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Lincoln, Nebraska.

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An "ethical" saloon consecrated with the prayers of an Episcopal bishop, is no more a contradiction in terms than calling the theories of Dave Hill, Belmont and Parker, democracy.

The Japanese have nullified the Russian viceroy, Alexiff's, big timber contract with the Korean government. It was one of the biggest steals on earth and it was said that "there were millions in it."

For several days the Chicago Record-Herald has been asking: "What did the Woggle Bug say?" It should not be so insistent. Judge Parker is working hard at his letter of acceptance and that sort of thing will not make him hurry up any.

The big brewing interests of Omaha have announced that they are solid for Mickey. Mickey is the man who is running for governor on the republican ticket and who recently announced that he was opposed simply because he was a Christian.

The Young men's republican club of Lincoln has resolved "to reach voters through their heads, not their stomachs." What has become of the "full dinner pail" brigade? And that big banner that was stretched across O street for so many weeks?

All economic discussion or even mention of government policies has been eliminated from the editorial columns of the dailies since this campaign began. The two old parties are in such perfect agreement on those things that there is nothing to discuss.

England sent over here a week or two ago a preacher who gets \$75,000 a year and an immense palace thrown in, as a salary. His real name is unknown but he is called the Archbishop of Canterbury. While he was here, the charity organizations of London were holding meetings to plan for the care of the increasing number of paupers. The editor of The Independent can't think of anything else, just at present, to say upon this subject.

DEGENERACY IN LINCOLN

Slowly but surely the degrading and degenerating influences of millionairism works westward. Lincoln is a city of universities, the center of culture, and here, if anywhere, we ought to be able to withstand the advance of wasteful expenditure and the vulgarity of the rich. But it is slowly creeping in upon us. Occasionally a carriage appears on our streets drawn by bob-tailed horses and driven by a coachman in livery. It is true that the boys have a fashion of getting after it on bicycles, riding in a bunch in the rear, but they will soon tire of that and then more liveried coachmen will be on the front seat and footmen will be seen sitting up behind with a look of vacuity spread all over their faces, while the lady inside will wear the richest robes. Then the Charity Organization society will have more cases of suffering to investigate and the eleemosynary institutions will be as full in the west as they are now in the east.

In some of the upper class restaurants and hotels in Lincoln the tipping system is being introduced. Nothing is more degenerating than that system. It is fostered and encouraged by every plutocrat. It makes of him, he thinks, a being somewhat superior to ordinary human clay. Every man who consents to receive a gift is degraded thereby, as well as the proud plutocrat who bestows it.

This tipping business is arranged by the proprietors. In the first place the guest is forced to do part of the book-keeping of the concern, by writing out in detail upon a regular billhead every thing which he wishes to consume upon that occasion. These bills are carefully preserved and filed away among the accounts of the concern. After the articles ordered in writing are consumed, then the waiter brings back the written account on a silver plate and the guest puts his money upon it. The waiter again disappears for a while and comes back with a lot of small change on the silver plate, being the change that is due you. If you take what belongs to you from the plate and leave none for the waiter, the "mind power" of the whole institution is brought to bear upon you in the endeavor to make you feel like an escaped convict. Moreover the next time that you appear at that restaurant or hotel table, you will be permitted to sit half an hour before anyone knows of your presence. All this is for increasing the proprietor's profits above what he advertises. He will sell his goods for, and for the further purpose of reducing the wages of labor. In every one of these institutions where tips are expected the wages of waiters is reduced. In some places the waiters pay the proprietor a bonus to be allowed to act as waiter without wages.

The whole process is degenerating. But it is coming upon us and will increase as long as the dollar is put before the man. Here in the west, before wealth was worshipped and men were despised, if a man had anything to sell from a meal of victuals to a quarter section of land, he stated his price and if it was deemed satisfactory, the trade was made. It was all manly, upright and uplifting. No one was disgraced by asking or receiving gifts or any pretense made that one was getting something for nothing—than which there is nothing more degenerating in all the world.

Against all this populism presents a protest. It wants first of all, men and women. Men and women with bright eyes, clear heads and good consciences. Men and women who will scorn gifts, who wish to return to all full payment for all that they receive. Populism stands for uplifting the human race and protests vigorously against its degeneration. Upward and onward is its motto.

