

Another Defaulter Liberated.

Editor Independent:

It is important that voters be constantly on guard and wide awake in order to avoid being deceived by the corrupt element of the republican party of this state. Their first step in the coming campaign will be deception in the form of the great reformation that has taken place in their party since the advent of the present state officials into the places of trust formerly held by the members of the old party which has been robbing the people and the children for years. This they do not deny themselves and are crying aloud, stop thief and at the same time know that not a defaulter would suffer as the very clique that put these defaulters in office controlled the courts thereby thwarting the will of the people and robbing the penitentiary of its just dues.

This very clique of politicians that has dominated the republican party in this state for years have formed themselves into what they term reform clubs not to reform and purify the corruption that dominates and controls the republican politics in the state today. For if they were honest and sincere in their desires to either reform or drive from their ranks every defaulter and hoodler, they themselves would step down and out and give the honest toilers of the farm and shop of their party a chance to redeem, build up and place it back upon the high political plane where it was left by Lincoln and Grant. But this they will not do but will try once more to deceive the honest voter of their party by howling reform and purification. This they have always done and promised after the detection of a defaulter in their ranks and so long as you trust and elect them to these offices of trust you can make up your mind that the state will be robbed. Just stop and think for a moment the amount of money that has been lost to the state by trusting it in the hands of republican officials. Beginning away back with Auditor Leidtke down to Treasurer Hill through the Mosher bank deal, penitentiary and asylum contracts, something like \$2,000,000.00. After this was made public by the members of the party that are now known as populists then this same old clique howled reform and promised that the corrupt members of the party should and would be kicked out, and that their nominees should be of the very highest type of honesty, and you let them decoy you again and give to the people of Nebraska the last few years ending in 1896 the most rotten, corrupt debauched set of hoodlers that was ever voted upon by the people of any state in the Union. My former republican stop and think of the defaulters that have been placed in these positions of trust by the republican party. The Liedtke, Mosher, Hilltons, Bartleys, Moores, Gillispies, Mallinows and last but not least Mr. Ebright of the institute for the blind at Nebraska City and not one of the above have seen the inside walls of the penitentiary.

Why is this? Simply because they have been defended and protected by this same gang of republicans that is trying to deceive you again this fall by howling reform and honest men for candidates on their tickets and now one of these honest republicans that has, I venture to say, helped to nominate and elect every republican defaulter in the state now one of the offsprings of purification and is highly spoken of as a candidate of this spotless regenerated party to be your excellency the governor of your state that has been so disgraced and debauched by republican officials.

The above referred to is the right honorable ex-Judge Hayward of Nebraska City. Now honest republican voter of the corn field and shops do you know this right honorable ex-Judge Hayward? Well for fear that you will be misled and deceived again as you have been in the past, I will tell you something of him. He is the honest republican that pledged himself to the county attorney of his county, Otoe, Mr. Jensen, who had responded to the president's call to go in defense of his country's honor, I say he pledged himself to Mr. Jensen the county attorney to take his place and fill it honestly and to the best of his ability while he was gone to war and Mr. Hayward was appointed and responsible to the people of his country to the same extent that Mr. Jensen was and more than this he was responsible to Mr. Jensen for the manner in which he filled this high position entrusted to him by the voters of his county and he had no right to debauch and degrade the position of one of our boys that had the courage and manhood to go to the front and bare his bosom to shot and shell in defense of our country, by refusing to prosecute a republican defaulter, Mr. Ebright, superintendent of the institute for the blind at Nebraska City, who had been found short by a committee appointed by the legislature.

The county attorney, Mr. Jensen, brought this suit and believed Ebright to be guilty, as Senator Muts had gathered and compiled evidence against him to such an extent that Jensen entertained no fear of Ebright's conviction.

On the morning of May 26th the day set for trial Senator Muts appeared with his witnesses ready for trial as he thought that Judge Hayward would prosecute the case as he was the county attorney. But after waiting some time beyond the hour for trial Mr. Hayward did not appear and Senator Muts telephoned him at his office and he refused to have anything to do with the case and after abusing Mr. Muts by the use of the most vile language, unbecoming to a gentleman, Mr. Muts asked him why he refused to present the case. He said because it would be the evidence produced during the trial cast a reflection upon the republican citizens of Nebraska City. And being unable ever the phone to pour out his reform republican, vile epithets upon the populist that had been designated by the legislature to have drawn and help to prosecute these defaulters, he soon arrived at the court house, burst into the court room not as a gentleman and honorable man would approach a court room, but as an uncivilized savage and there abused Senator Muts for carrying out his sworn duty. Using the coarsest, vulgar and profane language that is possible for any border ruffian to use.

