

THE WEEKLY REVIEW

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As Others See It

This column is devoted to the expression of the public's sentiment or any matter. Send letters to Mr. Gaitha Fegg, 1942 Vine St., Lincoln, Nebr. Dear Sir:—

To our many readers of the Weekly Review and to our friend who in last week's issue of the Review expressed himself in the column "As Others See It" in regards to the cafe operated by our group at 223 No. 9th St., we appreciate the statements you made as they contain much truth. Now let us have our say. This is a new day, the proprietors of the American Cafe have made a complete study of our needs in Lincoln, and we are sure you will be fair with us. Before you condemn us give us a trial, then if we do not measure up to standard, we stand ready to be condemned and criticized.

The American Cafe is giving employment to four of our group, trying to do our part in solving the depression by taking our place in the business world of Lincoln. I am sure Lincoln is in dire need of such a place, where we can be served and feel free to enjoy ourselves. When visitors come to our city, we will at least be able to take care of their needs.

The American Cafe will be fully equipped to serve you at all times with first class food and the best of service. If we do not measure up to standard, tell us; if we do, tell others, for wherever there is cooperation there is success.

Then let us have the spirit of Christ, "do unto others as you would have them do unto you", then why not do your part in the drama of life. Help those who are less fortunate by patronizing the American Cafe and making a job safe and secure for our help, and we are sure your support will be appreciated.

We are having a special Sunday breakfast February 12th, from 8:30 to

CORYELL 70

Better, Cleaner, Cheaper

Sidestepping the Facts

"The unfortunate part of it all is that some real simplification of the government machinery and incident savings might have been affected by the constitutional convention that met in 1921. At that time the number of elective state officers could have been reduced and a system of all state activities devised that would have represented genuine economy and efficiency. It ought to be done now."

The above statement was circulated among the members of the legislature in an editorial under the title "Repeal the Code" in a recent issue of the Nebraska Farmer. The editorial was marked by a significant sign. The right hand, probably that of an ex-officer, was outlined in blue ink on the margin of the editorial, the index finger pointing but the three fingers and thumb were in the characteristic prehensile formation.

It is just as well to summarize some of the inaccuracies in this editorial although they will be repeated at intervals by the reactionary press that is fighting code repeal and state government reform.

The constitutional convention did not meet in 1921. The forty-one proposals outlined by this body were adopted at a special election in September 21, 1920 and the body met December 2, 1919. One Governor Samuel Roy McKelvie had formulated a Civil Code, transcribed from the state of Illinois by Robert W. Devoe. Code secretaries, under this amazing system, drew \$5,000 per annum, twice the salary of the governor of the state.

Owing to the activities of the special interests the membership of the constitutional convention, elected on non-partisan ballot, proved to be largely reactionary. Early in the game emissaries of the governor served notice on the convention that the code must not be disturbed in any way. Furthermore, salaries must be advanced to make the positions of the governor, the judges of the supreme court and the state officials "dignified". The unit for measuring this "dignity" has severely goaded the taxpayers of the state. The convention boosted the governor to \$7,500, the supreme judges to the same figure and gave state officials \$5,000. This the delegates did under threat that the McKelvie cohorts would defeat the constitutional amendments at the special election.

The legislature was given authority to fix salaries once in each eight year period but the formidable lobby at Lincoln has so far prevented any action in favor of the taxpayers.

So great was the confusion under the code that in the years between 1920 and 1926 a deficit of \$5,000,000 was incurred. A legislative committee investigated, fixed the amount and apportioned the responsibility. The inefficiency of the code departments was so great that the deficit was not only concealed for years but was vociferously denied by the subsidized press.

The republican party has never endorsed the code. The republican voters in the primary of 1928 nominated Arthur J. Weaver as candidate for governor to repeal the code. Reactionaries fought him and prevented a fulfillment of the pledge. Mr. McKelvie's faction leading the opposition. Standpat forces in both parties are now opposing Bryan in his efforts to bring order and system out of the tangle.

