

CAPITAL CITY COURIER

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TALK OF THE TOWN

The more the subject is discussed, the more do people protest against the return of the hoopskirt of an article of fashionable feminine attire. There is a strong movement on foot among some of the brainiest women of the old world to head off the efforts of manufacturers to bring the crinoline again into use. These men who make first the goods, then the fashions to suit them, and still later the money out of those fashions, are overstepping the limits of human patience in this crinoline campaign. This hoopskirt episode furnishes to students an apt illustration of the cruelties of fashion. In most instances for the past two decades the decrees of fashion have not been altogether distasteful. Many wonderful things in the way of feminine apparel have been brought forth by the designers of the modes that have excited endless unfavorable criticism, but few of them have not possessed more or less beauty, comfort or convenience. There has not been for years a garment decreed by fashion to be the proper thing that has not had its admirers among those who were destined to wear it and even among the hypercritical sterner sex. But here is a garment which no one admires and which many of the more pronounced among the ladies declare to be absolutely vulgar, which is brought to us after it has become a ludicrous reminiscence and designers of the fashions have the unlimited check to ask the ladies to undergo the mortification of wearing it. It looks as if the designers of fashions have been enjoying a vacation when they should have been at work preparing something new and attractive for their followers, and are now forced to fall back on shelf worn ideas to cover up their neglect. There is rank rebellion therefore among their followers, and well there may be. Unless the ladies take a decisive stand at once in opposition to this decree the makers of the fashions will be reviving the chignon soon to keep the crinoline company—that ungainly article of headgear vulgarly known a score of years since as the "waterfall." American women should join the movement on foot among the ladies of England and organize to protest against the crinoline. There should be an anti-crinoline club in Lincoln and at once—and let it include the umbrella skirt.

Gatewood, the decidedly fresh young man who managed the Beatrice state league team during its brief career last year, has located in St. Joseph and is organizing a team with the view of getting into a league which he and some of his ilk are endeavoring to organize. Lincoln is one of the towns that they have their designing optics upon, but it won't work. Lincoln has undoubtedly had all the expensive base ball she wants and it would be mighty difficult to raise a paltry hundred dollars to put a team at work here, especially such a team as would necessarily be enrolled in such a league. If Lincoln ever does invest again in the luxury of a base ball team it will not be an amateur team. It will be a hummer or none. No more bum ball is wanted. And were Lincoln disposed to go into any amateur ball playing speculation, it would not be in a league with which Harry Gatewood has anything to do, as he is known too well. His first act when he took hold of the Beatrice team was to ignore the salary limit, the one chief essential to the success of the state league, in collecting about him a team of high-salaried whiskey-guzzlers who bled the liberal backers of the Beatrice team to a finish. It is very likely that the state university ball team will be about all that Lincoln will need and want the coming season.

A number of publishers of western high class weeklies meet at Hotel Lincoln Monday evening to perfect an organization for mutual benefit, entitled "Western Association of High Class Weeklies." The papers represented are of the class usually termed "society papers" of which the COURIER is one. The general idea of eastern advertisers who send considerable business to western papers is that all weekly publications are alike, making no distinction between the ordinary crossroad country weekly that caters only to farmer readers and a paper the style of the COURIER which is handsomely gotten up especially for city circulation and reaches a class of trade that is most desirable for nearly all the large advertisers. This state of affairs has been financially detrimental to the latter class of journals, hence the meeting and its results. The new organization will embrace twenty

papers published in all the large cities between Chicago and Denver and between St. Louis and St. Paul, the plan being to secure the services of an able representative to look up advertising patronage and other matters in Chicago (and later on in New York) for the syndicate and the publishers think they will have little difficulty in convincing advertisers of the merit of their mediums.

At the meeting an executive committee of three was appointed in whose hands the work done was placed with power to arrange for another meeting March 20th when a permanent organization will be effected and a full set of officers elected. This committee was selected from three states, viz: Eugene Smith of The Lance, Topeka, Kas., L. K. LeBaron of Every Saturday, Elgin, Ill., and Lou Wessel of the COURIER, Lincoln, Neb., who decided to call the Chicago meeting on the evening of the date above set, at the Auditorium hotel, when it is hoped a full representation of the twenty papers will be present. Letters of regret from several publishers were read, each commending the idea and offering substantial support. Following is a partial list of the interested papers: Review, Des Moines, Chat, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, The Mail, Muscatine, Iowa, Every Saturday, Elgin, Ill.,



GEORGE LESLIE.

