

looking the reservoir nestling in the valley high above the Platte river, and that bluff was called Capitol Hill as far back as 1885. He and Moses H. Sydenham constructed a beautiful dream city around the base of that bluff, and then lived long enough to see it started, although never a capitol building graced the crest of the bluff.

Speaking of Kearney, it is pleasing to note that the decade just closed showed a handsome increase in the population of that little city. Kearney was the worst boomed city in Nebraska in the late 80's, and when the collapse came Kearney was flatter than any pancake ever baked. And as it was over-boomed, so it was slower in recovering. But today Kearney is again pushing to the front, and without booming is becoming what the boomers wanted it to be some twenty-two or twenty-three years ago.

It may be that our musical education was sadly neglected, or that we, like Trilby, are "tone deaf," but somehow or other the McKinley chimes on St. Paul's church rather grate on our ears. If they are in tune then we do not know a blooming thing about harmony. After having listened for an hour or more on several occasions to the splendid chimes on Trinity cathedral in Toronto, we hunt the cyclone cellar if possible when the chimes on St. Paul's begin clanging.

Chief Clements of the Fire Department is saving the city considerable money by having the firemen perform certain labor, such as shoeing horses, painting, repairing mangers, etc., etc. This is all very well for Chief Clements, but isn't it rather unfair to the painters, the horseshoers, the carpenters and other mechanics who depend upon that kind of work for a livelihood. Why not employ some aspiring young lawyers as firemen and let them put in their spare time when not fighting fires in attending to the city's legal business? And why not employ a few students who are studying mathematics and allow them to put in their spare time doing clerical work? Or why not let the firemen put in their time when not at fires patrolling the streets, thus saving the city the expense of a police force? Economy is all right when it is all right, but there is such a thing as carrying it too far. And it is carrying it too far when its practice deprives honest men of opportunities to earn livelihoods for themselves and their families. If the fire department is so big that it is possible for its members to do a lot of other work, then reduce the department in size, and let mechanics have a chance at their trades.

The Inter-Ocean Shirt Co. has removed from Lincoln to New York. Why? The reason given is that New York is nearer the center of consumption. The real reason is that industrial conditions in Nebraska are not suited to that industry. Women very properly refuse to work long hours for meagre wages in this great state—that is, healthy, goodlooking American girls. And there are not enough of foreign-born girls unused to American ways and American independence to furnish the help needed. While the removal of this concern is to be regretted, yet it must be confessed that the removal is rather a compliment to the independence of Nebraska girls. The Inter-Ocean Shirt Co. was a model institution of its kind, paying much better than the average wages in that industry, and providing a really sanitary factory.

Is President Burnham of the First National trying to break into the domain of humor, or are we ignorant of banking terms? It surely is one or the other of these two things. Mr. Burnham is quoted as saying that "money is becoming easier." As we remarked before, perhaps it is our ignorance of banking terms, but to us that sounds like a joke—a grim, ghastly joke. We—and our experience is doubtless the common experience of most of us—find money constantly harder to get, and still harder to keep. Think of trying to shoe, clothe and feed six growing kiddies, a wife and yourself; meet up the monthly installments on the house you bought on the inducement plan; keep up the little wad of life insurance; pay taxes before the man with a van and a distress warrant gets around—and all on 'steen dollars per month! Then try and appreciate the delicate humor contained in President Burnham's little jest about "money becoming easier."

Col. Victor Rosewater is calling Senator Brown's attention to what happened to Senator Thurston when that gentleman declined to harken to the Rosewater admonitions concerning federal appointments in Nebraska. The difference between the two cases, however, is measured by the great difference between the Rosewater who was running the Bee during the Thurston incumbency and the Rosewater who is running the Bee during the Brown incumbency.

Here's hoping that your Christmas stocking will contain on Christmas morning all that you hoped to find in it when you hung it up on Christmas eve. More than this we could wish for no man, woman or child.



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