The only real hope lies with the forces of the Nebraska Progressive League. This organization is planning to place before the people a simplified form of government by initiative. This scheme unless the legislature takes progressive action will go before the people in the fall of 1934 and, if adopted will become effective about December 20, 1934.

Taxpayers so far have resisted every effort of the present legislature to bring about code reform.

11:30 a. m., of "Waffles" at the low price of 20 cents this includes everything. A souvenir will be given to all ladies. Come one and all and let's enjoy ourselves.

The American Cafe joins in thanking you for your cooperation. Hightower & Wiley, Props.

Dear Sir:—

In your issue of February 2nd, the editorial, "The Crucial Test" was well written, just a trifle conservative. In the years gone by the colored men have worked individually, collectively and honestly for candidates they thought friendly toward the race, with the hope, and often the promise, of something better as soon as the said candidate was elected. Upon examination I find that there are now less than five colored people in the employ of the city of Lincoln. There was a time, under a former administration, that we could hold a job as policemen, elevator men, janitors, etc. In the last few years (before the panic afforded an excuse) there has been a falling off of this employment, WHY? Have we been incompetent, are we less worthy, OR are there larger blocks of solid votes that deserve attention, that is worthy of more patronage. There is no doubt in my mind about the matter. At the time we were holding the jobs referred to, we had a solid block of some few hundred votes. From then until last fall we became separated, working in small groups, or even individually for our own particular candidate, in hopes, or on a solemn promise of a job after the election. Mr. Fegg, I don't attempt to say that 700 votes will elect a candidate, but I do say that 700 votes taken from the support of any candidate in this coming election will surely defeat them.

Ray Stokes.

Officials who do too much shaking down sometimes experience a shake-up.

It looks as if the Technocrats made the mistake of putting all their eggs in one basket.

And then there was the one so dumb that she thought racketeers were tennis players.

The severest critics of business are "intellectuals", who get that way at colleges endowed by business men.

French and German cabinet posts have afforded quite a bit of very temporary employment this winter.

A new universal language called "Basic English" contains only 850 words. Inasmuch as it makes no distinction in the use of "will" and "shall" we are for it.

It was a commendable impulse that prompted the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers to vote a life pension of \$25 a week to James W. Blake, now 78, author of the words of "The Sidewalks of New York." Written more than 30 years ago, the song had a revival during Al Smith's campaign for the presidency in 1928. We are glad that Mr. Blake is to be provided for, but we also doubt that his song, or any other Tin Pan Alley production, has sufficient merit to entitle its author to a pension.

Nebraska Leads In New Organization

Young Republicans Head the Militant Crowd Eager to Displace Veteran Leaders.

By George W. Kline.

Lincoln, Nebr.—When the Hooverites, led by Chairman Everett Sanders of the National Republican committee, and the Watsonites, the dissenting faction, join in battle for party control, they will discover that a new crowd is already militantly organizing to lead the campaign of 1936. Vice President Charley Curtis has assumed leadership of the National Republican League and will oppose Sanders from an office in New York in charge of J. A. Campbell of White Plains.

In plain language the ultra conservative forces in the republican party have split into two factions. Curtis hopes to control the younger voters. The actual breach will be disclosed on the night of February 13th, when President Hoover will deliver a speech in New York. Senator Watson will send forth a broadside on the same date.

Sad News for Curtis

There is a sorry message for Curtis as far as Nebraska is concerned. Two months ago organization really began in this state. During the last campaign the republican state committee ignored the youthful, virile forces within the party and depended almost entirely on past tenses and political has-beens. Two weeks before election the opposine elements began realignment. It is now definitely established that Nebraska republicans will be identified with a great middle of the road reorganization movement that has already been outlined.

Chairman Barton Green of Lancaster county and several other county chairmen in the South Platte territory really precipitated the reorganization movement in the state. It spread like a prairie fire.

