

# MEN AND MATTERS

To date, and with no disposition whatever to prejudice the case of Clarence Darrow, it would seem that the great lawyer will have to "go some" to explain away that bribery charge. The prosecution seems to have built up a mighty strong case. The more one studies over that now famous McNamara case the more one must admire Colonel Fredericks, the man who handled the prosecution of the McNamaras and who is now pushing the bribery charges against Darrow.

The mere fact that a man like Henry L. Doherty is interested in the Loup river power project means that the power project is something more than talk now.

Pity the woes of Son-in-Law Nick Longworth. A few weeks ago he announced that he was strenuously for the re-nomination of President Taft. Today he is giving a correct imitation of a man suffering from paralysis of the vocal chords. Papa-in-Law Teddy should have taken Son-in-Law Nick around behind the barn and blown a few bits of information into his ear.

It makes a blooming lot of difference to the average American whether or not a few governors are in favor of this or that candidate. With seven governors of republican states pleading for Roosevelt and nine governors of republican states pleading for Taft, and four or five governors of democratic states pleading for Harmon, the average voter will probably remark to himself: "T'ell with the lot of them. I can put up as good a case of political judgment as any old governor."

"Smoked Barton out" is the headline used by the Lincoln Journal over its report of Silas R. Barton's platform upon which he is running for the republican nomination for congress in the Fifth district. This is the first intimation we have ever had that it was necessary to smoke Barton out on anything. Usually that gentleman is right up against the front railing telling just where he stands. We wonder what Si has done to dislodge the Journal's political reporter.

Cox of Hamilton denies that he is looking with longing eyes towards the chair now occupied by State Treasurer George. He intimates, however, that he would like to have his friends urge him to accept the nomination for lieutenant governor. This urging business consists of nine parts Tommy-rot and one part alush. If Mr. Cox wants the nomination why doesn't he say so and not work off the old "my-friends-urge-me" gag. It no longer deceives even the most simple minded.

Governor Wilson is scheduled to appear in Nebraska for a speech or two in the near future. This means that the Harmon men are going to take it as the throwing down of the gage of battle, and as a result we are going to see some lively democratic times in this state prior to the 19th of April. With Chris Greunther's blood boiling, Mike Harrington issuing blood-red circulars, Tom Allen organizing progressive democrats and a few energetic Clark men working like beavers for the Missouri statesman, we are looking forward to a regular circus of a time.

The South Platte country may have been temporarily discommoded by the blizzard, but it's willing to stand for that sort of thing at least once a year. Why? Because the results are always beneficial. That heavy snow is going to melt off slowly, and most of the water is going into the ground, which has been drying out for three years. The great underground reservoirs are being filled, and the way South Platte wheat and corn and oats will prosper this coming season will be a feast for the eyes and a joy to the soul.

The Republican Campaign Text Book for 1908 contains a splendid eulogy of William Howard Taft. If one-half of it is deserved, Mr. Taft is entitled to a re-nomination by ac-

clamation at the hands of his party. However, the sincerity of the eulogist is to be looked upon with some suspicion now, the writer being Theodore Roosevelt. The supreme egotism of Roosevelt is being exhibited by his intimation that he believes he is a bigger and better man than the man he so fulsomely eulogized just four years ago.

Let's see—we have telephone consolidation, haven't we? And aren't we still paying for two phones?

The more we investigate into the "revolt" within the ranks of the Modern Woodmen of America the more we are reminded of the story of the man who thought he was going to overload the frog market, only to discover that noise doesn't make numbers.

No, it isn't Russia. Neither is it benighted China. Nor is it a leaf cut from a history of the Middle Ages. It is merely the sordid story of what is taking place in free America today, within sight of Boston, the Athens of America, in Massachusetts, the home of the Pilgrim Fathers, the seat of all that is great and glorious in the American plan of "protection for American labor." We've got an almighty big stunt of missionary work to perform right here at home before we send any more missionaries abroad to convert the heathens of other climes.

