constitute a special fund for the maintenance of the structure. The railway companies also agree to remove the present O street bridge to a point on the creek further west on O street, so that residents of that section west of Salt creek and south of O street will be afforded access to the west approach of the viaduct. The first thing done by the council after the adoption of the ordinance was to grant to the Lincoln and Salt Lake Electric Street Railway company the right to lay a double-track across the viaduct, with the provision, however, that other lines may use the tracks upon payment of a proportionate share of the cost of putting them in. Under the new ordinance O street from Fourth to Seventh is vacated as a street. Now it behoves the city to see to it that a firm and durable viaduct is put up, as the stronger it is built the less expense the city is liable to suffer for maintenance. As the ordinance stands, the interests of the railroads and the city are at variance. The less money the companies are required to put into the construction, the more it is apt to cost the city in the long run.

It may not have been generally noticed, but to the man in search of a comfortable abode equipped with modern conveniences it has become painfully apparent that desirable tenement houses are mighty hard to find. It is somewhat remarkable that such is the case, but the man who has investigated finds that it is so. This scarcity of tenements, however, applies chiefly to inside districts, within such a reasonable distance from the business center as one would not seriously object to walking now and then. The statement does not hold good as to outside or suburban districts, as there are a good many very good houses for rent around the city limits. People have joined in a movement to get nearer the centers of business, and the speculative mania that carried the building operations out into the country for miles during the boom season several years since has calmed and the reaction is everywhere apparent. Considerable residence building has been done during the past three years—in fact a surprising amount—but the houses in central portions are filled as rapidly as completed, and it is a little remarkable that rental rates have held their own remarkably well in central sections. Rents in the suburbs, however, have depreciated, and it will be several years before a great deal of the outlying residence property will yield the returns owners anticipated at the time of building. Meantime the central portions will become more and more compact and civilized. The past year's building has

been almost exclusively in the line of fine residences or expensive tenements centrally located.

Now that Seventeenth street has been paved to South street, owners of fine teams and vehicles are beginning to anticipate the establishment of a drive that will compensate them for the loss of the East O and East R street circuit, the efficacy of which as a drive was injured by the Rock Island crossing. It is hoped that steps may be taken to secure the paving of South Eleventh street from C to South, and

LEGISLATIVE DOINGS

The election of Hon. E. M. Correll as chairman pro tem, which had been effected by the republican-democratic combine, was allowed to stand, but as a recognition of the republican side it stands alone and on a mighty precarious and unstable footing. H. A. Edwards, independent, was made permanent secretary, and George R. Doughty, and B. S. Littlefield his assistants.



"SELF-MADE MEN."

then connect Eleventh and Seventeenth by paving South street. The need of such a drive will be severely felt during the coming summer.

Some of the society ladies of Lincoln should insist on being taken more closely into the confidence of their husbands. They are missing a great deal of elevating and extremely edifying fun by not so insisting. Wednesday evening there was a prize fight out at Lincoln park between a white man and a darkey, and a number of society ladies whose beaux were otherwise unaccountably absent that night may know that they were enjoying the fight. The audience numbered many of the swells of the city.

TOO F. LOSSIE.

How's This!

We offer one hundred dollars reward for any case of catarrh that can not be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & Co., Props., Toledo, Ohio.

We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by their firm.

West & Truax, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.; Wadding, Kinnan & Marvin, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price, 75c per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Testimonials free.

Real Estate For Sale or Trade.

What have you to offer in exchange for a lot in Elmwood addition, near Western Normal college, and lot A, Spencer's addition, adjoining the M street ball park. Will sell or trade both for good residence lot. Call on or address Lou Wessel, at this office.

Low Rates to Florida and the South-east.

The B & M is now selling round trip tickets at very low rates to Jacksonville, St. Augustine, Tampa, Sutherland, Fla., Asheville, N. C., Birmingham and Mobile, Ala., Charleston, S. C., Augusta and Savannah, Ga., and other points in the south-east, good for return until June 1st, 1893. Persons contemplating a trip south will find it to their advantage to call at either B & M depot or city office, cor. O and 10th streets, where full information as to routes, rates, etc., will be furnished. A. C. ZIEGLER, City Pass. Agt.

Clearing sale of cloaks and remnants of dress goods at way down prices at Herpolzheimer & Co's.

If you enjoy dancing go to your drug-gist and get a bottle of Positive Corn Cure, which insures comfort.