At about the same time young republicans in the East realized that the leadership of the Sanders-Watson-Curtis type of politicians had run its course. Young republicans in the house of representatives, many of them defeated in the November landslide, saw the futility of boneheadism. They quietly began the task of reorganization with the idea of eliminating President Hoover as a political factor and shelving Senator Watson among the political fossils. Vice President Curtis was also listed a museum piece of real value to antiquarians.

A Complete Wreck

The republican machine in Nebraska, inspected by the youthful mechanicians, turned out to be scrap heap material. Years of domination by professional politicians in Omaha and Lincoln had made the contrivance a menace to all connected therewith. The self-appointed leaders attracted opposition from many factions. The younger set in all parts of the state clamored for recognition.

After the defeat of November, the policy of Chairman "Bob" Smith was not conciliatory to say the least. Active county chairmen complained of snubs. Prof. J. C. Jensen was named for the radio commission with out consulting the important commercial interests involved. Chairman Green of the Lancaster county committee took the matter up with chairmen thruout the state and protests were formulated.

Faithful to Hoover

Chairman Sanders of the National Committee admitted that there was merit in the protests but did not stop the recommendation. Chairman Smith and National Committeeman McCloud ignored the letters of the protesting county chairmen. It is believed that the Nebraska State committee will align with the Hoover faction in the national scrap.

The Senator Watson faction opposed Hoover in Kansas City and are to be reinforced by the clansmen of ex-Vice President Curtis. These are all of the Old Guard faction. Progressive Republicans in Nebraska, in sympathy with the younger element, will not be attracted to either of these national factions. It is now apparent that President Hoover will make another try for the nomination. In 1936 his faction will be somewhat like that of Al Smith at the Chicago convention.

Several weeks ago the Nebraska state committee forces pulled another "boner". Harley Jarsons was named for assistant secretary of the republican state committee without any consultation with the dissatisfied bloc. Once more sentiment rapidly crystallized for a new deal.

In a number of counties the caucus system, in vogue in Lancaster, has been adopted. During the last six months there has been caucus meetings in which men and principles have been frankly discussed. In most of these, sentiment has been registered for an entirely new combination in 1934.

With the state divided into five congressional districts new candidates for all the major positions are being studied, observed and groomed. Both Chairman Smith and National Committeeman McCloud are out of touch with the movement, are probably unaware that it exists.

Young Set Holds Joker

The political joker, it seems, is really in the hands of the young dissenters. In the privacy of their caucus meetings they can gauge sentiment and study reactions. They can avoid the prejudice against Lancaster and Douglas by holding down the candidates from these counties. It is now reported that a youthful candidate for United States senator will come from Omaha,

while the selection for governor will be made from out in the state. Howell, Griswold and Wherry, according to these political organizers, are in the discard.

New issues, not necessarily arising from the action of the present legislature, will furnish the ammunition for the fray. The veteran candidates, according to the youthful element, judge of the present era and are not to be considered.

It is believed that the South Platte county chairmen may "tie in" with the rapidly growing Baldrige organization in Douglas county. This group seems destined to supplant a half dozen factions and cliques that have heretofore muddled Douglas county politics.

The impotency of the old guard sponsors to stage a comeback has been demonstrated at Lincoln during the last three weeks. Victor Smith of Omaha has appeared three times before committees and won three distinct, unanimous verdicts in the negative.

The committees found out what he wanted and then didn't give it to him. C. Petrus Peterson, wheelhorse in many a movement, that resulted in decreased pluralities for the republican party, is slated for a large percentage of zero results. Art Bowring, snowed under in the last campaign for the senate, is another advocate that is getting it in the neck with painful regularity.

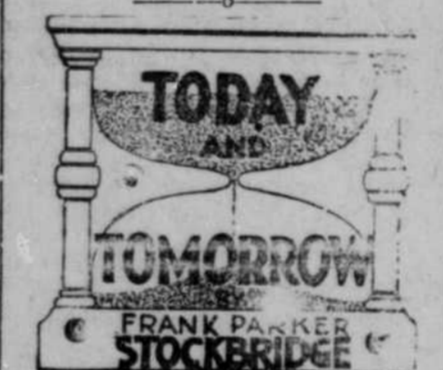
Kearney, Nebr.—Under the direction of B. C. Gibbons, Fifth District Chairman, rapid progress has been made in this section in the organization of the Nebraska Progressive League.

