

CURRENT COMMENT

The death of Clara Barton was to have been expected, for she had lived far past the allotted time. But, just the same, the announcement came as a distinct shock because Miss Barton was one of the most prominent figures in contemporaneous history. As the organizer and head of the Red Cross she performed a distinct service to mankind. If service is the measure of real citizenship, then Clara Barton was one of the foremost citizens of this republic, and of the world. It is just a bit remarkable that a woman who rendered such splendid service to humanity should be deprived of a vote, while the most ignorant and degraded male over 21 could cast a ballot. We would rather trust the destinies of this republic to women like Clara Barton than to the average male voter.

We are not a grand old farmer, but during the course of our long residence in Nebraska we have discovered that farmers are too apt to get panicky over the wheat outlook in the early spring. The same danger exists today. Do not be in too big a hurry to plow up the wheat. Our experience is that a lot of the wheat that looks mighty bad early in April threshes out the biggest yields in July. Nebraska soil is wonderfully recuperative.

We have our opinion of the man who owes his whole success to the loyalty of Nebraskans, who depends largely upon Nebraskans for his livelihood, and who would have little business were it not for the constant boosting of Nebraskans, who will patronize a Chicago mail order house when he buys for his family. The things made in Nebraska, or sold by Nebraskans, are good enough for any Nebraskan to buy.

The Chancellor, a weekly magazine published in Omaha, is making a fight for tax reform and for fundamental democracy. It is edited by Laurie J. Quinby, than whom no more forceful writer on democratic topics lives in the west. There are those who charge Quinby with being a "dreamer." If he is, he dreams dreams that are going to come true some day, for he has visions of the time when justice will rule, when opportunities will be equal and when special privilege is a thing of the past. And who wouldn't be a dreamer? "The dreamer lives forever, but the toiler dies in a day," said John Boyle O'Reilly. And we need dreamers like Quinby—dreamers who will see the coming of the great day and hold up in front of us the goal we should all seek to win. J. W. Metcalfe is business manager of The Chancellor, and evidently the right man in the right place. A year of The Chancellor would be a liberal education to any thoughtful man.

Is it possible that the time will ever come when the liquor question will not be injected into every political contest that comes on in Nebraska? We trow not, unless we can arrange a compromise between a lot of fanatical prohibitionists and a lot of fanatical shouters for "personal liberty." We were in hopes that we could go through the primary this month without having it unduly emphasized, but we hoped in vain. What amuses us, however, is the awful wail of the anti-saloon element because the German-American Alliance sent out some literature advancing the candidacy of one gubernatorial candidate. It was awful for the German-American Alliance to do during the last few days of the campaign just what the anti-saloon league has been doing for the past three months. Politics not only makes strange bedfellows, but it also makes a lot of infernal hypocrites.

Anyhow, Will Maupin's Weekly has gone through the first general primary ever held in Nebraska without losing its temper or abusing any candidates. It has had some very decided opinions of its own, but in order to advance the cause of its preferred candidates it has not found it necessary to abuse

and villify other candidates. This paragraph is being written a day before the primary, and if nobody grows more excited over the aforesaid primary than this editor is at this moment, it will pass peaceful as a Quaker meeting. We grow a lot more excited when we are talking about the wonderful resources of Nebraska than we do when we are talking about politics. Let us all stand up for Nebraska!

Arbor Day is close at hand, but it no longer means anything worth while to Nebraska. Time was when we planted trees on Arbor Day, but now we merely say, "It's a good thing," and the school children recite a few poems. That's all. Time was when we planted trees on Arbor Day, and the influence of J. Sterling Morton developed Nebraska from a treeless plain to a splendidly timbered state. Measured by service to his fellows J. Sterling Morton was one of the greatest men this country ever produced.