Doughty is a democrat. Rev. J. M. Snider was chosen to impudently the white throne for the overthrow of plutocracy. S. S. Alley, democrat, will guard the peace and prevent smoking and make himself generally useful as a hired man clad in a little brief authority. K. Ludden, an independent, and R. L. Rossiter, a democrat, will share his arduous duties. J. H. Dundas, an independent, was chosen as engrossing clerk and Frank R. Morrissey, private secretary for the retiring governor, got a fresh grip on the state house as enrolling clerk. A. Waumer, an independent, will guard the outer portal and keep a sharp lookout to prevent the invasion of lobbyists. W. A. J. Baum was made postmaster. He is an independent and J. Stenhardt, a democrat, was elected to help him digest the postal cards. D. J. Cronin, a populist, looks after the senatorial overcoats and hats in the cloak room when he isn't tired, and S. W. Coman, democrat, will do it when he is. F. M. Johnson, independent, was selected to carry the star route. F. J. Kelliger was given a job as book keeper. He is an independent. A democrat, J. C. Gorin, was christened custodian of the senate and H. Kessler, an independent, janitor. J. A. Butler was made assistant custodian of the cloak room. J. F. Sherman, a democrat was clothed with the dignity of messenger clerk and J. G. P. Hildebrand, a moss-bag, clerk of the committee of the whole.

What a parody it unquestionably is to have praying in legislative halls. No preacher is so able and eloquent that his invocations have the slightest effect. They go in at one ear and come out at the other. Petitions to the throne of grace for divine guidance to wise and just legislation ought to find, one would conclude, a statesman here and there whom it might influence, but they appear to glance off the conscience of each individual legislator about as naturally as water off a duck's back. Prayer may be perfectly at home in modern legislative halls, but it doesn't harmonize very well with its surroundings. It is an indulgence that is not only ineffective and superficial—it is a hollow pretense and an unhallowed mockery. It takes hold of no one but the chaplain, is forgotten as soon as uttered, and it is safe to say is not desired by a single member for the virtue it ought to inspire, but simply because it in a measure robes a voracious wolf in the garments of a lamb. Until a sweeping reformation has been inaugurated in methods of legislation the legislator who attempts to cloak his villainy with a semblance of respect for prayer or its objects ought to be indictable for obtaining power and prestige under false pretenses. What a hollow mockery it was, for in-

stance to have long prayers recited off during the few sessions thus far held by the present legislature, while the members, to the very last man, were forgetting their official oaths to expend the states money in an organized battle for spoils. It must either be presumed that all of the prayers have been wholly and woefully ineffective, or else the Lord in answering them has sanctioned some mighty queer schemes and combinations.

That the best laid schemes of mice and railroad lobbyists gang aft aglee has been demonstrated by the course of events in the senate. After the combination formed between democrats and republicans last Friday, whereby Messrs Babcock, Mattes, and Norton, democrats, voted with the republicans on temporary organization, it looked mighty dark for the populists, and it may be added, for democrats also. Republicans were accordingly jubilant, and Congressman Bryan, who had protested against a coalition of democrats with republicans was jeered and reviled by the victorious republicans. But there is an old proverb which every now and then bobs up serenely and obtrusively to vindicate its own integrity. It is to the effect that the gentleman who waits until the others have all their turns at the same diversion can always agitate his risibilities to the best advantage. When the news of Wednesday's proceedings reached Bryan he must have found himself confronted by a job of laughing that taxed his generous capabilities in that line. The roar that went up from the democratic press everywhere was no uncertain expression of disapproval and the three recreant democratic senators could not overlook its import. Hence it was that when the senate convened on Wednesday it was already known that the five democratic members of that body had decided to vote with the populists on organization. Then it was that Pope of Saline, a republican, suddenly conceived the idea that a fair division is no robbery, but the populists and democrats had concluded that they would make the fair division between themselves.

The coalition was one which it would have done Mr. Bryan's heart good to have seen effected ere he pulled his freight for Washington, and is decidedly a black eye for Hon. J. Sterling Morton, Hon. James E. Boyd, Hon. Tobias Castor and some other leading democrats who opposed with all their strength a union of strength of populists and democrats. It is such a union, however, as appears to meet the approbation of the rank and file of both parties, although Senator Dysart, independent, cut loose from his party and refused to participate in it, claiming that he will hereafter vote independent of all parties. If Mr. Dysart sticks conscientiously to his text he will be the only true American citizen, as designed and recognized by the fundamental principles of American government, to be found in both branches of the Nebraska legislature.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

Many compliments are expressed among members of all parties for the ability and fairness with which Speaker Gaffin presides in the house.

It should not escape the minds of members that two sets of state officers are drawing salaries now, the old and new, and so will continue until the legislature gets down to work.

Mr. Edwards may flatter himself upon having beaten a mighty good and capable man for secretary of the senate. Frank Wilson has inborn capabilities as a secretary such as few men possess and has a faculty of making friends very readily.