The Mail-Times, Des Moines, Spectator, Minneapolis, The Lance, Topeka, The Mail, Clinton, Iowa, The Eye, Bloomington, Ill., The Excelsior, Omaha, CAPITAL CITY COURIER, Lincoln, Societe, St. Joseph, Mo., Mirror, Wichita, Kas., and several others. Publishers of all high class weeklies in the territory above mentioned are invited to be present at the Chicago meeting and take active part in the permanent organization.

The manufacturers of Lincoln have shown commendable enterprise in pushing the movement recently inaugurated looking to the holding of a carnival in this city from the 20th inst to the 25th inclusive. The design of the proposed exposition is to acquaint the people of Lincoln and surrounding towns with the city's accomplishments and capabilities in the line of manufactured goods. The projectors of this enterprise have every confidence that Lincoln-made goods will not suffer any from being brought to the attention and more careful inspection of Lincoln people, and there is every reason to believe that such a showing as will be made will awaken consumers of this section of the state to the advantages to accrue from the bestowal of liberal patronage upon home enterprises in preference to those which support their employees and pay their taxes in distant cities and states. The Nebraska Manufacturers' Association, under the auspices of which this carnival is to be given, is primarily an exponent of the benefits to accrue from patronizing home industry, and it hopes to be able to show that dealers and consumers can secure as good

goods at as advantageous prices here at home as elsewhere, and that, this being the case, their first allegiance is due to their neighbors and fellow citizens, the men who assist in paying the home taxes and furnish employment to those who make up the community. Lincoln consumers have not recognized their duty in this respect with that degree of accuracy that prevails in many neighboring cities, but it is hoped that the coming exposition will lead to tangible results in the discouragement of a tendency to go away from home for what can be purchased at as good advantage here.

The carnival will be held in the Hovey building, 233 and 235 North Tenth street, covering three floors. Local exhibits have been secured sufficient to fill every foot of the available space. Some of the exhibitors will remove their complete manufacturing plants to the carnival hall and the people will be given an opportunity to see how much of the work is done in manufacturing some of the commonest articles of trade. These plants will be decided novelties to the public. Of course the exhibitors will all have their very best goods displayed in the most attractive form possible, as all have evinced a determination to excel at any cost. The ladies of the Women's Christian Association have joined the

which the water ran from all over the grounds. For some inexplicable reason these walks were not built so that water would run off them, and as a consequence, during the recent thaw there was two and three inches of water walled up in them along their entire length. They appear to have been built to catch and hold the water so that people might walk upon the adjoining sward. When the water froze again and a skating rink was invited stretches and gradual curves was the result. These walks are always flooded in wet weather, and the present legislature would not be doing anything amiss were it to provide for digging them up and establishing them above at least low water mark. The walks in the postoffice square are in the same disgraceful condition and the grounds in both instances will show the effects of it when the grass begins to come up. Neither will much resemble the public park it is designed to be.

Manufacturers' Association and will do all in their power to make the affair profitable and entertaining. They will look after the decoration of the hall, give a creditable entertainment each evening serve refreshments, see that all are made welcome and will care for and will receive the profits to devote to the maintenance of their benevolent enterprises. Tuesday, the 21st inst. has been set apart as school children's day, when all pupils of the city schools will be admitted free during the day. College students can secure admission any day at reduced rates. The ladies are preparing a special programme for Washington's birthday. Invitations will be issued to the people of all neighboring towns to come in and enjoy the great show and some of them will probably be permitted to make exhibits. It is Lincoln's first effort in this line and no pains or expense will be spared to make it a gratifying success.

