

THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

I. M. RICE ED.

Thursday, December 8, 1904

Entered at the Post-office at Valentine, Cherry county, Nebraska, as Second-class matter.

TERMS

Subscription—\$1.00 per year in advance; \$1.50 when not paid in advance. Single copies 5c.
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Tax commissioners of different railroad companies are still going from county to county tendering a sum in payment of taxes considerably less than the tax due. We haven't heard of anyone wishing to purchase a ticket, trying the same method at the ticket office.—Butte Gazette.

The dynamiting of Elmer E. Thomas' home in Omaha is the index finger of the fate of legal interference with vested rights. Omaha needs just such an awakening as she is getting and her citizens should be thankful that the bomb failed in its purpose and the lives of Mr. Thomas and family are spared. Her citizens should not rest until the crime is punished and the law is vindicated in the closing of the saloons and other disreputable houses.—Western Rancher.

Replying to the article in last week's Republican entitled "Still At It," we have only to say that the Republican has dodged again but is coming to its senses since election and if it will just continue articles like the following we will go hand in hand for good government and honesty in the administration of affairs in our state:

The Burlington and Union Pacific railroads have secured a temporary restraining order against county treasurers from attempting in any way or manner to collect taxes levied against them under the new revenue law. This action on the part of the railroads is an outrage and will in the end work no gain to these roads. By this and similar action of the railroads and monopolistic concerns, the great corporations are surely weaving a net that is certain to bring them destruction. They are forcing an issue that the people will not patiently and silently endure without resentment ere long, and which if pressed to the limit is sure to result in their overthrow.—Valentine Republican.

The Burlington and U. P. railroads of Nebraska have refused to pay their taxes as assessed by the state board. What does this mean? So soon after election too that it takes the breath of several republicans who were clamoring so loudly for the revenue law and the reelection of the republican state ticket, working hand in hand with the railroad companies. This is pretty much the same as their crawfishing at the time Bartley was paroled and when one of their candidates for office was forced to withdraw because he was known to have participated in the Bartley shortage. Notice several clippings this week from other papers showing how other republican papers feel about the victory they have helped to win for the railroads and how the railroads are kicking out of paying their taxes. What will it amount to? It is just this: To reduce their taxes they have made this refusal to pay taxes now assessed and offer a part payment as a bluff to further increase of their taxes. These taxes can be collected from them and should they be compelled to pay, they have at least made a bluff towards any further increase by the state board elect, and it will be plain to be seen now just where Gov. Mickey stands in the coming conflicts. THE DEMOCRAT did not misrepresent a single fact. We did not make our statements as strong as they should have been.

"Good for the Soul."

The Union Pacific and Burlington railroad appealed to the federal court for an order prohibiting the collection of taxes levied in Nebraska against these railroad companies. During the recent campaign it was freely charged by democratic candidates that this course would be adopted by the railroads, but the republican leaders in this state pointed with pride to the railroad assessment made under the republican administration, and said that under republican laws and republican administration the railroads had been required to bear their proportion of the taxation burden.

But now the people are learning that they were leaning on a broken reed when they were depending on even a small increase in railroad assessment to bring them relief.

In the presence of these revelations republican editors find themselves seriously embarrassed, and among the interesting confessions made is that appearing in the local republican organ, in which it is said:

If anything is calculated to arouse the resentment of property-owning citizens of Nebraska, who pay their own taxes and expect other citizens and corporations to pay theirs, this unprecedented action of the railroads is sure to do it.

It is notorious that the new Nebraska revenue law was enacted in strict accordance with the demands of the railroad lobbyists and that the assessment of railway property made by the state board under its provisions, while in excess of what the railroads demanded, was still far short of what it should and would have been if gauged to the selling value of these properties, as reflected by current transactions on the money markets. The only inference to be drawn is that the railroads were instrumental in procuring the enactment of a new revenue law for Nebraska in the expectation that they would be enabled to shirk their taxes still further and unload still more of their burdens upon the shoulders of other taxpayers, and having failed in this, they now wish to upset a law of their own making.

