

BASE BALL  
BOOSTER DAY  
JULY 16  
BE A BOOSTER

# WILL MAUPIN'S WEEKLY

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## SAFEGUARDING THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH

This week Will Maupin's Weekly presents to its readers some information relative to the groceries and markets of Lincoln. Let it be borne in mind that the business houses referred to have not paid, nor will they pay, one cent for the articles published herein. The publicity is given to them freely because they have evidenced a willingness to co-operate with the city's health department in protecting the health of the general public by protecting their perishable goods from contaminating influences and by using every reasonable effort to maintain sanitary premises.

Until some great epidemic of disease ravishes a community it is difficult to arouse the attention of the people and convince them that it is their duty, always and all the time, to insist on municipal cleanliness and scientific sanitation. Lincoln people knew for years that the municipal water plant was inadequate and that there was danger of contamination, but they gave no heed thereto until last year's epidemic of typhoid appeared. Then everybody got busy. Precious lives would have been saved and the city saved some undesirable publicity if the people had attended to their duty at the proper time.

The health officers of the city labor under many handicaps. Let some scavenger be arrested for using a leaky wagon, and the chances are that a dozen men will exert themselves to get him out of the difficulty. Let some retailer be haled into court for selling rotten meat or fruit, and immediately the cry of "persecution" arises.

Instead of heartily co-operating with the city's health department, the public gives it no support at all, not even enough money to carry on its work. Yet the health of the entire community is endangered by one small source of infection. Dr. Spelman is doing a splendid work, but he could do much better if he had the proper support and encouragement.

Perhaps some wise head knows what the health ordinances of Lincoln are. If there be such a man he has an almighty good head on his shoulders. But the minute a man who has made a study of the subject of guarding a municipality's health undertakes to draft a comprehensive health ordinance, immediately other men who do not know an angworm from a colon bacilli jump in and begin amending and opposing.

The city's present health officials, few in number, illy paid and without proper support, are doing good work. They are arousing public interest in the matter of safeguarding the public's health. There is better co-operation today than ever before—but not yet enough.

### SOME HEALTH HINTS.

Soap and hot water have not yet been entirely superseded as disinfectants.

Flies are an evidence of filth as well as carriers of disease germs. If your house is infested with flies the chances are that you maintain a breeding place for them—and flies breed in filth.

Avoid ice water as you would a plague. Men take a gulp of scalding hot coffee one minute, and a gulp of ice water the next—then wonder that the machine known as the stomach gets out of gear.

If your butcher has to drive a cloud of flies off the meat before he can cut your steak, cancel the order and buy something in a can.

If the boy who delivers your groceries hops back into the wagon and gives the horse a cut with the whip—call up his employer. Such a driver can not possibly be careful about keeping your groceries free from contamination while en route to your home.

Do not wait until the grease trap in your kitchen sink clogs up before you clean it out. Keep it cleaned out. Strong lye will do the trick.

## MEN AND MATTERS

We have often felt that Mr. Bryan has been unfortunate, many times, in the selection of his friends. Some of his advisors have been false to him by playing crooked politics—a fact not unknown to quite a number of Nebraska democrats. Others have remained close to him just so long as they could profit by close personal contact with him. Still others have denied him after they have secured what they went after. With nothing more tangible to offer than our own limited powers of deduction, we believe that Senator John W. Kern, in refusing to stand as a candidate for temporary chairman of the Baltimore convention, was guilty of a gross betrayal of friendship, of cowardly bending to opposing forces, and of about as severe an attack of political "cold feet" as has come to our notice.

The current issue of McClure's Magazine contains an interesting article on "Political Press Bureaus." It cost a couple of millions of dollars to give due publicity to the Clark, Underwood, Harmon, Roosevelt and Taft campaigns. Bryan has been nominated three times. We defy any man to show that a dollar was ever spent in his behalf before nomination by any "press bureau," "publicity agent" or other influence. William J. Bryan is the one big man in America today whose popularity with the people is in no wise due to a personally equipped or salaried press bureau.

