

ected, Will Maupin's Weekly has confidence enough in him to believe that he will obey the will of the people and enforce the law to the best of his ability. Should Mr. Armstrong or Mr. Malone be elected, and Lincoln go "dry" we have enough confidence in their patriotism and civic pride to believe that the one elected would enforce the policy to the very best of his ability. The question is, therefore: Whom do you think would give Lincoln the best administration? It is not a question of whether this or that candidate is "wet" or "dry." That is a question to be settled by the voters, not by the officials we elect.

That there should be a radical change in the methods of the water department is evident to all who have given the matter attention. The department as at present conducted has given ample evidence that its managers are not big enough to cope with the situation. There are sections of the city that are absolutely without water service; other sections with service so abominably poor as to be worse than nothing a goodly share of the time, and other sections where the service could be vastly bettered by a little intelligent management. Not all the blame is due the commissioner, for the water committee of the council seems to have a dropsical affliction in the cranium that betokens the presence of more water on the brain than in the mains. There are two candidates before the republican primaries that Will Maupin's Weekly believes well qualified for commissioner—better qualified than the incumbent. Mr. Rudy has had a practical experience as an electrical worker that would stand him in good stead as commissioner of water and electric light, and he has also had a practical business education in the school of experience. Mr. Sprague is a business man, and he is one of hundreds of sufferers by reason of the miserable policy of "economy" and habit of negligence that have characterized the water department during recent years. The department is sadly in need of new blood. For personal reasons Will Maupin's Weekly is inclined to favor Mr. Rudy, although Mr. Sprague would be equally satisfactory as a candidate.

Bartos of a line, in opposing the Ollis substitute, grew rather personal, and this drew a hot rejoinder from Skiles of Butler. Ollis remained in his seat and took the grilling. Alberts of Platte threw oil upon the troubled waters in a humorous speech, but no sooner had the oil spread than he touched a lighted match to it. Hoagland of Lincoln "also spoke." Then the democratic majority applied the steam roller to the minority—running it back a couple of times over the prostrate forms of Ollis and Skiles. It was a circus for the gallery, but it was another evidence of the fact that no sooner do democrats get into power than they proceed to fight among themselves very much like two cats tied together by the tail and hung over a clothesline.

There were fireworks galore in the senate last Monday afternoon. They were touched off when the senate started upon the work of selecting a sifting committee. Ollis of Valley tried to put one over on his democratic colleagues, and came mighty close to doing it. He would, too, if the little scheme had not been exposed. He framed up a deal whereby a sifting committee of seven; four democrats and three republicans, was to be elected, with himself as the fourth democrat. By getting the right republicans on the committee Ollis would have had things his own way. Skiles of Butler was in on the deal. But the democratic majority

sat down upon these two democrats—and the sitting process was accompanied with nineteen dull, sickening thuds. The majority decide upon a committee of nine—six democrats and three republicans—and the democrats selected the republicans. This was a concession, and in its way, a precedent. Four years ago the republican majority in the senate elected a sifting committee and there wasn't a democrat on it. Two years ago the democratic majority elected a sifting committee, and there wasn't a republican on it. This year the democratic majority gave the republicans three of out of nine, but it was careful to select republicans to its liking. Senator Ollis tried to have democrats selected who were wholly satisfactory to the republicans.

Funny, isn't it? Issue a call for the insurance committee to meet, and the committee is right there. Issue a call for the committee on labor and it is impossible to hold a quorum, and next to impossible to get it. Committee on miscellaneous corporations—and it's right there. But the committee on labor. O, what'n'll the use of wasting any time on a bunch of mere wage earners? Human life is about the cheapest thing on the market, but hogs cost money.

Bills a plenty will die a-bornin' during the next two or three weeks. But what

STRIVING NOW TO SAVE THE POPULATION

(Laurie J. Quinby in The Chancellor.)

Recently there was held a land show in Omaha. The real object of this land show was to exploit the great possibilities of the Northwest, and thereby induce emigration thereto and settlement therein. Primarily, of course, the impulse back of it all, was the prospective sale of lands. But there was a side issue to this show, which was not exploited in the papers. That side issue was a conference of five governors, or their representatives, from that many of the Northwestern states, the purpose of which was to devise means of checking the emigration of population from those states over into Canada and British Columbia.

You see, as the population of those states ceases to grow, or if it does not grow fast enough, there is a stoppage in the increase of land values in those sections. Then the land-grabbers there strive to stimulate immigration in order to boost these land values, and they call a conference for the further purpose of trying to hold those who are there from emigrating farther away. It is difficult to discover what particular plans were devised to check this emigration from there, but it is safe to say that the only practical plan that could hold out any promise of success was not considered by those engaged primarily in boosting land values. In other words it never occurred to them that a simple change in the system of taxation in those Northwestern states would change the entire course of their destiny.

For here is the entire story in a nutshell: Over in Canada and British Columbia they have discovered how idle and unjust it is to tax industry and thrift. The farmers in that section for some years have been free from any other taxation than that upon the bare value of their lands, and now some of the cities, notably Vancouver, have followed that very wise course. They derive their entire revenues from a tax on the value of the land alone, entirely exempting from tax-

would have been the result if the legislature had spent five or six weeks wrangling over the election of a United States senator?

Lincoln, wet or dry; but wet or dry, our Lincoln!

With this issue Will Maupin's Weekly, born The Wageworker, closes its seventh volume. Next week it will enter upon its eighth year, a pretty lusty youngster, thank you.

Colonel Roosevelt is swinging around the circle and talking a lot. But to date he has been unable on this trip to break back into the triple-column headlines on the first page. Save only when the telegraph editor is hard up for a slug-head the colonel's best is a two-line head, bottom of column.

While the "Hinky Dinks" and "Bath House Jones" were tendering a reception to the unspeakable Lorimer, quite another crowd was extending a welcome to W. J. Bryan in the same city. The crowd welcoming Bryan was quite as large, if not larger, as the crowd welcoming Lorimer. In all candor, and for the purpose of getting at the facts, Will Maupin's Weekly desires to ask this question: Had you been in Chicago on the date in question, with a well-filled purse, in which crowd would you have felt safest?

ation every form of enterprise, improvements, mercantile or manufacturing stocks and personal property.

In view of that fact is it any wonder that several hundred thousand of the population of those states have emigrated to a land where their efforts will not be taxed to death, where they may enjoy the fruits of their toil without fear of a tax collector or an extortionate landlordism? They are the problem of poverty. They are aiming fast solving the problem of poverty. They are aiming toward a higher civilization where thrift shall follow industry and enterprise, and where none shall reap where they have not sown. But when these facts are mentioned just notice some low-browed, thick-necked, wide-headed, "practical" man rise up and say "Oh, that's the single tax, Henry George, a dream." Good Lord, preserve us from the ignorance of these so-called "practical" men, these fellows who conceal their own stupidity, their own mental inertia, behind the cry against those whose vision and understanding grasps the great fundamental problems of life, with the charge, "Visionary—dreamer."

Dream or not, these states are wasting their efforts in trying to retain their populations until they discover this simple remedy and apply it. Let them cease the taxation of enterprise and thrift and industry and sustain their revenues by a tax upon the value of the land, a social and not a private product, and then, not only will their population cease to dwindle, but it will grow and prosper. But this remedy could hardly be expected favorably to be considered by an aggregation seeking to profit through the private appropriation of those values created by all. However, Oregon is on the verge of applying this remedy, and when she does, the other states will have to follow her example or become desert wastes.