From here and there come rumors that Mayor Carter Harrison of Chicago is being groomed as a sable equine in the democratic presidential handicap. Five times mayor of Chicago, and just now giving that city the most thorough cleaning of its history, Carter Harrison is beginning to loom larger than ever on the political horizon.

We have read and re-read that now famous "Columbus speech," and as yet we have failed to find therein a single solitary reference to the prime cause of all this revolt within the ranks of the G. O. P., the real motive for the organization of the progressive movement—the tariff. It may have been due to a lack of time. It may have been due to an oversight. And, again, it may have been due to a hunch from one Mr. Perkins, known somewhat to fame as the political manipulator for the steel trust.

Seven republican governors for Roosevelt and nine republican governors for Taft. Sounds like a tally of the supreme court judges in a decision, doesn't it?

A lot of gentlemen who have filed for legislative nominations have neglected to sign "Statement No. 1." We repeat that there are a lot of us who will not vote for any legislative candidate who will not sign an agreement to vote for that man for United States senator who is shown by the returns to be the choice of a majority of the people.

## A COMMONSENSE PLAN.

The exercise of just a little common sense in this matter of handling the snow problem would help a lot. But we don't do it that way. Last Sunday night we had a heavy snow storm. Monday the pavements in the business section were cleaned by shoveling the heavy drifts into the gutter. Then the Traction company shoveled a lot more on top of that. The result is mountain high piles of snow in the gutters. When the thaw comes the gutters will be choked, and as a result the streets will be impassable. They are well high impassable now because of the heaped-up snow. It is pretty nice to have twenty-four-foot sidewalks in the business section, but we don't actually have to have them. We could get along with twelve or fourteen feet in a pinch. Suppose that instead of shoveling the snow into the gutters it had been piled up on the outside ten or twelve feet of the sidewalks, leaving the gutters free. When the thaw comes the gutters

would have carried off the water, and the night freezes would not have clogged them with ice that in time will have to be removed with picks and shovels. But we didn't do it. Now we'll have to invest in rubber boots and flatboats—and spend pretty near as much money in cleaning the gutters of ice as we would have had to pay had we hauled the snow away in the first place. It would pay even now to shovel the snow back on the edge of the sidewalks.

## THE SNOW BLOCKADE.

We, meaning us, were just as much discommoded by the street car blockade last Monday as anybody, and more than most, having been compelled to walk further than the average. Our chief complaint against the Traction Co., for its failure to cope successfully with the situation is, that it did not avail itself of the services of about 3,500 expert traffic managers who stood around on the corners and explained just how the situation should be handled. It made us tired to note the absence of cars rolling along the streets, when so many men were right at hand with full information as to how it might have been done. We know that there were about 3,500 such experts because about 1,100 told us about it and we didn't have time to listen to any more, there being about 2,500 of them in sight.

The fact of the matter is that the storm was peculiar. Not only was the snowfall unusually heavy, but it drifted worse than any snow in recent years. The Traction Co. did attempt to keep the cars running all night Sunday night, and failed for the simple reason that the terrific wind blew the snow back upon the tracks faster than a steady run of cars could keep it off. It was a hard snow, and packing under the wheels derailed enough cars to blockade the lines. It was an extremely difficult problem to face, and while it might have been handled a lot better, the fact remains that it might have been a lot worse. Were we to be asked for advice we would suggest that during the coming summer the Traction Co. make fuller arrangements to cope with just such situations during the winter.

## WATER POWER DEVELOPMENT.

A few weeks ago Will Maupin's Weekly told some facts about the proposed Loup river power system. A lot of people who have been hearing that sort of talk for years were, of course, pessimistic. But Will Maupin's Weekly knew what it was talking about when it said that the Loup river power project was practically assured. It will go even further now and assert that it is a sure go. By this it is not meant that work will begin just as soon as the frost is out of the ground. But the financial end has been arranged for, and preliminary surveys and blue prints made. The editor of this newspaper has seen the blue prints. He knows some of the men behind the project. He knows they are not promoters of "blue sky" propositions, but men who are looking for safe investments that will at the same time add to the commercial prestige of the state.