Deputy Labor Commissioner Guye has issued a bulletin which conveys the information that there still remains in Nebraska something like 1,200,000 acres subject to homestead entry. But do not get excited. The Nebraska land subject to homestead entry isn't worth very much—not worth what it would cost in privation and sacrifice and money to obtain. The work and money that it would cost to get a homestead now would secure less land, but the land thus secured would be worth several sections of the government land we are hearing so much about. It is possible to secure Kinkaid homesteads that were filed on years ago, but since abandoned. But why fool away precious years, hard work and some money on land that as good a man as you found utterly hopeless? Get hold of a twenty or thirty acre patch of ground and farm it intelligently. It will pay far better than any quarter section you can homestead in Nebraska now.

The "Safe and Sane" Fourth of July program being arranged for Lincoln should appeal to every citizen. Pack a basket of lunch and spend the day at Capital Beach, at the City Park, or in some shady nook along Salt Creek. Shun the deadly toy pistol and the infernal dynamite cracker. Send up paper balloons, and in the evening join with your neighbors and have a nice neighborhood display of fireworks. Let's get back to the old-fashioned Fourth!

A recent newspaper article asserts that during the twelve months ending June 1, 1912, the life insurance companies outside of Nebraska paid to policy holders in Nebraska the sum of \$4,000,000. This represents approximately two-fifths of the amount of money Nebraskans sent out of the state in the shape of premiums on life insurance during the same period. In other words, we foolish Nebraskans sent \$10,000,000 of Nebraska earned money out of the state for something that could and should have been bought in the state, and got \$4,000,000 of it back. The other \$6,000,000 is being used to build up other states and other communities. Yet, every time any man advocates the enactment of laws that will enable our own insurance companies to grow and prosper, he is dubbed a "tool of the insurance combine," an "insurance lobbyist," or something equally obnoxious. It is costing Nebraska not less than ten or twelve million dollars a year to starve home insurance companies and build up big insurance companies east of the Allegheny mountains.

E. G. Maggi has been reappointed by Governor Aldrich as a member of the board of pardons. The reappointment is a recognition of merit, for Mr. Maggi has performed his duties faithfully and well.

So they are going to send Samuel Gompers to jail for contempt of court—again! All right. But if they jail every man who entertains a supreme contempt for that District of Columbia judge there won't be enough people left at liberty to feed the prisoners.

### THAT GAS FIGHT.

This gas issue, like the liquor issue, will not be settled sensibly until the fanatics on both sides are sidetracked. Five years have elapsed since the dollar gas ordinance was enacted. And we haven't got dollar gas yet. All we've got is a big bill of costs and campaign thunder for aspiring ward politicians. In the meantime, the Gas Co. is collecting about \$50,000 a year more than it would be collecting if we had dollar gas. If it is putting this excess out at interest and drawing 6 per cent—a rate it can easily get, it has already made \$45,000. The Gas Co. can use our money to finance its legal battle with the city. In the meantime we must foot our own legal bills—and our gas bills, to boot. The Gas Co. wins this fight even if it loses in the courts. It doesn't take much gray matter to realize that fact.

Let us keep a few facts in mind while trying to arrive at a satisfactory settlement.

First, the Gas Co. will not agree to any settlement contemplating a refund of all the excess charged since the enactment of the dollar gas ordinance.

Second, the Gas Co. can afford to fight the case to the bitter end for the simple reason that it can finance the fight with the money of gas consumers.

Third, the Gas Co. wins, no matter how the case is finally decided.

Now, why not try to settle on some middle ground? Last week Will Maupin's Weekly offered a suggestion. Here is another one:

Let's get together on the basis that the Gas Co. will put the dollar gas rate into effect at once, and rebate the excess it has charged since December 1, 1910, the date it made its first offer of compromise. This excess to be rebated either in one sum, or at some agreed rate per month based upon a percentage of the gas bills of the consumers.

The gas consumers are losing vastly more than the Gas Co. by this interminable delay. Suppose we shove the cheap ward politicians to one side and settle this question for ourselves!

### BACK FROM THE MOUNTAINS.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Righter returned to Lincoln Tuesday from their "honeymoon" trip. They visited Colorado points while away. They will be at home to friends in a short time. Mr. Righter is associated with his father, C. B. Righter, in the Righter Linotype Composition company.

