

WILL MAUPIN'S WEEKLY

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WHAT IT WOULD MEAN TO NEBRASKA

¶ If Nebraskans loyally stood by their state's industries it would mean the addition of thousands of home building wage earners.

¶ If Nebraskans bought all their insurance of Nebraska companies it would mean keeping \$10,000,000 a year at home to be invested in Nebraska development.

¶ If Nebraska advertised to the world what Nebraska has, and is, and is to be, it would mean the addition of thousands to Nebraska's list of home builders, of millions to her working capital, and of greater development of her marvelous resources.

WHEN WILL NEBRASKANS DO THEIR DUTY TO NEBRASKA

CURRENT COMMENT

Because the editor of Will Maupin's Weekly has a profound reverence for the Christian religion as it was taught to him by a preacher father and the best mother a boy ever had, he protests, emphatically, against the slush and gush and sacrilege surrounding the last hours of Rev. Clarence Richeson. "Are you willing to die for Jesus' sake?" asked his spiritual advisor. In the name of common sense, of decency and of revealed religion, we insist that this sort of thing stop. Richeson did not die "for Jesus' sake." He died because he was a foul, murdering fiend, who deceived and betrayed an innocent girl, then deserted her for a woman with a million, and to cover his tracks murdered his victim. If Clarence Richeson's soul is not this day suffering the torments of the damned, then the Bible is a lie. If the murderer and the murdered—the foul betrayer and the trusting betrayed—are together in heaven, then the Christian religion is a mockery and the moral and upright life of no avail for future happiness.

The sacreligious gush of Rev. Herbert S. Johnson, Richeson's "spiritual advisor," serves only to make a jest of religion. "I forgive everybody," canted the doomed murderer. Pray tell us whom he had to forgive? The innocent girl whom he ruined and murdered? A religion that he betrayed and besmirched? Society that he outraged? If there is a hell—and we believe there is, whether it be one thing or another—then as surely as there is a divine ruler of the universe Clarence Richeson is there. No sane man who cherishes faith in ultimate justice can believe that any repentance of which Richeson was capable would suffice to make it possible for him to partake of the joys and happiness of those who have served their time and their fellows well and justly: least of all believe that Richeson could be admitted to the presence of poor little Avis Linnell. Again we protest against such outrageous rot, such mockery of religion, such desecration of the Christian faith.

The Lincoln Evening News undertakes to explain that Morehead carried the dry county of York because a majority of York county democrats are "wets," and that Metcalfe carried the "wet" county of Saline because Morehead opposed the "reform insurance bills introduced by Senator Bartos" during the last legislative session. The explanation may satisfy the esteemed News, which is always very easily satisfied when looking for some ground upon which to oppose a democrat, but it will not satisfy observant men. Morehead opposed the Bartos bills on good grounds, as the News may learn by a careful study of the bills and various incidents surrounding their consideration. Senator Bartos, who is a political power in Saline, seems to have opposed Morehead because Morehead opposed his bills, but does the News believe that Bartos is more interested in "insurance reform" than he is in the success of his brewery at Wilber? The truth of the whole matter is that the democratic contest was between two splendid men, and Mr. Morehead won, and won because a majority of democrats thought that under existing circumstances he was the better man for the position. The liquor question cut very little figure save in the feverish imaginations of men who would rather keep the liquor question stirred up in order to have an issue than to see it settled and be left without an issue.

Will Maupin's Weekly hopes to see the grand old state of Missouri lead off in the adoption of what this newspaper considers the greatest reform proposed in recent years—the abolition of all forms of taxation upon enterprise and thrift. Missouri is preparing to vote upon a constitutional amendment gradually abolishing the personal property tax. If that amendment is adopted Missouri is going to become a Mecca of the investor and the builder. Community made values will pay community expenses, and the fruits of individual effort will be left for the individual to enjoy. This

newspaper can conceive of but two classes who will oppose the amendment—those who are ignorant and those who see in its adoption an end to their shirking of their just share of the tax burden.

The two Lincoln policemen who stopped a young woman and compelled her to take them and a drunken man to the police station in her automobile, were very properly removed from the force. We do not expect a great deal of intelligence for \$60 a month, but we at least have the right to expect a glimmer of it. If we show little respect for police authority it is because we have so many examples of it that show nothing more than bullheadedness, arrogance and stupidity.

Men who declare that there is no cheap land left in Nebraska simply do not know what they are talking about. True, there is no land worth while that is to be had free, but there is a lot of it that is to be had at a low price. Land that may be had for \$50 an acre today on easy terms is in many respects cheaper than the free lands the homesteader secured a generation ago. First, because the returns are assured and speedy; second, because the buyer does not have to endure the hardships of pioneering; third, because a market is ready and close at hand. It is a lot easier to stick around town and complain about the lack of opportunities than it is to get out and hustle like the mischief, enduring toil and hardships now in order to win a competency after while. And the land opportunities are going to be even better when Nebraskans become wise enough to enact laws that will take speculative values out and put a stop to the present system of fining thrift and enterprise.