This newspaper makes its appearance on the day that the people of Nebraska are holding their first preferential primary. We are opposed to the primary law in its present form just as much as we are to the old convention system. After you have voted that roll of wall paper we call a primary ballot, if you still think the present primary law is a good one, then all we have to say is that you are easily satisfied with a primary law.

Maybe we will have selected the best candidates by the primary—and maybe not. The chances are that we have not, for practically every nominee will have been nominated by a minority vote. It is a practical impossibility for the average man to acquaint himself with the merits or demerits of every candidate on such a long ballot. Many will content themselves with voting for men at the head of the ticket, leaving even more important offices unvoted for through lack of time or knowledge. We of Nebraska have been so eager for needed reforms that we have been inclined to jump blindly. Let us now put our efforts to working out a primary law that will be worth while.

As before stated, this newspaper appears this week long before the results of the primary are made known. But we venture a few predictions and ask you to paste them in your hat. Harmon will not come within gun-shot of carrying the democratic presidential primary. We look to see Clark win. Taft is not in the running in republican circles. We look to see Roosevelt win, although LaFollette ought to. As between Moorhead and Metcalfe, it will be a neck and neck race, with the chances favoring Moorehead. The opposition to Aldrich will not be worth while. Norris Brown will doubtless be nominated for senator by the republicans, and Shallenberger by the democrats.

But what difference does it make, after all, who wins at the primaries, or at the election? It will not add a penny to the price of corn or wheat; will not make the yield of any grain a bushel more to the acre, nor reduce the cost of living a penny per week. We have entirely too much politics in Nebraska—and not enough co-operation in the great work of developing the state's resources and advertising her abroad. We raise too much political hell per acre and too little corn; too much partisan strife, and not enough boosting for Nebraska. We take our politics too seriously and our prospects too lightly. It would be a godsend to Nebraska if we forgot politics and partisan strife for a year or two.

The law requires that all candidates for public office in Nebraska shall file a sworn statement of expenses incurred. This refers to primary elections as well as other elections. Tak-

ing time by the forelock, the editor of this paper, Will M. Maupin, who filed as a candidate for the democratic nomination for railway commissioner, submit the following, which will be sworn to and presented to the county clerk of Lancaster county, as the statement of expense incurred by him up to and including Thursday, April 18:

Printing, \$8.50; postage, \$6.50; distributing cards, \$6; mimeographing, \$1.35; envelopes, 65c; telegram, 25c; messenger, 10c. Total, \$23.35.

And he admits that he had that much fun out of his campaign, that he has no regrets, and that he is deeply grateful to the newspaper friends who supported him of their own free will, and other friends who supported him for reasons best known to themselves. We go to press before we know the results of the primary, but win or lose, this newspaper and its editor are still going to keep right on boosting for Nebraska and for the men who are doing real things—things that are worth while.

There is no earthly reason why Omaha and Lincoln should not be just as prominent in the flouring world as they are in the butter world. They would be if Nebraskans would insist upon having Nebraska made flour. It is the best flour in the world because it is ground from Nebraska wheat—and Nebraska raises the best milling wheat in the world. This is proved by the fact that Nebraska wheat is bought largely by millers east and northeast of us to grade up the wheat of other sections. It should be a matter of pride to every Nebraskan to say, "I use only Nebraska flour." It would be proof that he is not only a loyal citizen but a judge of good flour.

How many Nebraskans know that the city of Lincoln is known all over the United States as the seat of the best equipped and best managed hospitals in the country. Not the largest, mind you—the best. The fame of Lincoln's hospitals and Lincoln's surgeons is far more than nation wide. There are surgeons in Lincoln today who are famous everywhere save at home—another proof that a prophet is not without honor save in his own country. Next week Will Maupin's Weekly is going to have something more to say about the hospitals and surgeons of Lincoln.

