

mer governor of New Jersey. "I am convinced he does not desire the nomination and will enter no contest for it," writes Mr. Abbott, however. Mr. Stokes visited the Outlook office last week, had an interview with Col. Roosevelt and suggested that he write a letter or have one written defining his position relative to the presidency. The letter from Abbott, given out by Mr. Stokes is prefaced with a statement that Mr. Abbott has no authority to speak for Col. Roosevelt, but that during the past two years he has had exceptional opportunity to learn Col. Roosevelt's views and the working of his mind.

A New Haven, Conn., dispatch says: The democratic state central committee selected Bridgeport as the place and May 1 and 2 the date for the convention at which the delegation to the democratic national convention will be chosen. A resolution was adopted praising the administration of Governor Simeon E. Baldwin and commending him to the democracy of the nation, "a consideration of the eminent qualities of Governor Baldwin for the presidency of the United States."

Edward Hawley, president of the Minneapolis and St. Louis railroad, died at his apartment in New York City.

An Associated Press dispatch from Pierre, S. D., dated January 31st, says: Democratic leaders of South Dakota met in conference here this afternoon and perfected a temporary organization. Ben Wood of Rapid City was made chairman and Tom Sanborn of Plankinton secretary. No indorsement of a presidential candidate was made. The mention of Wilson's name by occasional speakers created uproarious applause

and in a private poll of the delegates 111 out of 137 voting expressed their desire for the New Jersey man as presidential nominee. The rules committee reported against the indorsement of any candidates for the state offices or delegates to the convention at Baltimore, and it was adopted. The convention, however, went on record with one candidate, by indorsing R. F. Pettigrew of Sioux Falls for United States senator. The resolutions provide for the initiative and referendum and recall of judges; commend democrats and insurgents who voted for the wool bill and acknowledge Mr. Bryan's distinguished service to the party.

A meeting of the "Roosevelt national committee" will be held at Chicago February 10th.

The prohibition national convention has been called to meet at Atlantic City July 10th.

The Taft man stole a march on the Roosevelt men before the Cook county, Illinois (Chicago) republican convention. The crowd cheered for Roosevelt but heartily indorsed and approved Taft's administration.

Judge Ben B. Lindsay of Denver, after visiting Theodore Roosevelt, gave out an interview, saying the former president would be a candidate this year.

A Knoxville, Tenn., dispatch, carried by the Associated Press, says: Supporters of Theodore Roosevelt won in a contest in the Knox county republican executive committee by a vote of 153 to 51 when President Taft's friend proposed to have a mass meeting to choose delegates to the state convention that will select delegates to the national republican convention. Colonel Roosevelt's supporters favored a primary, and when it was put to a vote the ex-president's friends finally won.

A Chicago dispatch, carried by the Associated Press says: Tipping was branded as illegal and un-American by Judge Theodore Brentano. Partners in a corporation, which bought the "tip concession" from hotels and cafes, were in circuit court for the second time within a few months, quarreling over a division of the profit of the business. For the second time they heard themselves called violators of the law. They supplied cafes with attendants whose uniforms contained no pockets and all gratuities were turned in to the promoters.

**A NEBRASKA PLATFORM**

Here is the platform of Richard L. Metcalfe, democratic candidate for governor of Nebraska.

To the people of Nebraska: It is proper that a candidate for the office of governor tell the people where he stands with respect to important questions of state government and I beg to submit the following statement:

One of these important questions relates to taxation. I should recommend to the legislature the submission of a constitutional amendment enlarging the powers of that body in relation to the state's taxation system. Then, the appointment of a non-partisan commission to investigate the subject of taxation together with such changes and reforms as have been successfully tested in other states and countries and to report to a succeeding legislature such a system as shall seem best adapted to Nebraska conditions. A well considered report of this kind would provide a practical basis for intelligent and comprehensive legislative action, and help to place this

state in an advanced position with relation to the whole subject of state taxation.

I am in favor of a law that will protect the public from fraudulent promotion schemes. This law should be modeled after the Kansas law, commonly known as the "Blue Sky law" and prohibiting any company or its agent not chartered by the state from selling stock, land or other forms of investment within the state. License issued by state authority, after thorough investigation, should be necessary for the conduct of such business in Nebraska.

I am in favor of the adoption of the proposed initiative and referendum amendment to the state constitution. The adoption of this direct legislative plan provides a solution for all questions that have heretofore divided men of all parties, in such a way as to enable men to cooperate, without embarrassment, with their party associates upon economic questions on which they agree.