Progressive leaders in the American Legion, the Taxpayers Leagues, the civic clubs, women's organizations and both political parties have cooperated in the organization to a remarkable extent.

This county, formerly the banner county of the old guard, was carried by the progressives at the last election. Terry Carpenter, "Norris Democrat," carrying the county by a plurality of 1.

Chairman Gibbons has been distributing information about the actions of the progressive members of the legislature. County chairmen will soon be selected throughout the Fifth district. Information and progressive literature is being sent from the state headquarters at Lincoln. This will be distributed throughout the Fifth district.

Residing in the Fifth district are more than 58,000 progressives. Their names are among those on the "master list" on file in the state headquarters of the Nebraska Progressive League at Lincoln. The list numbers 238,746 in the state and Mr. Gibbons has requested that the Fifth district list be segregated and sent to district headquarters for comparison with the local lists.



PROSPERITY * at Chaska, Minn. My friend, James F. Faber, city editor of the Valley Herald, published at Chaska, Minnesota, sends me a memorandum of the claim of that thriving little city to the title of "the most prosperous town in America."

With 2,000 inhabitants Chaska has a surplus of over \$88,000 in the city treasury. Taxes have been cut 30 percent. The people of Chaska have almost \$2,500,000 in the two banks, and the town never had a bank failure. There are no natives on the poor list, and the city is providing a good living for nearly ninety business and professional men besides their employees. On top of that Chaska has had new businesses opening in each year of the depression, and has only five names on the delinquent tax list.

I know of no other town the size of Chaska that can make such a showing. Do you?

SAVINGS * in the banks

There is more money in the savings banks of the United States than ever before in our national history. In New York State alone savings bank deposits were more than five thousand million dollars on the first of January. This money is owned by more than five and one-half million depositors.

The people of the United States are certainly not "broke" when savings deposits increase like that. Folks are putting their money into safe places instead of spending it because they are not quite sure yet what is going to happen in the future. Just as soon as conditions seem to be stabilized there will be plenty of funds available for investment in promising enterprises.

CREDIT * and an idea

Taking the country as a whole, the banks are full of money, but it is harder than ever for the average person to borrow money from the banks. The reason for this is very clear. Fewer people than ever before are in a position to give a banker reasonable assurance that they will be able to pay a loan when it is due.

It is not shortage of money that is keeping us poor; it is shortage of credit. The few who have good credit can borrow money cheaper than ever before.

I don't know how it would work, but it seems to me there is some

merit in the suggestion that if the banks would lend everybody enough to pay their debts money would begin to circulate so fast that business would immediately pick up and everybody's credit would be as good as it ever was. That idea is certainly not any more foolish than a good many of the inflationary proposals that have been offered in Congress.

RABBITS * they multiply

Two adjoining Long Island towns voted a couple of years ago to permit no shooting and to suppress cats, in order to provide a bird refuge. But the townspeople forgot all about rabbits.

Now Center Island and Mill Neck are so full of rabbits that it is almost impossible to drive over the road without running over a few cottontails. Farmers and gardeners are wondering what they are going to do to protect their lettuce, spinach and other garden crops in the spring. They are trying to get the local game ordinances amended to permit them to shoot the rabbits.

What has happened in these Long Island towns is what happens whenever man interferes to upset the balance of nature.

COINS * some valuable

Rare old coins still bring high prices. A penny sold at an auction in New York the other day for sixty dollars. It was a copper cent dated 1799.

Among the other rare coins sold at the same time were some copper "hard times" tokens issued from private mints between 1834 and 1841. One of them dated 1837, brought \$22.50.