Is this the kind of a man to grace the executive chair of Nebraska? A man unrefined, a man that violates his pledges, prostitute and degrades the position of one of our boys in blue at the front in defense of our country and flag. Is there anything lower to which a man can stoop? Would you so disgrace the state of Nebraska by electing a man like this to fill the executive chair? A man

that would be dangerous in a public place, and it is understood that had the case not have been dismissed by a republican judge and had gone to trial sure enough one of Nebraska City's regenerated republicans would have been humiliated and reflected upon to the amount of about \$300.00 the particulars of which will be given later showing vouchers etc.

Now my honest republican voter investigate, be your own judge and don't be deceived by the dishonest clique of politicians that dominate and control conventions and elections in your party today. OTOE COUNTY POP.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.

It Would Be Helpful In Purifying Corrupt City Governments.

Municipal ownership, some writers contend, may be all right under ideal municipal conditions, where government is both honest and efficient. Such writers admit cheerfully that European cities are safe in trying experiments along the line of municipal ownership because of the greater efficiency and purity of local government abroad, but they assert that American municipalities cannot afford to risk ventures of this kind because of the low tone of municipal politics in this country.

Dr. Albert Shaw, editor of The Review of Reviews and a close student of municipal problems in this country and abroad, takes precisely the opposite view. He thinks that municipal ownership in this country, instead of waiting for the improvement of political conditions, may be necessary to free our cities from the corruption and misrule which franchise seeking corporations have helped to force upon them. In German cities, Dr. Shaw says, there is no predisposition either for or against municipal ownership. The public authorities simply pursue the course in any given instance that they deem best for the city. The municipality is so strong that there is no fear that it will be defrauded in any arrangements it may make with private corporations for supplying a public service. The best legal talent and the best business ability are in the service of the city, whereas in America all the advantage is upon the side of the corporations. Under conditions as they exist in Germany, says Dr. Shaw, it is manifestly a matter of comparatively small consequence whether the policy of public ownership or private management be followed. In either event the rights of the public are thoroughly protected. But American city governments are so weak, in contrast with the corporations that come to them for favors, that the system of private management is almost certain to be unsatisfactory. Drawing a comparison with Glasgow, Dr. Shaw says:

Municipal government in Glasgow is strong enough to own and run the street railways perfectly well, and, on the other hand, it is strong enough to make thoroughly advantageous bargains with contractors and private companies. It can practice municipal ownership and operation or it can let them alone, and in either case it can always dominate the situation, but in the United States the scandal and difficulties attendant upon the municipal ownership of, let us say, lighting plants would not be so great as those involved in the making of bargains between municipal governments and the gas trusts and illuminating companies and in the exercise of an alleged public control.

Dr. Shaw does not advocate the wholesale plunge into projects for the wide extension of municipal functions, but he characterizes as "tedious mummery the abstract and metaphysical disputations of closet philosophers and wiseacre dogmatists who proceed to beg the whole question by their mere framing of a definition of the word government."

Dr. Shaw summarizes his position in the following words: In conclusion I have only to remark that the practical situation in the United States is rapidly shifting the burden of proof. The relations existing notoriously between great corporations and our legislatures and municipal governments are forcing upon us the question, not whether in some directions the business functions of government can be safely or wisely extended, but, rather, the question how to avoid a very extensive increase of public functions as the only visible retreat from the intolerable state of demoralization into which government has fallen. The enormous sum of money contributed for purposes of political control by the corporations enjoying municipal supply privileges have given us the "boss" system in its present form. And the "boss" system, which, in fact, knows no distinction of political party, is fast destroying state and municipal government as the steadfast and loyal servant, defender and promoter of the public interest. With honest, independent and truly representative government, such as our forefathers knew and such as they hoped would be ours in perpetuity, it would seem to me a matter of comparatively little moment whether the public welfare were served by the municipal ownership and operation of gas plants or under fair terms by a private company. On some accounts I should considerably prefer the latter alternative. But with weak and badly governed, lacking moral stamina and lacking the intellectual force to make advantageous bargains with private corporations, I should be inclined to the opinion that direct ownership and operation, as offering less temptation, might well have better results for the community in some cases.