QUEER LOGICIANS

There is a queer kind of logic which men delight to engage in expounding. For instance when the Japanese, after nine days of as heroic fighting as was ever recorded in all history, succeeded in driving the Russians out of entrenched positions upon which the finest engineering skill had been employed for nearly a year in constructing, following on, hammering the retreating enemy for miles and finally captured the coal mines which supplied the Russian railroad locomotives with fuel, besides immense amounts of ammunition and stores, this kind of logic arrived at the conclusion that it was a Japanese defeat. Again when a young man named Worsley, who was so respected and popular in his home, congressional district and state, that the people without his consent and against his protests, nominated him for state senator, congress and commissioner of lands and public buildings on the state ticket, these logicians concluded that it was a disgrace, instead of an evidence of honor in which

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PLEASE MENTION THE INDEPENDENT

the people held him, and wrung the changes on that day after day. As soon as Mr. Worsley had time to consider these nominations, he respectfully declined them all with the exception of that of land commissioner, and it took the earnest and most persistent efforts of his friends to prevent him declining that. The science of logic has some very crazy exponents in this state of Nebraska.

GATHER THEM IN

There have been some tremendous railroad deals lately. The great railroad interest of the United States is passing constantly into fewer hands, and there will be soon located on Wall street a power in transportation greater than the world has ever before known—a power that can not only build up and tear down cities and business firms—but that can control the business of the whole nation. The Seaboard Airline was until recently owned in the south and was an independent line. Now it is in the hands of these few Wall street bankers. While the men of the south are howling about negro equality and negro domination, Wall street is laying the groundwork of their economic slavery.

Until the last few years there were railroad systems in New England. The control of all of them has gone to Wall street. The great continental lines, the Union Pacific, the Burlington, Atchison & Santa Fe were all once New England roads, originated and built by New England men. But they are now controlled by a clique of Wall street bankers. While New England has been howling about protection, just as the south has been howling about negro domination, Wall street was laying plans for its complete subjection. New England business men are now beginning to find out that "protection" is the ruin of them and they are calling loudly for reciprocity, and the south will find out that the ghost of "nigger social equality" will end in the same way, Wall street will gather them all in.

Within ten years the railroads will be owned by a sextette consisting of Hill, Harriman, Gould, Rockefeller, the Pennsylvania and Kuhn, Loeb & Co. The Rockefellers have already eliminated the Vanderbilts. The new scheme is to change the stock into bonds, leaving but little stock outstanding. A majority of this stock controls the roads and that will be in the hands of this sextette of predatory pirates.

Is there need of a people's party demanding the government ownership of the railroads?

After years of war, forays, advances and retreats, Roosevelt has at last got control of the political machinery of the Second congressional district. Where, Oh, where is Dave Mercer?

DR. A. TOWNSEND

The candidate for lieutenant governor on the populist and democratic tickets is a splendid type of the western young man. He has been nursed at the breast of nature, and at the schools and colleges of the land, and has the energy and brain to utilize it all to the best advantage in the affairs of men.

He was born on the Iowa side of the Missouri river, but at two years of age was brought over to the Nebraska side by his parents, where they have all lived ever since. His father being a farmer and dealer in live stock, he understands the great industry and resources of the state. He studied in the schools and colleges of Nebraska, and graduated from Rush Medical college, Chicago, in 1896. Since then he has successfully practiced as a physician. When he was nominated for the office of lieutenant governor, he held a nomination for member of the legislature for the district including his home county of Franklin, which nomination he declined in order to accept the nomination on the state ticket. He is young in years, being just thirty-one, but is old for his age in experience, and is the right kind of material for the right kind of men in the affairs of life, including the most exacting of official duties, and the people of the state will be proud of him by the end of his term as lieutenant governor.

The greater portion of his boyhood days was spent at Brock, Nemaha county, Neb., where incidents relating to him are plentiful, some of which have been published in a letter by Judge J. H. Broady to the World-Herald, which present a mild sidelight of how the boy was in touch with nature. He is a true Nebraskan and upright young man. B.

B. E. WATZKE

For fifteen years Mr. Watzke was a traveling salesman for a St. Louis clothing firm, and is well known among the business men throughout the state. He is now and has been for four years in business at Humboldt, Neb., where he conducts a general merchandise business.

Mr. Watzke is a native of Bohemia, where he was born on March 20, 1868. He came to Nebraska in 1879, settling at Humboldt, where he has since resided. He is identified with the progressive business life of his section of the state.

When Mr. Watzke was nominated for secretary of state it was the first office for which he was ever a candidate. As the secretary of state is one of the members of the state board of equalization, it is safe to say that the business interests will be well represented by Mr. Watzke. He is a very worthy representative of that industrious and energetic people who from their own free choice have made America their permanent home.