An acre of ground contains approximately 43,000 square feet. At \$50 an acre this is a fraction over 1 cent a square foot. And there are hundreds of men in Lincoln and other cities, always complaining because they can not get hold of a piece of land, who swallow from 30 to 75 square feet of fertile Nebraska soil every day, or send from 15 to 30 feet of it skyward in the shape of cigar smoke. The man who takes four drinks of booze a day swallows an acre of fertile Nebraska farm land every 100 days, or three and a half acres every year. In eight years he swallows a farm equal in size to that of Arnold Martin in Pawnee county, and Arnold Martin is today the most successful farmer in the United States. Yet, despite these figures, our ears are constantly being dinned with the doleful wail that "there ain't no chance for a poor man to get a piece of land any more, nohow."

Now that Prince, murderer of Deputy Warden Davis, is under sentence of death, we expect to see the usual amount of gush and flowers and sympathy wasted upon him by hysterical people. We are opposed to capital punishment under any conditions, but so long as it is the law of the land we insist that a condemned murderer be treated as such. All the flowers and tears and sympathy this newspaper has to bestow will be bestowed upon men and women who are trying to live honestly and uprightly. People who gush and mush over a murderer ought to be examined by the lunacy commission.

We insist that the prize "bonehead" in Nebraska is the road overseer who refused to let the state use the road district tools in order that convicts might build a stretch of good road. Failing to hear of any other entries for the prize we will bestow it—if we can find anything applicable to the case in point.

Frankly, gentlemen, we are not so much interested in an elastic currency as we are in an adhesive currency.

The effort to inject the liquor question into the state campaign seems to have died a bornin'.

MEN AND MATTERS

One of the live commercial clubs of Nebraska is doing business every day in Havelock. The shop city was represented at the Hastings convention by a wide-awake delegation. The club is now going after parks and playgrounds, but will keep right on looking for industries to locate on the free factory sites offered. A mighty busy, hustling city is growing up alongside Lincoln.

We listened with some interest to Prof. J. Lawrence Laughlin's explanation and defense of the Aldrich currency plan, not because we consider Prof. Laughlin a political economist of particular weight, but because we are seeking light on that subject. As a matter of fact, Prof. Laughlin was not recognized as a political economist until he was picked out of Philadelphia and put in the chair at Rockefeller university, so as to give him a bit of prestige and afford the advocates of the single standard an opportunity to point to one great political economist who did not favor the double standard. After digesting the gentleman's remarks we are prepared to assert our ability to pick a half-dozen practical bankers out of Lincoln and Omaha who can put up a better defense of the reserve association plan, and a score who are able to meet him on the platform and confute his arguments. Eliminate the words "elasticity" and "inelasticity" from the Laughlin vocabulary and very little is left.

The bankers of Group 1 who met in Lincoln the first of the week spent considerable time in discussing the best methods of assisting the farmers. While they were worrying about the farmer's condition Mr. Farmer was marketing \$9 steers, \$7.50 hogs, \$1.10 wheat, 79 cent corn and \$20 alfalfa. If there is any one thing we've quit worrying about it is the condition of the poor, downtrodden Nebraska farmer.

Will Maupin's Weekly is loath to believe that any Nebraska newspaper is to be bought by the proffer of some or all of the printing incident to the publication of the five constitutional amendments. This newspaper serves notice now that it is going to prefer a request that it be given at least one of the amendments to advertise—being a newspaper of general circulation—and becoming more general every week—but in order that there may be no misunderstanding in the future it seizes this occasion to state that it will advocate the election of John H. Morehead. We do not expect to publish any of the amendments.

Nebraska is rapidly becoming the leading dairying state of the Union. Already she is producing more butter per capita than any other state, and in good time she will be producing more pounds of butter than any other state. Two things are operating to this end—alfalfa and the silo. The enterprising farmer is building a silo because it is a demonstrated necessity. It keeps the dairy herd producing as much, or more, profit in winter as in summer, when pastures are fresh. It is profitable because it means more returns and less expense. It is so simple that the wonder is that we haven't been using it universally for centuries. We can peaches and cherries and corn and tomatoes for human use during the winter. The silo simply cans the fresh and succulent summer food and offers it to stock during the winter. Just as we pack ice in the winter to use in summer, so we now pack forage in summer for use in winter. The more silos we erect in Nebraska the more dairy herds we will raise and the more dairying the more prosperity. The farmer who makes one silo to grow where none grew before is a public benefactor.

After considerable fuss about nothing in particular, Nebraska democrats have settled the Baltimore train matter. The "official" train will run over the Burlington to Chicago, then to Baltimore