Is it any wonder that the people of Nebraska look with suspicion on the railway tax agents and the railroad lobbyists? Is it any wonder that they feel that the railroads want to hog it all and are not willing to abide by a square deal? Is it any wonder that they are constantly looking about to see if there is not some way by which they can protect themselves against railroad encroachments and secure an equal enforcement of the law for small taxpayers and big corporations alike?

But, judging the future by the past, after saying all this, the local republican organ will, during the campaign of 1905, be found working enthusiastically in behalf of candidates chosen by these same railroad influences.

The railroad managers are not to be frightened by the prediction that their efforts to escape taxation will "arouse the resentment of property-owning citizens of Nebraska." These railroad managers manipulated the legislature of Nebraska two years ago according to their own will, and although they flaunted their control of the legislature in the very faces of the people, they openly and notoriously obtained control of the republican state convention in 1904. If results show anything, the people with their eyes open registered their approval of corporation domination in the public affairs of this state.

It was charged during the campaign just closed that the Nebraska revenue law was enacted "in strict accordance with the demands of the railway lobbyists," that the assessment of railway property made by the republican state board was far short of what it should have been. Republican papers denied this charge. Had they made the confession which the republican organ now makes, even in spite of the Roosevelt landslide, the result might have been different, so far as Nebraska's state election was concerned.—World-Herald.

INTERESTING PROGRAM FOR THE STATE TEACHERS

Large Meeting of the Association in Omaha for Three Days This Month.

Variety and Spice in the Arrangement of the Speakers and Topics.

A program of unusual interest has been arranged for the thirtieth annual meeting of the Nebraska State Teachers' association, to be held in Omaha, December 28, 29 and 30. The Millard hotel has been selected as headquarters for the association. All meetings of the general sessions, including the evening lectures and musical entertainments, will be held in the First Methodist church at Twentieth and Davenport Sts. The various section meetings will be held at the High school building.

A number of first-class lectures and musical attractions have been secured for the occasion. General Z. Sweeney, who will address the teachers on Thursday evening, Dec. 29, on the subject, "Bedrock in Anglo-Saxon Civilization," is one of the foremost of American lecturers. He is a member of the Victoria institute, London; the institute of Christian Philosophy, New York, and the National Geographical society, Washington, D. C. General Sweeney was at one time counsel general to Turkey. He has also filled the chair of chancellor of Butler university. It is said of him that he can hold and audience spellbound for hours.

At the opening general session Wednesday evening, Dec. 28, the Royal Hungarian orchestra, one of the finest in the country, will give a concert. The invocation at this time will be pronounced by the Rev. E. Combie Smith, of Omaha. C. C. Wright, Omaha's city attorney, will give the address of welcome, to which Superintendent W. L. Stephens of Lincoln will respond.

WELL-KNOWN SPEAKERS COMING.

Frank R. Roberson's lecture on "Russia" is booked for Friday evening. Mr. Roberson has traveled extensively in Russia, and has a set of magnificent stereopticon views with which he illustrates his talk, making it of unusual interest.

Dr. Benjamin L. D'Ooge, well known as scholar, lecturer, teacher and author, will address the Latin teachers in general session on Thursday morning. Since 1886 Dr. D'Ooge has been professor of Latin in the Michigan state normal college, and before that, for a number of years, was an instructor of Latin in the University of Michigan, of which he is a graduate. He received the degree of Ph. D. at Bonn in 1901. On Wednesday he will speak "Latin Composition in Secondary Schools," and on Thursday "What is the Practical in Education?"

Adrian M. Newsom of Ames, Ia., the well-known impersonator, will give scenes from Elizabeth Stuart Phelps' "A Singular Life," at the general session Thursday morning and Thursday afternoon he will address the High school section on the topic, "The Humanizing influences of Good Literature."

