

WILL MAUPIN'S WEEKLY

THE WAGEWORKER

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ONE DOLLAR THE YEAR

Some of these days we will have a legislature that will think more of the needs and desires of the people than of playing for partisan advantage.

Everybody knows that Senator Lorimer was elected by bribery and treachery. But it will be a great satisfaction to learn who the bribe givers are.

Instead of paying legislators a flat rate couldn't we devise some method of paying each member just what he is worth to the state?

President Taft inferentially informs the people that it is none of their blamed business what he does with the army and navy, he being the commander-in-chief of both.

We venture the assertion that the veto of the Sunday base ball bill will not have the effect of increasing the Sunday morning church attendance.

It is now up to the opponents of Sunday base ball to provide something more attractive than musty sermons and insistent collections for foreign missions for the recreation of tired workers.

Governor Aldrich vetoed the Sunday base ball bill because it was not drawn to suit him. The majority refused to amend it because it did not want to please the governor. Between them thousands of wage earners are deprived of an opportunity for healthful and innocent recreation. And who has profited by the foolishness.

Representative Bailey returns to Buffalo county without the state house under his arm—or much of anything else for that matter. A man of Mr. Bailey's ability and hustling proclivities could have accomplished a lot of good. It was too bad that Mr. Bailey wasted his time on a scheme that commonsense should have told him was impossible of accomplishment.

A majority of the members of the thirty-second session of the Nebraska legislature have shown their good judgment by subscribing for Will Maupin's Weekly. The rest of them should get into line. A dollar for a whole year—fifty-two consecutive doses of cheerful optimism and Nebraska boosting.

Of course Will Maupin's Weekly is interested in the outcome of the local fight over the excise question—but not excited. Lincoln will not suffer financially if the city continues its "dry" policy; neither will it become a modern Sodom if it decides to become "wet." Lincoln's growth and future

prosperity do not hinge upon the licensing or the prohibition of saloons. Let us keep sweet and cool in discussing this issue.

No one will blame Governor Aldrich when he heaves a sigh of relief at getting a democratic legislature off his hands.

Those Mexican insurrectos will make a grave mistake if they listen to the Diaz promises of reforms. Diaz wouldn't be making promises if he were not scared, and he will not carry them out after the insurrectos have laid down their arms and dispersed. The first step to genuine political reform in Mexico is the retirement of Diaz and the bunch of grafters he has surrounding him.

Ten millions for a warship today to be used as a target inside of the next ten years. This navy game is fine business for the ship builders, but it's "war" on the taxpayers. The word "war" is here used in lieu of what General Sherman said it was.

Valley of Humiliation

This little incident happened many years ago. To be more exact, it happened some five or six years after the memorable landslide of 1894, when a democratic congress was wiped off the face of the political map and a republican congress placed thereon. It was in that year that Champ Clark was defeated for re-election by a man named Treloar. And it is upon this that this little tale hinges.

Speaker Clark came to a certain Nebraska city to make a speech. He was in a confidential mood that particular day, and in speaking to a friend about the time when he was defeated for congress by a music teacher, he remarked:

"That was my first and only defeat. But that was humiliating enough under the circumstances. Had I been defeated by a statesman I would have cared but little. But to have been defeated by a fiddler—say, that was the deepest depths of humiliation."

Forget It, Governor!

Governor Aldrich is not adding to his reputation for being a broadminded, liberal man by continually harping about Chairman Byrne and stigmatizing Arthur Mullen. Both of these gentlemen have a perfect right to influence legislation if they can. And so far as Will Maupin's Weekly is informed neither of them has advocated any vicious legislation with ulterior motives, nor opposed good legislation. The mere fact that Chairman Byrne advocated a measure is not a sufficient reason for executive disapproval. As one of Governor Aldrich's well wishes we hope he will forget all that sort of thing and pass judgment upon all matters according to the merits thereof, regardless of what this or that man may think about them. Will Maupin's Weekly is vastly more interested in seeing Governor Aldrich give the state a wise administration than it is in seeing the fortunes of any political party or political manager advanced. We fondly hope that

Governor Aldrich will forget men and think only of the best interests of the state.

The Cinch on Lorimer

After members of the Illinois legislature, had confessed that they accepted bribes for voting for Lorimer, the "blonde boss" was vindicated by a jury of his peers. "Peers" is a good word to use in that connection, too. Now comes the confession of the man who raised the \$100,000 slush fund to accomplish Lorrimer's election, "because he was worth that to the interestss." There is no getting away from these new facts just disclosed. Lorimer is senator by virtue of bribery and corruption. And the bribery and the corruption were so open and plain that the most obtuse could see them. Yet Lorimer was "vindicated." But how? By a lot of senators who had themselves been repudiated by the people. Every minute that Lorimer remains in the senate of the United States is an insult to the people and a lot on the history of the republic. The senator who acquiesces in that insult is not a whit better than the beneficiary of all the rottenness and corruption of the Illinois legislature.

The First Labor Law

The first labor law enacted by the Nebraska legislature in many years went through the house by unanimous vote last Thursday. It had already passed in the senate by a good majority. It is known as Senate File No. 16 and relates to making safe the men engaged in the erection of buildings, bridges, viaducts, etc. The new law—for it is presumed that Governor Aldrich will sign it, provides that in the erection of bridges and viaducts, and buildings of more than a minimum height, shall be properly floored, scaffolding properly placed, etc., and nothing left undone to safeguard the life and limb of the building tradesmen engaged thereon. This bill was introduced at the instance of the Nebraska State Federation of Labor, and was pushed by the legislative representatives of that organization. In addition to securing the enactment of a wise law, the Federation's representatives have demonstrated what can be done by united and intelligent action. The same representatives who kept busy until this beneficial law was passed have also been busy with other matters of equal importance. They have compelled attention to the necessity for a compensation law, and while such a law could not be secured at this time, they compelled recognition of labor's claims and as a result a commission will be named to investigate the subject. A factory inspection law will have been enacted ere the session closes; also a law compelling better safeguards in popular amusement houses.

It is only by intelligent, concerted action that labor will secure just recognition, and the success that has attended the first organized and systematic effort should result in making the Nebraska State Federation of Labor stronger and more aggressive.