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Publishers of
Will Maupin's Weekly

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backs. To make the careful and conservative banker contribute to a fund to guarantee the depositors in a bank operated by speculators and "fly-by-nighters" is a good deal like making all the farmers in one county guarantee the bills of every other farmer in the county.

Omaha is rapidly becoming a city of skyscrapers. Its sixteen-story bank building is the record holder now, but it will take second place when the new Woodmen building will be under way next week, and it must be ready for occupancy in twelve months. It will be a steel and stone structure, with every modern improvement, and standing on the corner of Fourteenth and Farnam, in the heart of Omaha, it will be a splendid advertisement of the city and of the splendid organization that is building it. If anybody asks you for information on the subject, just tell them that of all the cities between the Mississippi river and the Rocky Mountains, Omaha is the best, most progressive, most enterprising and most substantial. We are almighty proud of this because Omaha is in Nebraska.

Will Maupin's Weekly is in favor of reciprocity with Canada, for the very simple reason that it is a step towards free trade, and this paper is for free trade. The editor of this paper advocated bimetalism not because he cared a hang about silver, but because he saw in the free coinage of silver a step towards the end that must come in time—the abandonment of the idea that we must have a dollar with "intrinsic value."

But "Canadian reciprocity" is not agreeable to the western farmers. They are afraid that removing the duty on grain will flood the country with "cheap Canadian wheat." Of course this is to laugh. The Canadian wheat raiser who can get as much for his wheat in Liverpool as the American wheat raiser can, is not going to ship across the boundary line and sell it for less. Wheat in Winnipeg brings as high a price as it does in Duluth, allowing for the difference in freight between the two points. But just as soon as we have removed the tariff on grain we will be in a position to demand the abolition of the tariff on manufactured articles. The farmer is giving up nothing when he gives up the tariff on agricultural products. He will gain immensely when he no longer has to pay from \$20 to \$40 more for a self-binder made in Chicago than the Argentine farmer 3,000 miles away pays for the same kind of a machine. He will be greatly the gainer when he is no longer cinched from \$3 to \$5 on every plow he buys, from \$7 to \$15 on every wheeled implement he buys, from \$3 to \$6 for each member of his family on the sugar he uses during the year, from \$3 to \$7 per

member on the clothing he must buy. It is puzzling to see the farmers opposing even the first step toward emancipating them from the thralldom of the giant trusts.

Of course the crop pessimists were the first to get in their work. They told us that the wheat crop in southwestern and western Nebraska was "shot all to pieces," and that the wheat cut would thresh from six to eight bushels to the acre, while thousands of acres would not be cut at all. Now comes the cheering information that the wheat in the driest sections will run from ten to fourteen bushels, that the uncut acreage will be very small, and that the crop in the real wheat sections in eastern Nebraska will be really better than the average. Only because it is against the law, not because it is contrary to justice, you must not swat the crop pessimist with a bedslat. But there is nothing to prevent you from calling him what he is, then discounting his doleful predictions about 75 per cent.

The National Biscuit Co. has "seen a great light," and will henceforth be good in Nebraska. This is the concern that arrogantly withdrew from Nebraska because of the net weight package law, after trying to bribe Nebraska newspapers with fat advertising contracts into opposing the enactment of such a law. If every Nebraska householder acted like the editor of Will Maupin's Weekly, the cracker trust wouldn't sell enough of its product in Nebraska the year around to keep a canary alive for a week. The cracker trust's product never finds its way into this editor's home. As a matter of fact, this editor, with the assistance of his much the better half, insists on having the "made in Nebraska" article every time. It is Nebraska-made flour that is kneaded into the loaves baked in this oven. It is the Nebraska-made cracker that the kiddies lunch on. Nebraska-made butter spreads the bread and crackers. The rompers and roundabouts and shoes that the kiddies wear are made in Nebraska. Their faces and the family's laundry are soaped with Nebraska-made soap. The head of the house smokes Nebraska-made cigars. In short, this one family always takes the Nebraska-made article in preference to any other. By following this system Nebraskans can build up their manufacturing institutions and at the same time put the rollers under such insolent and arrogant concerns as the National Biscuit Company.

The Kearney Democrat opines that the long drouth is the direct result of Roosevelt's policy of reservoirs in the mountains to store up water for irrigation. This may be true, but we surmise that a whole community of such weather experts as Brer Whedon would provide mighty easy plucking for a professional rainmaker.