

Published every Thursday at the County Seat. D. M. AMSBERRY, Editor

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THURSDAY, NOV 14, 1901.

The counties in the sixth congressional district give republican majorities aggregating over 1200.

Last night, for the first time in eleven years, the republicans of Custer county got together and celebrated right. Judge Sias A. Holcomb was not in the procession—State Journal.

Buffalo county fell in line with Custer and gave large republican majorities to all the republican candidates except county treasurer the pop candidate for that office being successful.

W. F. Wright, the "rainmaker," who was the originator of the pop movement, along with M. F. Knox, should be sent for to weep with his disconsolate children in Custer county whose recent defeat sounds the death knell of populism and fusion.

In our last issue we warned our readers against roorbacks. Our prediction that the opposition would put out all manner of statements on the eve of election and too late to be refuted was verified, etc.—Beacon.

The trouble with the Beacon's advice was that it was heeded by those of his own party. The only roorback we heard of was a circular issued by the pop central committee, signed by the chairman and secretary, which was sent out by special carriers into the rural districts, just previous to election. The fact that it was sent out at so late a date under the guise of secrecy caused many a populist to resent it and vote the republican ticket straight.

It gave inspiration to the new recruits to see the old republican leaders congregated in Broken Bow Tuesday afternoon to join in the jollification over the recent republican victory. Among the number we noticed Ruben Johnson, S. L. Canton, of Westerville; Jas. Dare, George Dewey, of Lillian; Hod and Walt George, and Joe Pigman, of Georgetown; Lewis McCreary, J. J. Douglass, H. H. Andrews, George Mayer, of Callaway; A. Fonda, and F. E. VanAntwerp, of Wood River; J. H. Dean, of Custer; Frank Atkinson, of Anselmo; Jas. Fairfield, and Gottlieb Hiser, of Mason; Dad Hare, Tom Wright, and about twenty more of Ansley; H. W. Alberts, of Weissert; C. O. Lind, of Wayne; C. C. Gardner, F. M. Currie, Howard Savage, of Sargent; J. C. Predmore, of Walworth; W. E. Swengel, of Milburn; W. J. Rice and H. H. Myers, of Cliff.

CHewing THE RAG. The Republican contained several low grade articles last week on several candidates on the populist ticket—especially Mr. John Murray, candidate for school superintendent. The editor of the Republican professes Christianity and parades before the public as true blue. When he allowed that article to appear in his columns on Mr. Murray, he did it for the purpose of injuring Mr. Murray's chances for election and knew it to be untrue. Such work as that by professional church members does more to drive people from the church than all other excuses under the sun combined. Never spread an ill report about your neighbor until you are positive it is true. A man occupying the position in the church that the editor of the Republican occupies ought to always keep in view this saying: "Do ye unto others even as ye would they should do unto you."—Beacon.

Our esteemed contemporary last

ABSTRACT OF VOTES.

The following is the Official Vote of Custer County, Nebraska, Cast at the General Election, held Tuesday, November 5, 1901:

Table with columns for Townships, Total Vote, and various candidates including Judge Supreme Court, Regents, County Treas., County Clerk, Sheriff, Co. Judge, Register, Co. Supt., County Surveyor, and County Coroner.

week instead of taking its medicine gracefully, showed strong symptoms of soreness that would have been a disgrace to a school boy in knee pants. It did little else than chew the rag. As the Beacon has existed so long upon the fat that it derived from the patronage of the county it evidently saw in the result of the election that the day of populism has forever vanished as a ruling power in Custer county and with its demise sees but little comfort. But we would suggest to the Beacon as there is no consolation in looking on the dark side, that it is better to cheer up. Remember that you still have the patronage of the sheriff's office and that it will be two more years before the republicans will fill that place. There is no use of crying over spilled milk. You have made your bed and if it is too short to stretch yourself on or the covering too narrow to wrap yourself in, make the best of it, and be happy, for as long as there is life, there is hope.

But to our subject. The assertion that the "Republican had several low grade articles last week on several candidates on the populist ticket—especially Mr. John Murray, candidate for county superintendent," we resent. Not because we care personally for the assertion, but with the desire to set the Beacon at rights as well as any of its deluded followers who are unable to see both sides of a question, or, who are unable to credit the opposition with as much honesty as they claim for themselves.