THE COURIER has frequently directed attention to the disgraceful condition of the broad stone walks that traverse the capitol grounds. They have been literally out of sight all winter. During the deep snow they were selected by the winds as the most available spots in which to deposit drifts, and as the janitors are not apparently inclined to interfere very persistently with the course of nature these drifts were permitted to remain all during the cold weather. Finally a few days since there came a thaw and the drifts were dissolved. This did not free the walks, however, but simply made them worse by converting them into walled-up channels, into

Another investigation mania has seized hold of the legislature. It will amount to nothing and will neither prove that bribery has or has not been attempted in the election of United States senator. Certain it is that if and bribery was attempted it was not successful unless it can be claimed that democrats were bribed to vote for Judge Allen. It is suspected that certain promises were made them concerning threatened legislation against the Omaha stock yards, and if the session closes without some pretty stringent legislation concerning that important interest, it may be taken as confirmatory of such suspicion. Meantime some of the republican members are beginning to think that the stock yards need regulating somewhat and that legislative action may see fit to precipitate what may be presumed to have silenced from the populists. There a good many conservative people who do not as a rule favor placing any radical restrictions upon such great enterprises as the stock yards who are inclined to resent the audacity of such corporation in sending its own manager down to the legislature. If anything is calculated to lead to the placing of damaging restrictions upon such an enterprise it is such an undue exhibition of zeal to prevent its regulation. The sense of justice and liberality that usually actuates the people—in fact always—may be relied upon to work no severe injustice, and when a corporation sends down one of its own members to trade away the interests of the people in other important matters the people will sooner or later make up their minds that they will not stand it. A day of reckoning must come sooner or later for such.

On the 27th inst the bids for the construction of the mammoth iron viaduct on West P street, across the railroad tracks, will be opened and the contract will probably be let thereon soon afterwards. Here is a matter in which citizens cannot manifest too zealous an interest. They should see to it that the council insists on the erection of the very best viaduct obtainable. As the railroad companies to be benefited are to pay the cost of building this structure, no trivial questions of economy need actuate the council in the selection of the lucky bidder. Of course, in justice to the railroad companies, due regard should be paid to the matter of economy in cost, but no such care should be exercised in securing the lowest bidder as ought to be exercised in securing the best, most attractive and most durable viaduct. Were the railroads permitted to let the contract they would doubtless, consulting their own interests, select the one that would cost the least money, and after the viaduct is once up and accepted they are no longer financially concerned. And it is for that very identical reason that the council, looking out for the city's probable expense hereafter to maintain the same, should select the very best, the cost thereof being a secondary consideration. Let this contract be so let that the generations hereafter to be charged with the perpetual maintenance of that viaduct shall have the least possible cause for reproaching the memory of the men who contracted for its erection and perpetuation. Keep in close touch with your councilman on this matter and see that he looks after the city's interests.

The ground hog is not alone in his subterranean refuge this winter. If Hon. Joe Burns' solemn assurance may be relied upon. The Burlington Beach company has a pet cinnamon bear that has hunted a rendezvous below the frost line. When winter came on a hole or cave four feet square was dug for him and lined with nice, fresh straw. Into this Bruin crawled when cold weather fastened its blighting clutches upon the land and filled the coal vender's heart with glee. And there that bear has remained all winter, never once venturing out of his warm retreat. "He has never been outside of that cave," said Joe a day or two since, "during the whole blessed winter. No one has ever seen him since and there has not been a bear track perceptible in the snow at any time. If we stuck a stick into the hole he would grab it and growl, probably to asseure us that he was still in it and alive, but he absolutely declined to show himself. And what is more he has not eaten a mouthful nor taken a drink of water since before Thanksgiving. We have taken food to him, such as he was wont to enjoy before, but it remained untouched." It has been suggested that Bruin is doing penance for the sins of his master since the latter was sentenced to the legislature. "Before Thanksgiving" was about the time that Joe went astray.

One of the most lamentable fires that has occurred in Lincoln for years was that in the Buckstaff Bros. immense brick plant on Thursday, entailing a loss of upwards of \$100,000, of which less than half is covered by insurance. The calamity throws about 125 men out of employment. Its total loss to the owners can hardly be estimated as it may seriously interfere with the economical fulfillment of some of their paying work and may divert much of the patronage they have been building up in other cities where the paving brick are a necessity. The Messrs. Buckstaff have exhibited wonderful energy, enterprise and business tact in the establishment and successful con-