We make no claim to being an advertising expert, but the chances are that the advertisement that appeals to us will to the average man. The manager of a Lincoln automobile business advertises that his car is "fool proof." If ever we buy a car it will not be one that is advertised as "fool proof." First, because no machine is fool proof. Second, we wouldn't put ourselves in the attitude of wanting a car proof against ourself. As an ordinary student of advertising, not as an expert thereon, we render judgment that the aforesaid advertisement is a mighty poor one.

There is just one way, and only one way, to get the liquor question out of politics. That is to eliminate the idea of revenue from the traffic. As long as we make the liquor business a matter of special privilege, just so long will it be a political issue that will overshadow or taint every other issue. Save in the matter of tax reform

legislation there is no crying need for more legislation in Nebraska. There is much more need of a lot of "is hereby repealed" than there is for more of "be it enacted."

There is one candidate for nomination to state office who spent mighty little, expected very little, isn't a bit disappointed and just as earnest as ever in boosting for the state—and we can touch him without removing our hands from our pockets.

A BOOM FOR KEARNEY.

The announcement that the Union Pacific is to extend its Callaway branch, Kearney to Callaway, from Callaway into the northwest, is mighty good news, not only for Kearney but for Nebraska. We've always had a mighty warm spot in our heart

for Kearney. It is a mighty good little city. It is going to be far better when it gets into communication with the great northwest territory through the extension of the Callaway branch of the Union Pacific. It will open up a new trade territory rich in prospects, both for wholesale business and the production of agricultural wealth. The possibilities of this territory to be opened up are immense. The extension will give shipping facilities where none are now in many places for a distance of a hundred miles. It is now practically a cattle country because cattle do not have to be hauled to a shipping station. It is, however, a country that sooner or later will develop into an agricultural region.

When this new territory is opened up it will naturally make Kearney its chief trade center, thus increasing the wholesale business and giving a new impetus to manufacturing. Some of these days that power canal at Kearney will be turning a lot of factory wheels. We have never lost faith in Kearney's future. She got a pretty hard bump by over booming in the old days, but she has come through in fine shape, and today Kearney's future looks brighter than ever.

WE'LL KEEP ON BOOSTING.

Will Maupin's Weekly came out last week as a state anniversary number. It contained twenty pages of state booster articles and Nebraska advertising. The edition was a credit to the state and its publisher. Mr. Maupin is a democratic candidate for the nomination as state railway commissioner and is the biggest and best known single-handed booster in the state of Nebraska.—Shaffer's Alma Record.

SOUND ADVICE.

Already the wisdom of the Journal's wisdom in advocating Champ Clark for president is becoming apparent. Between Wilson and the Harmon forces

in Nebraska there appears to be a bitter fight, threatening to disrupt the party. Better all the Harmon men and all the Wilson shouters remember that the democratic party is like the sailor's parrot, it talks too damn much—remember this and vote for old Champ Clark and an era of good feeling.—Fairbury Journal.

JOHNNIE DISCOVERED.

On Sunday evening a suspicious looking character dropped into town and some thought it was a hobo of the "millionaire" type while some thought it was Father Time and for a time all was mystery, but Monday morning this "it" strayed to a barber shop and Lo and Behold! when that crop of whiskers was removed "it" was discovered to be Johnnie Falter, safe and sound. He has been flipping flapjacks at the Cavaneer ranch all winter.—Eddyville Enterprise.

Help Boost

A Booster

This is what

Will Maupin's
Weekly

is doing

Boosting

One Dollar a Year

Modern Methods

A cool, cleanly gas range makes home life ideal.

No woman hesitates to interest herself in any phase of the cooking if gas is the fuel employed.

She knows just how the range will bake and boil. She knows that the expense and heat stop when the meal is finished.

Her grandmother's cook spent half the time keeping the stove in order. If you are using an old method in the kitchen for cooking and water heating, you will be interested in the demonstration of a modern gas range and water heater.

Come in and investigate or 'phone for representative.

Lincoln Gas & Electric Light Co.

Bell 75

14 and O Street

Auto B-2575

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A
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