In the first place the article contributed by "A Teacher" on the candidates for county superintendent was written by a person better qualified to judge of the two men than either the Beacon or the Republican, from the fact that he has been associated with them in school work. Further than that, he is a man whose veracity we had no right to question and as he is and has been a prominent populist for years, we surely thought he had a right to speak through the columns of the Republican in behalf of the republican candidate. If he stated an untruth in his article we did not know it, and had we known it we certainly would have eliminated that portion of it from the article. We believe in fairness in politics as well as in any other lines of business.

Where the shoe pinches is on the question of religion which the teacher hinted at in his article. We deplore the fact that the question should have been made an issue at all. And had determined to have ignored the question had not we been forced into it, by the Beacon starting the controversy. Whether Mr. Murray was a Catholic or not we had no personal knowledge, but the Beacon's confession on that point removed the doubt and brought up the question as an issue. Religion is and should be a stronger tie than politics, and there is no church that more tenaciously holds to its doctrine or is more loyal to its members

than the Catholics. In that they are to be commended. As Mr. Murray was acknowledged to be of that faith by the Beacon, whether the assertion was true or not, it could have but one effect and that was to line up to his support every one of that faith. It makes no difference what ones political affiliations were or had been, this acquisition at once made him, if he was a Catholic, an active supporter of Mr. Murray. We doubt whether there were ten exceptions in the county. The Republican does not condemn them for it, but from their point of view commend them for their loyalty. Their course was a hundred times more commendable than were the pops who placed him on their ticket, then knifed him because of his religion. From the vote we now see that he could not have been elected had every pop in the county voted for him, as the vote on supreme judge shows that the republicans had a majority of 125. But the fact remains that Murray's defeat was augmented by the disloyalty of populist voters. Lewis, instead of receiving 125 majority, he received 520 majority. It was the pops and not the republicans who voted against Mr. Murray on the question of his religion. There are scores of pops, who are said to have been members of the A. P. A.; that knew nothing of Murray's religion until they were told by the Beacon, the only county paper they take. The Beacon's excuse for making it an issue is, "that republicans were talking it on the street corners and at every cross road" is not a good one and does not justify the Beacon in its position. Some republicans may have been using it, but were not the Catholics doing the same with their friends. It should have remained with individuals and not been made a newspaper contention, nor would it have been by the republican papers, as they believe in religious courtesy.

The contention of the Republican was that our candidate was better qualified and more acceptable to the teachers of the county. On these two points we felt we could win. That being the fact as we believed with the further qualification of being a republican we felt sanguine of his success. Our allusion to Mr. Murray's religion came about in criticizing the Beacon for injecting it into the campaign or in ridiculing some one's foolish assertion that Murray's election was sure because of the fact that the priest was working night and day for his success.

As a church member we claim the same right as we conceded to others. That is to believe what our conscience dictates and defend that belief at all times and upon all occasions if the occasion demands it.

We plead guilty to the assertion that the editor of the Republican professes Christianity, but deny the statement that "we parade as true blue," if by that the Beacon means we claim infallibility of an-

lessness. While we desire to live blameless in the sight of God and man we know we come for short of it. What little prominence we may have attained in church life has not been through any effort upon our part, except in our effort to live a consistent life. Fortunately in this particular, the Beacon is not to be our judge, nor can it be until it has removed the beam from its own eye.

"When he allowed that article to appear in the Republican he did it for the purpose of injuring Mr. Murray's chances for election, and knew it to be untrue." To the the first proposition we plead guilty. If it had not been in opposition to Mr. Murray, we surely would not have given it space in our paper. We are not running a pop paper and the Republican is not intentionally supporting pop candidates for office. Our object was to defeat his election as well as every other pop candidate. We regarded the article a strong plea for Mr. Lewis, the republican candidate, and as we were convinced Mr. Lewis was the better man for the place we felt justifiable in using every honorable means at our command to secure his election. Would the Beacon have done different?

Did the Beacon confine itself to honorable means when it stated that Lewis was a non-resident, and had never paid a cent of taxes in Custer county? When a man becomes a candidate for office he must expect that if there is anything in his life that reflects upon his ability to fill the position to which he aspires that it will come out. It may not be an "ill report" in the sense that it is detrimental to his character, but if it is against the best interests of the public it is not only a privilege, but the duty of a newspaper to advise the public of it. But in no instance do we justify a newspaper in manufacturing a lie for effect, or in using something that did not tend to disqualify for the particular position to which the candidate aspires.

Had the Beacon observed the Golden Rule when it was making its ungrounded charges against Mr. Lewis and other candidates in the past it might then admonish others to "Do unto others even as ye would they should do unto you" with some consistency, but not now.

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