

CURRENT COMMENT

We haven't anything to do with letters that Tom Allen may be sending out relative to the re-organization of the democratic state central committee. Personally the editor of Will Maupin's Weekly is of the opinion that if Mr. Allen did send out the letter quoted in the World-Herald of July 17, he acted in rather poor taste. But we are equally of the opinion that the World-Herald acted in like manner when it gave space to the old insinuation that Mr. Allen received and sequestered \$15,000 of campaign money sent by the national committee to Nebraska during 1904.

It is true that the national committee did send \$15,000 into Nebraska during the Parker campaign. It is true that Tom Allen, the chairman of the state central committee received the money. That money was secured from the national committee through the intercessions of National Committeeman James C. Dahlman and Chairman Allen. It is equally true that the money was expended for legitimate campaign purposes. The charge that is "disappeared" and was "never accounted for" is false. There is today in existence a complete set of vouchers accounting for the disbursement of every dollar of that amount, and the World-Herald has but to ask for a sight of them. Mike Harrington gave ear to the same accusation, and Mike, with all his faults, will admit, if questioned, that he examined the vouchers and receipts and is perfectly satisfied with the way that fund was handled and accounted for.

This newspaper holds no brief for either Tom Allen or the democratic organization. It is not at all concerned in the personality of any candidates. It is merely advocating certain principles, and it so happens that at this time the democratic party comes nearest to voicing those principles. For this reason it regrets that old animosities that should have long since disappeared are being revived. We are not at all concerned about what happens to the political fortunes of Tom Allen or John Byrnes or Chris Gruenther, but we are deeply concerned in the triumph of those progressive principles so well voiced by the Baltimore platform.

It was only natural that the populist state central committee should endorse the candidacy of John H. Morehead. Mr. Morehead has been fighting for the chief principles espoused by the populists ever since the early days of fusion. The populists, being rather level-headed men, are not deceived by the press bureau charges that Morehead is not a progressive. They know better. They know that he is a reliable, safe, business man who is heartily in sympathy with the progressive thought of the day.

This being the year for the re-valuations of real estate for assessment purpose, it is only natural that there should be a whole mess of trouble. Land in one county is assessed at \$75 an acre, while just across the public road in another county similar land is assessed at \$60 an acre. No two counties are assessed anywhere near equally—all is a jumble, with practically every county seeking to evade all it can and shove as much of the burden as possible upon neighboring counties. Some of these days we'll discard this antediluvian system of taxation and adopt a modern, up-to-date and equitable plan.

We levy a poll tax on voters. Why? Is it for the same reason that we levy a similar tax on dogs? We pile the taxes on property that can be moved or hidden, then wonder why men perjure themselves. We put a premium on lack of enterprise, and fine thrift and public spirit, then wonder why more men do not invest money in public improvements. We've got our whole system of taxation on backwards.

We weary somewhat of the constant demands Superintendent Carson of the Anti-Saloon League makes upon newspaper space and notoriety. Admitting that the Almighty made everything—even snakes and mosquitoes and fleas—for some useful purpose, we can not deny that He also made Carson for something. But if Mr. Carson knows of so many flagrant violations of the excise laws, why in the name of commonsense does he not act like a loyal and patriotic citizen and swear out complaints against the offenders instead of rushing into print? If the sheriff of Douglas spent all his time snooping around to see if anybody happened to be selling liquor illegally, what would become of the other business of the office? Of course liquor is being sold illegally in Douglas county, and in Lancaster county, and in every other county. It always will be. But what good is Mr. Carson accomplishing by occupying so much space in the newspapers telling about it. He can have the offenders arrested, and he ought to do it if he knows who they are, and he says he does.

Mr. Roosevelt will stand for no divided allegiance. Those who are for him must be against everybody else. Candidates for state office can not get on the Bull Moose ticket if they have their names on the regular republican ticket. This puts some of our truly good friends up against it mighty hard, which we deeply regret. We'd be frightfully worried about the safety of this republic if we thought as some of our friends seem to think, that Theodore Roosevelt is the only man that stands between us and everlasting ruin as a nation.

Know Nebraska better, then tell what you know to everybody within reach of the mails. The best course of study upon the subject of Nebraska is Will Maupin's Weekly. Tuition, one dollar a year, one lesson a week. Now is the time to matriculate.

Disgusted because his party is dominated by the Morgan-Belmont-Ryan crowd, Mike Harrington has joined the Bull Moose party, which is dominated by the steel trust, of which Morgan, Belmont and Ryan are the chief fuglemen.

Nebraska needs a business man for chief executive much more than she needs a Chautauqua lecturer. She needs a man who will attend to the state's business instead of forensically fulminating on things in general.

Will Maupin's Weekly has been semi-officially notified that it will not be recognized in the distribution of constitutional amendment pie. Well, our digestive apparatus is a bit out of kilter, anyhow, and pie might make us sick.

It is never too hot to stand up for Nebraska.

FACTS TO THINK ABOUT

In the matter of street car service Lincoln has a greater car mileage than any other city her size in the United States.

Lincoln's street cars cover every twenty-four hours a distance greater than from Portland, Maine to Portland, Oregon.