LEGISLATIVE DOINGS

Meantime let the promising investigation go on. If there has been an attempt at bribery it is done to all political parties and all individual members thereof that the facts be made known and the guilty parties so thoroughly identified that they may never again be honored or trusted with positions of responsibility. The legislature should adopt strenuous measures to cleanse itself with the nauseating suspicion that always clings around it. It is as much as almost any man's reputation is worth to be associated with the legislature and yet no one will intimate, or even suspect, that the large majority of members are not honest. But the odor of the dishonesty of one or two, or an insignificant proportion, will cling to and cast reproach upon all. Honest members cannot afford to rest under a shadow of suspicion and owe to themselves to ferret out corruption and its agents wherever they may be found and shame and disgrace may fall. The republicans of Lancaster county have confidence in the integrity of their representatives and fear nothing from a rigid investigation. If there is any reason for them to fear they would like to know it as a safeguard for use in future elections.

Commissioner General Garneau, of the world's fair commission, has made a report of the finances of the concern. It shows that \$35,000 of the \$50,000 appropriated two years since has been expended, while it is apparent to all that the work has barely begun. About \$18,000 of the expenditures were for salaries and expenses. Mr. Garneau's own expense bills show that, while he was always awake on salary day, he was nevertheless a great sleeper. It is hinted that Mr. Gale, who is the secretary of the commissioner, could, if called upon by the world's fair committee of the legislature, throw some interesting light upon the character of the expenditures which that committee ought to have before making up the estimate of the world's fair legislation proposed. Mr. Gale is only waiting to be asked to make this showing.

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.

While the legislature is investigating it might get in a little job on the

side by ascertaining what the Nebraska building on the Columbian exposition grounds really cost and make a lucid statement to the people as to what has really become of the \$50,000 appropriated two years since for the Nebraska exhibit. They might also report that, had the appropriation been ten times as much, it would all have been spent by this time and probably to no more tangible effect.

The work of recounting the state's vote on the constitutional amendments is likely to prove an expensive pastime. The matter of compensation and mileage for the attendance of all the county clerks of the ninety counties in the state, along with the ballots and returns of their respective counties, will alone aggregate a handsome figure. And probably the only result will be to emphasize the returns as heretofore made.

The city has been lonesome for the past week, owing to the absence of the legislators at their homes. The Lancaster county delegation ought to procure the passage of a measure declaring that fifteen minutes absence from the city during the session forfeits one's seat. This thing of prolonging the session by recesses is inflicting needless expense upon the lobby.

The members, having enjoyed a week's vacation after the tedium and strain of the long senatorial struggle, may be expected to do some sprightlier work in the making of good laws henceforth.

Some of the special watchmen, who are paid by the state for playing high five, ought to get Sheridan out and drill him.

Hood's Cures.
In saying that Hood's Sarsaparilla cures, its proprietors make no idle or extravagant claim. Statements from thousands of reliable people of what Hood's Sarsaparilla has done for them, conclusively prove the fact—HOOD'S Sarsaparilla CURES.
Hood's Pills act especially upon the liver, removing its torpidity to its natural duties, cure constipation and assist digestion.

Cheap Rates to the Inauguration.
For the inauguration of Cleveland and Stevenson at Washington on March 4th, excursion tickets reading via Baltimore and Ohio railroad, "The Picturesque Route," will be placed on sale at the ticket offices of principal railroads of the west as well as at the ticket offices of the Baltimore and Ohio company. The fare from Chicago will be \$17.50 for the round trip. These tickets will be sold from February 28th to March 3d inclusive and will be valid for return journey until March 5th inclusive.

The Baltimore and Ohio is the shortest route to Washington from nearly all points west. Its trains are vestibuled from end to end and carry Pullman sleeping cars.
No railroad in America is better equipped than the B. & O. to transport with dispatch, safety and comfort the large crowd which will visit Washington to witness the inauguration ceremonies. Its long experience in transporting crowds to former inaugurations G. A. R. encampments, Knights Templar Conclaves and similar gatherings on an extensive scale, will prove most valuable in arranging for the coming inauguration.

For more detailed information as to rates, time of trains, etc., apply to L. S. Allen, Asst. Genl. Passenger Agent, The Rookery, Chicago, or O. P. McCarty, Asst. Genl. Passenger agent, Cincinnati, O. 2-18-21

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.

W. A. Coffin & Co. have just added the largest and finest line of fancy groceries to be found in the city. Remember this when buying your holiday supply.