

# THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

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Entered at the post office at Valentine, Nebraska, as second class matter, October 1, 1906.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1906.

## A FINAL WORD TO THE VOTER ABOUT OUR CANDIDATES.

**J. W. STETTER,**  
For Commissioner.  
THE DEMOCRAT has not said very much thus far on the county commissionership for the reason that we have felt all along that the people of this county were so well acquainted with the democratic candidate, Jacob W. Stetter, that there could be no question about his election. However, it is not well to be too sure of anything and we must advise our friends who are interested in Mr. Stetter's election to come out and vote, and to speak to their neighbor on the question of commissioner. There is not very much money in holding this office and this has a tendency to deter the best business men from accepting a place on the board. Mr. Stetter did not want the nomination but his friends prevailed on him to accept it. He has lived in this county so long and his business ability is so well known that his friends felt that he would easily be elected and his great business capacity would be of inestimable value to the county. The board of commissioners levy our taxes, and, when collected, they spend the money. This board has the business management of the county and it is certainly to the interest of every tax payer that a man of good business judgment be elected to this office.

The office is in no sense a party one. It is purely a business proposition and no one who knows Jake Stetter will doubt that he is just the material for a successful county commissioner. For years he has been advocating independence in voting and urging our readers to look to a man's ability, integrity and general fitness. We want them to apply these tests to Mr. Stetter and we think they will find that no other man who has been proposed for this office would be of more service to the tax payers than he. We are glad to find the Valentine Republican with us in this fight. It is a good thing to see Mr. Barker lay aside his party prejudice in the matter and come out as he does in support of a good sound business administration of county affairs, and he is doing this by calling upon his readers to lay aside party feeling and vote for Jake Stetter. In its issue of last week it came out boldly and advocated the election of Mr. Stetter, and, in its issue of October 19th, it had the following to say:

Editor Republican:—  
As an old-time republican I beg for a small space in your paper for a word in behalf of one of the candidates for county commissioner.

The office of county commissioner is strictly a business office—has no influence on or connection with politics—and should be administered without regard to politics. The location of a road or the building of a bridge has nothing whatever to do with the railroad rate question or the tariff question, or any other question of state or national politics.

We should select the best man for the office of county commissioner, politics to the contrary notwithstanding.

I believe you will agree with me when I say that Jake Stetter is one of the best business men that ever came down the pike. His success proves this assertion true. His fitness for the office and his integrity cannot be questioned. Personally, he is one of the best fellows on the face of the earth. He belongs to that class described by Old Abe as "plain people."

One of the commissioners ought to be located at the county-seat for the convenience of all the people of the county. Jake lives there.

Jske's election would not disturb the political preponderance of the board; it would still have a republican majority, and the republican

The Republican correspondent is right in saying that one of the commissioners ought to be located at the county seat. It does not matter so much to the people who live in town as it does to the county precincts. An attempt is being made to show that we are trying to hog everything for the county seat. This is not true. We never favored the town to the exclusion of the country, for the town ought always to bear in mind that its growth and development depend upon the good will of the country. But it is to the convenience and advantage of the people who live outside and have business at the county seat that a commissioner live in town. If you live out ten, twenty, thirty, forty, fifty or one hundred miles from the county seat, you now and then, have business there, and you may want to see a county commissioner. Now, if one member of the board lives here, you

can lay the matter you are interested in before him; get his views on it; make your explanation of it, and, when the board meets, there is, at least, one member of the board that understands it, and you do not have to make a special trip to the county seat when the board is in session. If Mr. Morris is elected and you come to the county seat you will not find him there. He has not been getting his mail in Cherry county. Johnstown, in Brown county, is his railroad point, and, how many farmers and stockmen of this county want to follow him over into Brown county to get an interview with him when they have some matter to submit to their commissioner. Jake Stetter ought to be elected because he has superior qualifications for the place and because it is to the interest of every man having business before the commissioners to have a commissioner where they can meet whenever their business brings them to the county seat, without having to make a special trip regardless of the weather, the condition of the roads, or the inconvenience and expense it may make them to come to the county seat at stated times when the board may be in session.