I should recommend the adoption of the recall as applied to public officials. While personally believing that it should be applied to the judge as well as to other public officials, it may prove expedient that Nebraska shall first test this reform with the judiciary exempted from its provisions.

I am in favor of the adoption of the proposed constitutional amendment giving to cities of more than 5,000 population the privilege of framing their own charters consistent with the constitution and the laws of the state.

I am in favor of the adoption of the proposed constitutional amendment providing for a board of control for the government of state institutions. These institutions should be removed from the domain of partisan politics, merit should be the controlling test of their officials and they should be conducted with an eye single to the general welfare. In the event that amendment failed to carry at the November election my efforts would be directed toward carrying into the existing system the spirit of that reform.

The dependent wives and children of the inmates of the state prison should not be deprived entirely of a husband's and father's earning power; but a certain portion of the regular hire, as well as overtime earnings, of the prisoner having a mother, wife or child dependent upon his labor, should be devoted to the support of those innocent people.

The number of inmates of state asylums for insane is increasing at a rapid rate. While waiting for a check in this growth through a change among individuals in the method of living something should be done in the way of a systematic effort to restore these unfortunates to sanity and to improve their condition while undergoing treatment. I would recommend the introduction into these asylums of a system somewhat in the nature of the kindergarten system in the schools. Instead of consigning a patient to imprisonment within barren walls and without any effort to direct and systematize his thoughts he should be dealt with as a child. Those patients who are not imbecile or violent should be divided into classes for training. Some should be taught to play, others to work, and, by way of nature studies and games and song and music, organized effort should be made to hold the thought of these wards of the state on orderly lines. In this way some would be restored so they could be cared for by their family and without expense to the state, and the environment in all cases would be vastly improved. This arrangement could be provided for by the employment at each asylum of a progressive student of the kin-

dergarten system who would work under the asylum superintendent. Solitude and undisciplined thinking among the inmates of these institutions have made asylums for the insane living tombs for men and women. Our duty to our helpless fellows, as well as our duty to the taxpayers of the state, require reform work along these lines. Should I be elected to the office of governor of Nebraska I would try to do something that would distinguish this state for its efforts toward permanent reform in the affairs of its public institutions.

Tardiness in the administration of justice is a crying evil; its inconvenience and burdens press most heavily upon those, who, as a rule, are least able to sustain them. I should favor whatever legislative action would seem to promise a remedy for this condition.

I should favor an insistent and zealous guardianship of the right of the state to regulate common carriers with relation to intra-state commerce.

I should recommend and favor such reforms in the methods of our state legislature as will secure careful and intelligent scrutiny of the provisions of pending bills and effectually prevent the passage of laws whose accidental or premeditated inconsistencies vitiate and destroy them. I should recommend and urge such change in legislative methods as will prevent the delay of consideration and final action of that body until it finds itself in the midst of the confusion and hurry incident to the closing hours of the session. I should recommend the passage of a law having for its purpose the abolition of vote trading among legislators. This law should provide that any member who agrees to support the bill of another member on condition of receiving help for his own measure will be guilty of a felony and subject to imprisonment or fine. It should also prohibit an agreement to support or oppose a bill on condition that the governor approve or veto any particular measure, or an agreement to support or oppose any measure on condition that the governor shall appoint or remove any person from public office. While it is true that such a measure might be directly applied only to the most notorious forms of abuse its enactment into law would have far-reaching moral influence. "Logrolling," as it is commonly called, has come to be the shame of legislatures and as a result many measures are passed in barter and trade rather than in serious consideration by thoughtful lawmakers.

Nebraska, famous for the small number of illiterates among its population, has the right to be kept in the forefront where the progressive states of our great union are striving for better things in the way of popular government.

RICHARD L. METCALFE.

**THE PASTOR'S MISTAKE**

In a small country church in Iowa not long since a child was brought forward for baptism.

The young minister, who had an uncontrollable desire to wax eloquent on every occasion, taking the little one in his arms, spoke as follows:

"Beloved hearers, no one can foretell the future of this little child. He may grow up to be like Sir Isaac Newton or a great orator like Patrick Henry, and it is possible that some day he may become president of the United States."

Turning to the mother, the loquacious young minister inquired:

"What is the name of the child, my dear woman?"

"Mary Ann," was the reply—*Drover's Journal.*

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