Coins are not valuable merely because they are old; it is rarity that makes collectors bid for them. The silver dollar of 1804 is so rare that only four or five are known to be in existence, and anyone finding one of those coins can almost name his own price for it. Most of the silver dollars coined that year were sent to Europe for the payment of certain obligations and the ship was lost at sea.

Last year the United States Mint made more coins than in the previous two years; there were more than twenty million of them, worth \$68,000,000. One reason for the increased coinage was the large offerings of gold jewelry and ornaments, which the mint is obliged to purchase and give gold coins in exchange for.

Be of Joy and Good Cheer

Something more than a hundred years ago a sermon was preached in St. John's Church, New York, which dealt very severely with the frailties of poor human nature, and put forth, with unctuous assurance, the promise of eternal punishment for a large proportion of the race. Among the worshippers was a gentleman of unfortunate reputation but keen mind, whose name lingers unforgettably in our history. As he left the church a lady spoke to him:

"What did you think of the sermon, Mr. Burr?" she asked. "I think," responded Aaron Burr, "that God is better than most people suppose."

That was the message of Jesus—that God is supremely better than anybody had ever dared to believe. Not a petulant Creator, who had lost control of his creation and, in wrath was determined to destroy it all. Not a stern Judge dispensing impersonal justice. Not a vain King who must be flattered and bribed into concessions of mercy. Not a rigid Accountant, checking up the sins against penances and striking a cold hard balance. Not any of these—nothing like these—but a great Companion, a wonderful Friend, a kindly indulgent, joy-loving Father—

For three years Jesus walked up and down the shores of his lake and through the streets of towns and cities, trying to make them understand. Then came the end, and almost before his fine firm flesh was cold, the distortion began. He who had cared nothing for ceremonies and forms was made the idol of formalism. Men hid themselves in monasteries; they lashed themselves with whips; they tortured their skins with harsh garments and cried out that they were followers of him—of him who loved the crowd, who gathered children about him wherever he went, who celebrated the calling of a new disciple with a feast in which all the neighborhood joined!

His last supper with his disciples was an hour of solemn memories. Their minds were heavy with foreboding. He talked earnestly, but the whole purpose of his talk was to lift up their hearts, to make them think nobly of themselves, to fill their spirits with a conquering faith. "My joy I leave with you," he exclaimed. "Be of good cheer," he exclaimed. Joy—cheer—these are the words by which he wished to be remembered. But down through the ages has come wicked falsehood that Jesus never laughed.

Lighting and Safety

According to the National Safety Council, which recently conducted a survey of four states, about 35 percent of all night automobile accidents are due to insufficient street and highway lighting. That this is a conservative state-

ment is indicated by the experience of Detroit last year, when the need for municipal economy caused a drastic curtailment of street illumination. The result as stated by Superintendent Schrenk of the lighting department was that while fatal accidents in daytime decreased 22 per cent night fatalities increased 23 per cent, during the period of 10 months.

Aside from the loss of life and limb involved in the additional accidents, it was found that handling these extra emergency cases cost the city more than the saving in its light bill, so the former lighting was restored to virtually its former level.

This illustrates that economy measures, which are being demanded practically everywhere just now, may sometimes be costly, if added dangers to the public are created thereby. This is especially true with respect to matters affecting traffic safety, fire protection and the public health. It is estimated that traffic accidents alone now cost the American people about two and a half billion dollars every year.

The fellow who believes in radio advertising ballyhoo tells this one: "I bought a carburetor guaranteed to save 50 per cent on gas, a timer to save 30 per cent, and a sparkplug to save another 30 per cent, and after going ten miles my gasoline tank overflowed."

Recent additions to the long list of school children's "howlers": "The Gulf Stream is composed of warm currents." "Cereals are stories which last several weeks." "A centimeter is an insect with 100 legs." "Alibi means that you were somewhere else when you committed the crime."

UNDERTAKERS—1110 Q St. UMBERGER Ambulance—B-2424

This coupon is good for 2c on a bottle of milk, or 10c on a loaf of bread at—

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