

WILL MAUPIN'S WEEKLY

A WEEKLY JOURNAL OF CHEERFUL COMMENT

Volume 8

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, AUGUST 25, 1911

Number 23

COMMENT ON TIMELY TOPICS

Doubtless Judge Cosgrave is more than willing to have a recount of the ballots cost for district judge. Certainly, if there is the slightest doubt about the correctness of the count a recount should be had. The closeness of the vote and the well known lack of ability possessed by the average board of election demand that the matter be settled beyond any shadow of a doubt.

The democratic house has every reason to be proud of the work it has accomplished, and of the work it was prevented from doing by the veto of the president. The democratic house was elected upon certain specific pledges. It pledged itself to enact a reciprocity measure, to economize, to revise the tariff downward in certain specified cases, such as wool and cotton schedules and other things. It did economize. It exposed a lot of corruption and removed it. It enacted a reciprocity law. It revised the wool and cotton schedules only to have them vetoed by a president who is on record as declaring the woolen schedule to be infamous. It submitted to ratification a constitutional amendment providing for the popular election of senators. It passed a campaign publicity bill. It liberalized the rules and provided for the election of house committees, and it adopted a resolution to admit Arizona and New Mexico. Only those blinded by partisanship will deny that the democratic house of representatives has thus far made a good record.

Paul Schulze, president of the National Association of Master Bakers, declared recently that it is a crime for women to bake bread at home. In a very great measure this is true—but it is not wholly true. We hold that intoxicating liquors have been blamed for a lot of things that should properly be blamed upon soggy bread and jaundiced biscuits. Many a home has been wrecked by dyspepsia, superinduced by bad cookery, and the wreck charged against whisky. But while sorrowfully admitting that too many women are ignorant of the art of making bread—and it is an art—although persisting in trying to do so, we unhesitatingly declare that there are thousands of housewives whose bread is an angelic delight, and by the side of which the baker's loaf is unworthy to be placed. We know hundreds of young women who can make "angel food" and cocoanut "fudge" and construct wonderful rarebits, but who are as ignorant of the fine art of "salt risin'" or plain white bread as a porker is of personal knowledge of the pliocene period. Tempering copper is a lost art. We demand here and now that immediate steps be taken to prevent the art of making edible, digestible, appetizing home-made bread be not allowed to follow the tempering of copper into the limbo of things lost.

Be not alarmed over reports coming from railroad headquarters to the effect that business is slumping frightfully. True, a large number of employees are

being laid off, and the explanation is "lack of business." But you are foolish if you believe all you hear. The various organizations of railway employees are asking for increased wages. Whereupon a large number of employees are laid off with the explanation that decreased business demands economy. This is the first answer made to the prospective demand for increased wages. Just take notice, if you please, of the fact that all the laid-off employees are in departments that are not industrially organized.

The determination of the city authorities to prevent itinerant hucksters from operating street stands during the state fair is a good one, and it should be adhered to. The merchants who occupy permanent locations, pay taxes and employ men and women the year 'round are entitled to protection against the fly-by-night and often irresponsible itinerants.

Is there no way by which the eternal "rag-chewing" in the city council may be stopped? Is there no relief in sight for taxpayers who are much more interested in civic improvements than they are in the matter of authority to be exercised by this or that city employee? The antics of our city councilmen have long since ceased to be either amusing or instructive. They have become wearisome.

Another year of aviation exhibitions at state fairs and other gatherings, and the people will have had their fill of such. Then we may hope to have something done to advance the art beyond the mere