The Lincoln Traction Co., pays annually more than \$375,000 in wages to citizens of Lincoln. It is the largest employer of labor in Lincoln, apart from the steam railroads.

It pays to the city in the shape of taxes and percentage on the gross earnings more than any other corporation or concern—more than enough to pay for the maintenance of the police force.

The interests of the Lincoln Traction Co., and of the city of Lincoln are mutual.

The prosperity of one is the prosperity of the other. The two corporations should be working in harmony.

Help us to make street car travel easier and safer; help us to develop the city and surrounding territory.

The Lincoln Traction Company

MEN AND MATTERS

"Morehead might possibly palm himself off for a progressive if he did not have a record that points the other way," says the Bloomington Advocate. The Advocate's editor has been victimized by the republican press bureau operated at the state house by one of Governor Aldrich's appointees. If "faunching around" and pawing the air while vociferating with a pair of leather lungs is all that is needed to make a man a "progressive," then John Morehead is not a progressive. But if standing squarely for those things demanded by the people, supporting men and measures in tune with the desires of the masses, and doing it quietly but efficiently, makes one a progressive, then John Morehead is a progressive. It takes something more than political "hot air" to make a progressive. It takes something more than watching to observe which way the cat hops and then hopping with it. John Morehead does his own thinking, utters his own thoughts and knows his own mind longer than over night.

The Bloomington Advocate further remarks that "He (Morehead) was caught in bad company in the late legislature—a good many democrats are not satisfied with his explanations. Let's see. The late legislature enacted some pretty good laws. There is the initiative and referendum—Morehead voted for it. There are the laws safeguarding life and limb in factories and upon buildings in course of construction—Morehead voted for both of them. Morehead's legislative record is an open book, and not all the animadversions of an appointee of the present governor will deceive anybody who does not dearly love to be deceived. He is not making "explanations," and for the very simple reason that he has nothing to explain. His public record is as clean as his private record, and his private record is as clean as a hound's tooth. Ask the people of Richardson county, among whom he has lived and done business for thirty years. We'll frankly admit that if Nebraska wants a Chautauqua lecturer for governor John Morehead won't do. But if Nebraska wants a levelheaded, careful, conservative business man for chief executive—a man who will manage the state's vast business just like he has successfully managed his own business, then Morehead is the man Nebraska will select.

It is now "ex-Senator Lorimer," glory be! Not that we rejoice in the humiliation of Lorimer, but that we rejoice in this splendid evidence of the awakened conscience of the American people. It wasn't so much Lorimer on trial as the vicious system that so long controlled American politics. And by an overwhelming vote the senate responded to the insistent demand that the last vestige of that vicious system be wiped out. The late John J. Ingalls once remarked that "the purification of politics is an iridescent dream." Ingalls was mistaken. Politics is not yet purified, but the process of purification is going on at a gratifying rate.

The wreck on the Burlington near Chicago the first of the week calls renewed attention to the fact that it is the human equation that must be reckoned with. The railroad company utilized every invention to safeguard its passengers and its property. But behind every safety device is the human agent that must operate it—and the human agent is not infallible. The railroads can go just so far, and no farther. The day will never come when railroads will be automatically operated. The human mind must still be utilized—and the human mind often makes a mistake. Safety devices can only minimize—they can not wholly eliminate.

Judge Hanford of Seattle has won deathless fame—or is it notoriety? First he decided that a man holding socialistic views was not eligible to citizenship in this republic, a decision that merely evidenced that the Hanford mind was wobbly. But that wasn't a marker to the other thing that will perpetuate his name. This eminent judge, for whom we are commanded to have wholesome respect lest we undermine the republic and destroy the courts, is marked for deathless fame by being the inventor of a cocktail that

bears his name. And it appears that the judge was an almighty good consumer of his own invention. The "Hanford cocktail" seems destined to enjoy a great popularity in certain circles. But that onion, which takes the place of the olive ordinarily used, appears to us to be rather dangerous. The fragrance of the onion, combined with the fragrance of the other ingredients, makes it dangerous. We'll be afraid to eat onions hereafter. It's hard enough to explain now, without having to make explanations for that onion breath.

Naturally enough the republicans are hoping for a ruction when the democrats of Nebraska meet at Grand Island on July 30. And while hoping they are doing their best to make trouble as sure as possible. But if the democrats are wise they will avoid anything that looks like trouble. The issue is not any one man, nor any set of them—the issue is whether Nebraska democrats are going to stand squarely for progressive principles and avoid getting all snarled up over a lot of fool side issues that have no place in politics; whether they are going to stand for progressive principles or try to "get even" for some fancied grievance. It is going to be mighty easy for the democrats of Nebraska to do the foolish thing—but, by the same token, it is going to be just as easy for them to act with wisdom.

If the superintendent of the anti-saloon league knows of his own personal knowledge of so many lawbreakers, why doesn't he act the part of a good citizen and swear out complaints against the offenders instead of rushing into print?

OUR WHOLE SPRING STOCK

—OF—

Wool Suits Wool Dresses Silk Dresses

—AT—

HALF PRICE

Somewhere in This Assortment You Will Find Just What You Need

For Early Fall
For Your Vacation
Something New for
the Rest of the Season

Miller & Paine