The chief factor making for corrupt and inefficient government in most American cities is the franchise seeking interests. This is markedly true of Chicago, and in fact of the Illinois state government as well. The Record believes there is much truth in the contention put forth by Dr. Shaw.—Chicago Record.

The Syndicate's Contract.

In the fall of 1896 the money syndicate secured a contract. They got the contract by an infamous jugglery. That contract was to restore the industrial and commercial prosperity of this nation. The people accepted their promise and commissioned them to do it, and they gloriously undertook the task. The great American democracy has all the while stood ready to join in the chorus of triumph whenever the hypocritical oligarchy shall carry out its pledges. This day we patiently await the fulfillment.

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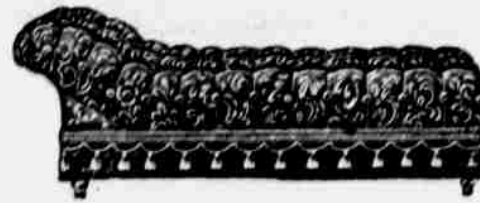
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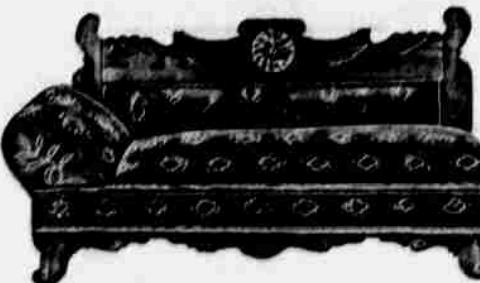
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A Dream of War.

The past rises before me like a dream. Again we are in the great struggle for national life. We hear the sounds of preparation—the music of hoarse drums—the silver voices of heroic bugles. We see thousands of assemblages, and hear the appeals of orators; we see the pale cheeks of women, and the flushed faces of men, and in these assemblages we see all the dead whose dust we have covered with flowers. We lose sight of time no more. We are with them when they enlist in the great army of freedom. We see them part with those they love. Some are walking for the last time in quiet, woody places, with the maidens they adore. We hear the whispering of the sweet vows of eternal love as they lingeringly part forever. Others are bending over cradles, kissing babies that are asleep. Some are receiving the blessings of old men. Some are parting with mothers who hold them and press them to their hearts again and again, and say nothing. And some are talking with wives, and endeavoring with brave words, spoken in the old tones, to drive from their hearts the awful fear. We see them part. We see the wife standing in the door with the babe in her arms—standing in the sunlight sobbing—at the turn of the road a hand waves—she answers by holding high in her arms the child. He is gone, and forever.

We see them all as they march proudly away under the flaunting flags, keeping time to the grand, wild music of war—marching down the streets of the great cities—through the towns and across the prairies down to the fields of glory, to do and to die for the eternal right.

We go with them, one and all. We are by their side on all the gory fields—in all the hospitals of pain—on all the weary marches. We are with them in ravines running with blood—in the furrows of fields. We are with them between contending hosts, unable to move, wild with thirst, the life ebbing slowly away among the withered leaves. We see them pierced by balls and torn with shells, in the trenches, by forts, and in the whirlwind of the charge, where men become iron, with nerves of steel. We are with them in the prisons of hatred and famine; human speech never tell what they endured. We are at home when the news comes that they are dead. We see the maiden in the shadow of her first sorrow. We see the silvered head of the old man bowed with the last grief.

The heroes are dead. They died for liberty—they died for us. They are at rest. They sleep in the land they made free, under the flag they rendered stainless, under the solemn pines, the sad hemlocks, the tearful willows, and the embracing vines. They sleep beneath the shadows of the clouds, careless alike of sunshine or storm, each in the windowless palace of Rest. Earth may run red with other wars—they are at peace. ROBERT G. INGERMANN.

THE PHILIPPINE NATIVES.

However lacking in intelligence the natives of the Philippines generally may be, they could not with truth be characterized as savages. There are in the Philippines between 6,000,000 and 8,000,000 people—probably about 7,500,000. Nearly half this number inhabit Luzon, the principal island of

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