## ROOSEVELT ON OTHER PRESIDENTS

To attack a living president is "anarchy." We have Theodore Roosevelt's word for that. To attack a dead president, however, must be an evidence of "statesmanship." We have read considerably from the books written by Mr. Roosevelt, and if he ever said a good word for any of the presidents therein we overlooked it. But we can find plenty of attacks on presidents therein. In Roosevelt's "Life of Thomas H. Benton" we find the following estimates Mr. Roosevelt put upon some of the men who have occupied the chair as chief executive of this nation:

He called Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence, a "shifty, timid and scholarly doctrinaire; the father of nullification, therefore of secession; constitutionally unable to put a proper value on truthfulness."

He said of Martin VanBuren: "Faithfully served the mammon of unrighteousness; succeeded because of and not in spite of his moral shortcomings."

He said of Franklin Pierce: "A small politician of low capacity and mean surroundings, proud to act as the servile tool of men worse than himself."

He said of President Monroe, author of the Monroe doctrine: "Colorless, high-bred gentleman of no especial ability, but well fitted to act as presidential figurehead."

He said of President Tyler: "He has been called a mediocre man, but this is unwarranted flattery. His chief mental and moral attributes were peevishness, fretful obstinacy, inconsistency, incapacity to make up his mind, together with inordinate vanity."

Think of Theodore Roosevelt accusing any man of "fretful obstinacy" or of "inordinate vanity!"

Compare what Roosevelt said of Jefferson with what James G. Blaine said of him. Blaine called Jefferson "the great philosophic statesman who laid so broad and deep the foundations of his country's growth and grandeur."

Neither was Mr. Blaine's estimate of James Monroe the same as that of Theodore Roosevelt. It was Monroe who negotiated the agreement whereby we bought the Louisiana territory of Napoleon. Blaine says of that: "Monroe and Livingston both realized that hesitation would be fatal; and they boldly took the responsibility of purchasing a territory of unknown but prodigious extent, and of pledging the credit of the government for a sum which, rated by the ability to pay, was larger than a similar pledge today for five hundred millions of dollars." That was scarcely the act of a "colorless, highbred gentleman of no especial ability," was it?

By the way, does anybody know Roosevelt's position on the tariff? The only recorded utterance of Roosevelt's on that subject that we can find is in his "Life of Thomas H. Benton," pages 66 and 67. There he says: "Political economists are pretty generally agreed that protection is vicious in theory and harmful in practice; but if the majority of the people interested wish it, and it affects only themselves, there is no earthly reason why they should not be allowed to try the experiment to their heart's content. The trouble is that it rarely does affect only themselves. In 1828 the evil was peculiarly aggravating on account of the unequal way in which the proposed law would affect different sections."

What "evil" was "peculiarly aggravating?" Clearly the "evil of protection." If anybody can make anything else out of Roosevelt's words we would be glad to see it.

### BOOSTER DAY.

The preparations for "Base Ball Booster Day" are being pushed. The business men of the city are taking hold in fine shape, and the baseball enthusiasts are whooping things up in great style. The indications point to the biggest crowd on July 16 that ever turned out to a ball game in any city in the western loop. In the meantime President Jones is making good on his promise to strengthen the Antelopes. Be a booster and buy a lot of tickets for the Booster Day celebration. It's July 16, and the attraction is a doubleheader with Isbell's bunch from Des Moines.

After all, we don't blame the owners of political steam rollers for getting the most out of their machines this year. By the time the next national campaign rolls around the direct primary will have put the steam roller boys on the blink.

Will Maupin's Weekly is considerably more interested in a 200,000,000 bushel corn crop in Nebraska than it is in the election of any man to any public office.

Give us some big public utility corporations to regulate by making it possible to interest capital in the promotion of big public utility corporations.

The steam rolling of Roosevelt at Chicago has left quite a number of aspiring republican candidates in Nebraska hanging in the air.

We opine that Victor Rosewater got a lot more compliments while in Chicago than he has received since he returned to Nebraska.

This newspaper thinks a lot more of the clatter of the reapers than it does of the clatter of the politicians.