

WILL MAUPIN'S WEEKLY



IN LOCAL POLITICS.

Things political in the local field are growing a bit warmer as spring time approaches. Candidates for various offices, city and county, are coming to the front much after the manner that the cicades, or seventeen-year locusts are expected to come by the "bug sharps" of the university. March 27 is the last day for filing for city office, and by the time that date arrives there will be enough candidates for the council and excise board to make a small army.

Gus Hyers of Havelock is still scooting around in pursuit of the nomination for sheriff on the republican ticket, and by the smile always on his face he is meeting with success. Col. Sam Melick is also after the same nomination, and the colonel has a wide acquaintance and a personal popularity that makes him a dangerous competitor. It is hinted that Sheriff Hoagland would like to try for a third term, despite the popular prejudice against third terms. James Dawson has also shied his caster into the ring, and James is not letting any snow remain untrod under his feet, either. Two or three "dark horse" candidates are being groomed and will be sprung at the most propitious time.

Thomas J. Doyle is a democratic candidate for city attorney and will probably have no competition for the nomination. It is not often that a city like Lincoln has an opportunity to secure the services of so able an attorney as Mr. Doyle. C. C. Flansburg, the present city attorney, will be a candidate for re-election, and rumor has it that John S. Bishop will contend with Mr. Flansburg for the nomination.

J. C. Pentzer, who occupied a place in the council for years, would like to get back and represent the Seventh ward. His petition is already on file and he will make the opposing candidates go some to beat him to the wire. E. H. Schroeder of the Fifth wants another term and does not hesitate to say so.

"Bob" Malone is still sore over the snap judgment taken on him by the business men's league and insists that he will stay in the race for mayor until the ultimate arrival of the dairy animals at the permanent residence. Thomas Cochrane, the nominee of the league, is not saying a word, and seems perfectly willing to let the matter be solved by the voters without any remarks from him.

Tom Pratt has definitely decided not to enter the race for city clerk, his health being such as to make it dan-

gerous for him to undertake the physical and mental strain of a fierce primary campaign. Mr. Pratt has been asked by a number of people to go after the nomination for mayor but has refused. "I am building up a fine business and enjoying the work," said Mr. Pratt the other day. "It is my own private business, too, and I have no one to blame me for my errors. Besides, my health will not permit me to enter the race for public office at this time."

City Clerk Ozman is a candidate for re-election, of course.

The "committee of fifty," representing the "drys," is holding regular meetings and preparing to put up a systematic fight to keep Lincoln from again occupying a place in the "wet" column. Things are getting a bit mixed and a lot warmer, and it is to be regretted that the old animosities always engendered by a "wet" and "dry" fight are cropping out even fiercer than ever, to the detriment of the city and to the exclusion of consideration of fitness of candidates for the positions to which they aspire.

The business men's association has made no filings for excisemen, and probably will not for several weeks to come, the chairman of the committee on candidates for that board not being in the city.

Mayor Love stands ready to try for renomination and re-election as a republican, provided there seems to him to be a real demand for it. That there is such a demand is evident, and the mayor will undoubtedly be compelled to get into the race. The indications are that if he does he will have a walk-away for the republican nomination.

THE PUBLICITY BILL.

Governor Aldrich has reaffirmed his support for the bill introduced by McKelvie of Lancaster, providing for a state bureau of immigration and publicity, carrying an appropriation of \$25,000 with it for the biennial period.

"I have been in favor of creating such a department from the first," the governor said. "I have commended this proposition every time I have had a chance in public addresses, both before election and since I have been in office. I talked with the author of the bill and told him what I thought should go into it. Many people have spoken to me about it and several committees have been here. I have told them all that I was for it, and I will use all reasonable efforts to assist it. I will sign it if it is passed."

The governor was talking to T. F. Sturgess of the Twentieth Century Farmer and Will A. Campbell of Omaha, who is chairman of the legislative committee of the State Association of Commercial Clubs. The bill, known as house roll 189, was introduced by Mr. McKelvie at the instigation of the commercial clubs of Nebraska. Behind it are also the Nebraska Clubs of Lincoln and Omaha, the Nebraska Press Association and Ad-

clubs of Lincoln and Omaha, as well as hundreds of individuals in the state who are desirous of securing good settlers for the state.

Mr. Campbell told the governor that \$25,000 was enough to organize the would be needed, that Omaha is work, but every cent of that amount spending \$15,000 annually in the same work, and the state ought to spend as much as one city. He told the governor he knew of one railroad company having 125,000 inquiries from people seeking homes in the west and Nebraska had nothing to send these men, while from six to ten inquire at the Commercial Club in Omaha every day about the state and all there is to give the inquirers is something which Omaha prints and pays for.