Senator R. E. Moore will hardly be selected to head the municipal affairs committee this session. There is an organized labor movement against him, as in the last session certain demands made by local representatives of the labor element in relation to the new charter were ignored. It is predicted that Senator Clark of Omaha will head that committee, as the labor organizations of Omaha have declared for him.

"Things look decidedly brighter for Mr. Bryan and it would not surprise me to see him made United States senator, and with the hearty co-operation of the republicans," remarked a populist Thursday afternoon. I believe that as soon as the republicans see that they cannot elect a republican, which they are destined to see sooner or later, I believe they will favor the election of Bryan in order to make a vacancy in this congressional district. The election of a republican to succeed him would be almost a certainty. But I don't expect to see anyone elected senator until along to March.

A Celebrated Artist Locates in Lincoln. That Lincoln is becoming more engrossed in art is apparent with each

years ending. The opening of 1893 brings with it the announcement that Misses Easterley and Don Carlos have removed from Denver to this city and opened a studio at 1127 O street, room 6. Both ladies come highly recommended and their work is such as is certainly worthy of close inspection. Miss Don Carlos has achieved wonderful success in landscape work, she having made a distinct specialty in the last three years of Rocky Mountain scenery, all of which was taken personally from nature. Lincoln will at once gain popularity in art circles abroad when it is known that eight of Miss Don Carlos' paintings will be seen at the World's Fair in the Colorado exhibit made by the woman's department.

These pictures which were shipped to Denver Thursday, are all Rocky Mountain scenes, representing Pikes Peak at sunset in early autumn, a scene in the Black Canon, the Sangre De Christo Mountains and others, all of which were ordered and accepted with unstinted praise. This is certainly a great honor and Lincoln should feel proud of her newly acquired acquisition. Miss Don Carlos has 125 sketches of views along the scenic line of the D. & R. G. Railway, each one having been sketched in person. Orders for this work are now being received and a limited number of pupils for instruction in this delightful art will be accommodated on application. Miss Fannie Belle Don Carlos reluctantly left Denver and Pueblo but was compelled to do so on account of continued ill health for which she sacrificed a very large and remunerative patronage. Visitors are especially requested to call at the studio afternoons or at any time Saturday to become acquainted with both the artist and her work. Miss Evelyn Gertrude Easterley, who assumes the business management, has accepted a principalship at University Place but will always be present when the studio is open to visitors. The frames that surrounded the pictures for the World's Fair were models of Lincoln workmanship and came from H. W. Cowles' store, 119 South Twelfth street.

Catarrh in the Head

Is undoubtedly a disease of the blood, and as such only a reliable blood purifier can effect a perfect cure. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best blood purifier, and it has cured many very severe cases of catarrh. It gives an appetite and builds up the whole system.

HOOD'S PILLS act especially upon the liver, rousing it from torpidity to its natural duties, cure constipation and assist digestion.

Dr. O'Connor's Success.

Mr. Mathew Fisher, of Rising, Neb., and Mrs. M. S. Norton of Kanesaw are Lincoln visitors, both being here under treatment for cancer under Dr. T. O'Connor. Mr. Jas. Redden of Johnson county returned Thursday after being here one week under the doctor's treatment. He was also cured of a large cancer under the left eye.

Fifteen kinds of imported and domestic cheeses at Rumhold & Moser's. Phone 728.

K. C. Baking Powder, 25 ounces for 25 cents. Absolutely pure. Have you tried it?

GENUINE CANON CITY COAL at the Lincoln Coal Co., southwest corner of Eleventh and O streets.

Hardy and Pitcher have received a new lot of chairs and tables for rental purposes at card parties, etc. Call and see them or call up phone 521.

All the first families of Lincoln buy their meat of Henry Pheif, 314 Sluth Eleventh street. Where do you buy yours?

Beautiful souvenir spoons are now being given to new subscribers to the COURIER. Present subscribers may also secure one of those handsome premiums by paying a year in advance and arrears, if any. These are not cheap trashy spoons, but just the same as jewelers sell for \$2 or more.

H. W. Cowle, funeral director, successor to Fred Thomas. Embalming a specialty. 119 South Twelfth street.

When you give the next party at your house leave your orders for tables at Hardy & Pitchers. They have a new supply just in that they rent at reasonable prices delivered to and taken from your residences.

Dr. Giffin has moved to rooms 8 and 9 Lansing theatre building.

When you want prompt service and fair treatment and the selection from the largest stock of groceries in Lincoln call on W. A. Coffin & Co., successors to J. Miller, 143 South Eleventh street.