Other speakers well worth hearing are the Rev. M. P. Dowling, Mrs. Mary H. Hunt, national superintendent of temperance education, and Superintendent W. M. Davidson of Omaha. Father Dowling, who is the president of Creighton university at Omaha, will give an address at the general session Thursday morning, on "Social Discontent; Some of its Causes and Remedies." Friday morning, "A Trinity of Aims" is the topic chosen by Superintendent Davidson for his address.

The Wagner quartet and chorus will sing at many of the sessions. These are made up entirely of the teaching force of the Omaha city schools, and are the outgrowth of the original quartet and chorus organized by Miss Fannie Arnold, the able supervisor of music in

the Omaha schools in 1903, to illustrate a series of lectures given by her on Richard Wagner and his music dramas. The quartet is now composed of Miss Fannie Myler, 1st soprano; Miss Macy Stapenhorst, 2nd soprano; Mrs. Cora Anderson, 1st alto, and Miss Carrie Fairchild, 2nd alto. Miss Ida Blackmore is the present pianist. The Wagner chorus, which was originally composed of 35 voices, now numbers 75, which meets once a month for the study of the best compositions.

Omaha is well represented in the programs prepared for the various sections. In the mathematics section for Wednesday morning J. F. Woolery of Omaha will discuss with J. M. Pile, president of the Wayne normal college, "Remedies for the Inability of Pupils to Apply their mathematics to Practical Affairs." In the child study section Wednesday afternoon Mrs. Harriett Heller of Omaha will speak on "Social Life of the Adolescent."

The literature section, meeting Wednesday afternoon, has booked two Omaha teachers. Miss Kate McHugh of the High school will speak on "Wider Culture for English Teachers" and Miss Mima Doyle of Omaha has the topic, "Language and Literature in the Primary school." H. A. Senter will use twenty minutes of the time of the physical science section the same afternoon in showing experiments with carbon dioxide.

Thursday afternoon in the grammar section, the paper of J. W. Crabtree, president of the Peru State Normal school, on "The Special Qualifications of Grammar School Teachers," will be discussed by Miss Martha Reed of South Omaha and C. C. Gilbert of Dubois. In the primary section Thursday afternoon Mrs. Chittenden of Omaha will show "What the Kindergartens Are Doing for the Primary Schools."

"Debating in the High Schools" is the subject of C. M. Braeclen of Omaha at the meeting of the High school section Friday afternoon. Miss Sara Vore Taylor of South Omaha will address the High school section on "English in Nebraska High Schools." At the primary section Friday afternoon Miss Clara B. Mason of Omaha will speak on "Discipline in the Primary Grades." Mrs. Richmond of South Omaha will give a vocal solo.

The citizens of Omaha will tender the visiting teachers a reception in the Auditorium Thursday evening, immediately after Gen. Sweeney's lecture. The reception will be followed by two banquets, one given at the Paxton hotel by the alumni of the Peru State Normal school, the other at the Millard hotel by the alumni of the Fremont Normal school.—World-Herald.

How many Cherry county teachers will be able to attend the state teachers' association at Omaha this year, Dec. 28, 29 and 30? It will be a great treat for those who can attend. It will be worth your time and money, teachers, if you can go. It will brighten your thoughts and put life into your school work to see something of the teacher's life and duties explained by men and women who have made "foot prints on the sands" in the teacher's profession. For the benefit of those interested in school work we copy from the World-Herald some of the features of this association. Those who wish to see fuller particulars may find the complete article in Monday's World-Herald, Dec. 5, on page 5.

Special rates have been secured at hotels and for railroad fare.

Holiday Rates for Students and Teachers.

Via the North-western Line. Excursion tickets will be sold at low rates on presentation of proper certificates issued by the educational institution. For full particulars as to dates of sale, limits, etc., apply to agents Chicago & North-western R'y.

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