Will Maupin's Weekly insists that the Loup river power project is one of the very biggest things for this state that has been broached—and is past the mere talkfest stage. Not this year, nor even next year perhaps, but certainly within the next three or four years, the water in the Loup river will be furnishing thousands of horsepower to Nebraska manufacturing institutions. We wish we were as sure of a lot of things as we are of the ultimate consummation of this tremendous commercial project.

## A NEW FRATERNAL ORDER.

Basing its methods and its works upon the story of the Good Samaritan as found in Holy Writ, a new fraternal and beneficiary order is being organized in Lincoln, to be known as the Order of the Good Samaritan. Certainly no prettier story, nor one that appeals more to humanity, could be found upon which to build a fraternal order. The wonder is that such an order was not founded long ago. The men who are organizing this order are not only experienced

men in fraternal work, but are among the solid and substantial business men of the city. In its general features it will resemble other fraternal societies, but it will have some new features evolved through the experiences of other and older societies. It will be highly social in its chief feature, admitting both men and women to membership. It will not be an insurance order but a beneficiary order. The story and the plan of organization instantly appeal to thoughtful and humane men and women, and as a result the organizers are meeting with a warm reception everywhere.

## DR. WINNETT CORRECTED.

Replying to the charge that because of his own statements and also because of his former connection with the Lincoln Traction Co. he was disqualified from sitting in judgment upon the Traction Co.'s application for a return to the old fare, Dr. Winnett intimated that the objection was in part due to a "labor writer" of this city. The editor of Will Maupin's Weekly has at different times been known to some extent as a writer on labor topics, therefore has every reason to infer that he is the "labor writer" referred to by Dr. Winnett. If he is correct in this assumption he hastens to correct the good doctor. The editor of this newspaper had nothing to do with the protest of the Central Labor Union, knew nothing about it until he saw it in print, was never consulted, and does not even know who framed the protest. It is quite true that the writer opposed the election of Dr. Winnett in the first instance, an opposition for which he is in no wise ashamed and for which he has no apologies to make. However, because of Dr. Winnett's announced position on matters to be decided at the hearing in question, and because of the good doctor's former connection with the company in an official capacity, Will Maupin's

Weekly is of the candid opinion that Dr. Winnett is, by all the rules of the game, disqualified. We have yet to hear of any lawyer elected to the bench who would sit as judge in any case wherein he had previously appeared as attorney for either side. We believe the case to be analogous. This much merely to keep the record straight.

It tickles us to see a man who never earned \$1,500 in any year in his life offering to "sacrifice" his personal interests in order to serve the dear people at a salary of \$2,500 or \$3,000 a year, with a liberal expense account thrown in.

As for us, we're not going to throw any political fits until we are reliably informed that the wheat crop is assured.

Senator Cummins of Iowa is assured of his own county delegation. That's about the darkest horse announcement we have yet heard.

Nebraska's pretty big for a forty-five year old!

\* A GREAT BIG BOOST FOR \*  
\* GRAND YOUNG NEBRASKA. \*  
\* Will Maupin's Weekly, the \*  
\* best single-handed booster Ne- \*  
\* braska has or ever had, came \*  
\* out in a blaze of glory last \*  
\* week with its "Nebraska In- \*  
\* dustries Number." Twenty \*  
\* four pages carried an immense \*  
\* amount of highly interesting \*  
\* matter regarding the resources, \*  
\* attractions and opportunities of \*  
\* Nebraska, and also numerous ad- \*  
\* vertisements of manufacturing \*  
\* concerns who make good goods \*  
\* in Nebraska and are not afraid \*  
\* to let people know it.—Omaha \*  
\* Trade Exhibit. \*  
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# Nebraska's Anniversary



*March 1, next, Nebraska will be forty-five years old. Forty-five years of marvelous progress and development—a record unequalled in the history of state making. Will Maupin's Weekly will appear about March 15th as a "Nebraska Anniversary Number" and will tell the state's story. It will be the best number of the best Nebraska Booster Organ in Nebraska.*