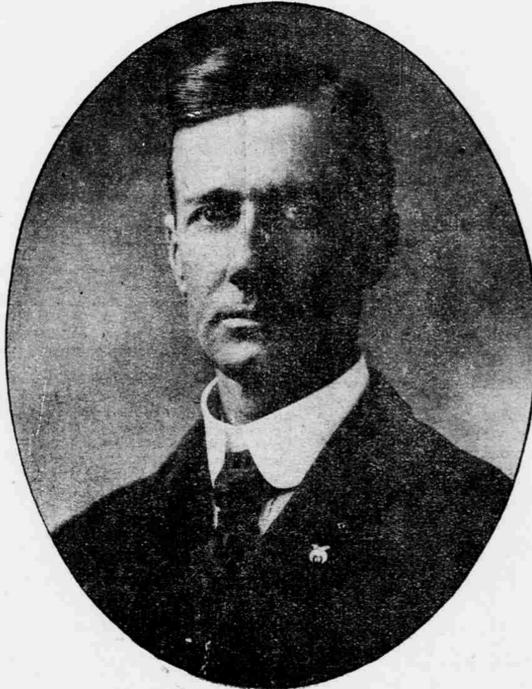
**R. H. WATSON,**  
For State Supt. Pub. Ins.  
Only a few years ago the politicians of Nebraska would have frowned upon the idea of a man from western Nebraska for a state office. But with the growth and development of this section of the state has come also her political recognition. This year one of the great parties has recognized the rights of western Nebraska and has nominated Professor Watson, the superintendent of our schools, for state superintendent of public instruction. This is a well deserved compliment. It was due western Nebraska; it was due the Valentine schools, and it was due Professor Watson. It shows that the democratic party has come to recognize the portion of the state west of the one hundredth meridian and we hope in due time the republican party will take a similar step and nominate for state offices some of its leaders who live in our part of the state. The nomination of Prof. Watson is the best advertisement that our schools could possibly have. For years we have been working to raise our schools to the highest standard and their excellence is generally recognized by the leading educators of the state. It was Prof. Watson's work that made this excellence possible and his election to this office would be a fitting recognition of his work.



R. H. WATSON.

This is the first time the voters of this county have had a chance to vote for a home man for a state office and we hope they will make the most of it by giving Prof. Watson such a majority that it will be notice to the people abroad that we are loyal to our own people and proud of our own school and the man who has placed it in the front rank of educational institutions of the state.

**A. H. METZGER,**  
For Representative.  
This is the last issue before election, and, according to usual campaign tactics, a party paper is filled with charges and accusations against the opposing candidates. We have never adopted that method of campaign work, and are not going to. During the course of this contest for local office we have said nothing detrimental to anyone. We do not expect our men to win because of their own strength. In the matter of a representative for this dis-



A. H. METZGER.

trict we have put forward Mr. Metzger, whose record as a citizen and stockman is sufficient to assure him the respect of every voter in the district, whether he intends to vote for him or not. We doubt if a candidate was ever nominated in this county whose ability, integrity and general fitness for the office were so universally admitted.

He is one of the pioneers who laid the foundation for the county's greatness. While he lived and prospered himself, he has helped others prosper. Metzger Bros. ranch has been a stopping place for the lonely way-farer for the past eighteen years. No one ever came to that ranch who was not given the friendly hand and the best that the ranch afforded. Mr. Metzger represents the best there is in our western good-fellowship. He was equipped by nature and education for leadership and his powers have always been used for the advancement and up-

building of the community. The men who have been over the prairies with him in sunshine and in storm are for him because they know him and know he is true blue.