Governor Aldrich said: "I realize the situation. I know of 6,000 acres of hay which was not harvested in Nebraska last year because the men could not be secured. I realize that our railroads are pulling thousands of people through Nebraska and Nebraska people are doing nothing to get the people interested in Nebraska. During the next two years many thousand more will go through. We ought to give them something about Nebraska."

The governor said he was ashamed that Nebraska did not have a better state exhibit at the Western Land-Products Exhibit recently held in Omaha and he felt hurt when he visited it and saw no more than he did from his own state. He was informed that what was shown in space was bought by the Commercial Club and Stock Yards Company of Omaha and the cases used were paid for by a railroad company which invested the \$300 necessary and then took the exhibit to every other exposition in the country. Before the conference was ended the governor intimated he would send a special message to the legislature soon if the measure could not be revived in any other way.

May Be Worldwide Strike.

Henry P. Griffin, vice president of the International Seamen's Union of America, said in New York recently that if the contemplated general strike of the seamen, longshoremen and others at all English ports throughout the world took place it would in all probability extend to this country, when the men on the coastwise ships in this country would quit. At the last international convention of seamen, under the auspices of the unions in the marine trades of Great Britain, a delegate was present from the International Seamen's Union of America, and the question of a strike both here and in Europe was discussed.

The New State Progressive.

With the adoption of its new constitution as it was framed Arizona will be running a pretty close second with Oklahoma in the matter of laws for the protection of the masses, and especially the workingman. One of the laws embodied in the constitution of the new state provides that no one can work underground in mines or at other hazardous labor unless he can speak the English language. This will virtually prohibit the employment of immigrants in the mines and will break up the custom of importing Mexican miners every time there is a strike in the Arizona mines.

BROTHERHOODS' BIG YEAR.

Railway Men Make Large Gains In Last Twelve Months.

Organized labor, particularly the portion comprising the four great railroad brotherhoods, is rejoicing over the wage results attained in 1910. In other industries also the year just closed has been one of general progress and prosperity for workingmen.

To railroad employees of the country it was the banner year in the history of the brotherhoods, so far as wage increases are concerned. Officials of the brotherhoods estimate that the increases granted by the railroads during the year amount to a total of \$100,000,000. More than 1,600,000 men are affected.

The great wage movement of railroad employees begun in the fall of 1909 was the biggest labor feature of the year just ended. Every dispute was settled amicably, though several strikes were threatened.

Of significance in connection with the disputes was the test to which the Erdmann law was put and the demonstrated utility of that federal statute in preventing disastrous railroad strikes. Both the railroads and the representatives of the employees displayed a liberal spirit of give and take.

Both sides joined in giving unstinted praise to the diplomacy and skill in arbitration of United States Labor Commissioner Charles P. Neill.

Employees in every branch of railroad service were given wage advances amounting to an average of from 5 to 10 per cent. The employees raised include switchmen, firemen, engineers, conductors, trainmen and telegraphers. It is understood that on several railroad systems the clerical force and draftsmen in the engineering departments will receive a raise in pay.

The wage negotiations for men on the railroads of the entire west were carried on in Chicago, beginning early in the year with the switchmen and ending on Thursday, Dec. 28, with the conductors and trainmen. Some of the employees obtained their advances by direct negotiation with the general managers and others left the dispute to arbitration under the Erdmann law. In every instance where the question was submitted to arbitration the men got an increase.

The first demand for a raise was made by the members of the Switchmen's Union of North America employed on railroads in the northwest. They refused arbitration, struck and were defeated. Profiting by this example, the members of the same union in Chicago early in 1910 consented to arbitration and succeeded in getting a raise of 3 cents an hour virtually for all switchmen in the west.

Following the switchmen came the demands of the locomotive firemen. Labor Commissioner Neill succeeded in averting a strike. An arbitration board's decision gave the men an increase of about 10 per cent.

Wage conferences in behalf of the locomotive engineers began in September and in behalf of the conductors and trainmen in November.

The men threatened to strike, but Commissioner Neill succeeded in bringing the two sides together on a compromise agreement.

Union Legislators.

The Hon. John P. Murphy, member of Nashville union, No. 20, and the Hon. T. A. Rogers, member of Chattanooga union, No. 89, are added to the list of successful candidates in the November election. Both of these gentlemen will sit in the Tennessee legislature at the coming session, and their friends are confident that they will give a good account of themselves. This makes three staunch members of the typographical union in that body, the other being W. N. Page, state senator from Memphis.