The stockmen and farmers are for him because he is at one with them and knows their needs. And the people of Valentine and the other towns in this county ought to be for him because he is as well able to represent them as if he came from the town, and, as a matter of business, they ought to concede to the farmers and stockmen a representative. They ought to show that they appreciate the good will of the people outside the towns and that they are anxious to cultivate a good feeling between the people who support the town and the town itself. The business men of the towns cannot afford to turn down the people who support the town, and we are sure they are not going to do it. The big industries of this district are agriculture and stock raising, and they want one of their number to represent them. Are you willing they shall have him? If you are, speak a word to your neighbor and ask him to vote with you for *A. H. Metzger for representative.*



## Our Cartoon.

Our cartoon this week shows the old man Kinkaid, who wants to be the congressman from this district in one of his many disreputable acts that he has committed in Holt County. An agreement was made between this old reprobate and farmer Hyatt to the effect that Kinkaid was to furnish the money for Hyatt to buy cattle, which Hyatt was to feed and care for and when they were taken to market and sold, shylock Kinkaid was to have 35 percent of the sale for the use of the money. The time in which Hyatt was to purchase the cattle was from May until November and as most of the cattle was bought late this old shylock would get as his pound of flesh full 50 percent on his investment. The cattle was sold in March and Hyatt came in to settle for the pound of flesh. Kinkaid refused to settle unless Hyatt would first give him the drafts for the sale. Hyatt knowing this man refused to deliver the drafts in full but offered to deliver to him what was his due.

Here is where the character of the old shylock came to the surface. He at once went before a justice of the peace and swore that Hyatt had stolen the drafts and had him arrested. He saw he was going to fail in this and went to a friendly sheriff who with a gun deliberately took the drafts and delivered them to shylock as his pound of flesh. The case got into the courts and this modern shylock was about to wear stripes, but he got out of the deal in some way and farmer Hyatt never got a cent for his winter's work, or for the 90 acres of corn or the hundreds of tons of hay that he fed during the winter. It was in this case that Judge Maxwell took occasion to point out wherein Kinkaid had testified falsely and which we published last week. Read it again and then say if you think this man is a fit man for to represent you in the congress of the United States?

It will be remembered by our readers that last winter Sec. Taft made an order that all supplies for the Panama canal should be purchased in the open market. This had the sanction of President Roosevelt and a resolution was placed before the United States congress by the pliant tools of the trusts to the effect that all supplies for the Panama canal should be bought at home and all competition with the trusts be crushed. The resolution easily passed the subservient senate and went to the lower house, and, after a short fight by the friends of open competition the resolution passed the house. Let it be said to the everlasting disgrace of Nebraska that she had two members in that body that supported that resolution. One was Kinkaid, the boneless and spineless old skinfint from the Sixth district, and the other congressman Kennedy. This is a matter of record and not any campaign assertion. It is a matter that any citizen of Nebraska can look up and satisfy himself. Now, this old shylock poses as a friend of the people when his record shows him to have always been on the side of the trusts. He is a tool of the trusts and his own record convicts him.

The do nothing policy of this man has cost the people of Cherry county and the western part of Nebraska a market created by Fort Niobrara. Any congressman with the interest of his district at heart could have saved this fort to Valentine and the West, but Kinkaid was being wined and dined by the corporation henchmen for his good work in voting for them when they needed him, and kept while the people were being robbed of their Fort.

Volumes might be written of the acts of this old shylock. Quiet, (he never does anything openly) that would show him to be more than just a servile tool of the railroads. It might be shown that this old shylock had left lasting disgrace and mental ruin in at least two instances in Holt county, by his personal lust. The record of this man smells of heaven and the vote in his own county this fall will prove what we say.

Two years ago the state senate was solidly republican. Out of 100 members in the house, 91 were republicans. The governor was republican. Mr. Sheldon, now republican candidate for governor, was a member of the senate. *If, under such favorable conditions, they would not give the people any relief, why have we reason to believe that if a republican governor and legislature are elected this fall that they would be more sincere?*