

BUILD THE BEST. In every county in Nebraska the commissioners should build the best bridges. They are the cheapest. The culvert made of vitrified brick or of iron sewer-pipes should be placed instead of bridges wherever a gulch is crossed in which no water course flows. In Nebraska City there is a steel bridge which has been in constant use night and day for thirty years. It is the best and cheapest bridge Otoe county ever owned.

THE CONSERVATIVE TREE PLANTING. The conservative practices tree-planting every year, and preaches tree-planting every week. Each township in Otoe county and each township in every other county in Nebraska ought to organize a tree planting society. In the long evenings of winter, arboriculture should be studied and discussed intelligently in every school district of the commonwealth, and in each family circle. THE CONSERVATIVE will continue to print articles about orchards, groves and forests that are interesting, instructive and useful.

THE THIRD PARTY. There is and always has been a large and independent class of American citizens, owing no allegiance to any political party. They think and act for themselves. Their numbers increase with the enlightenment of the age. In proportion to the votes now cast there are more unbought and unbullied ballots in the United States this day than ever before. They determined the presidential elections in 1896 and 1900. They will elect a President or name an Emperor in 1904.

COMPLICATED. The World-Herald, which is inscribed "An Independent Newspaper" at the head of its editorial page, is giving daily signs of a complication of diseases. Many good judges of mono-manias declare that the mental perturbations, illusions, delusions, confusions and vagaries which have become chronic in its columns, are the logical symptoms and sequences of blood-poisoning by "the sting of ingratitude."

Other doctors assert that The World-Herald raves because a combine of the microbes and bacilli of personal ambition has formed a malicious and competition-killing trust for the purpose of making a United States senator out of the accomplished young gentleman who was "stung" when William V. Allen was named to fill the last vacancy. In any event, it is a pitiful case of dementia arising from a misfit in confidential relations and in senatorial candidates.

COMMON ROADS. The common roads of Nebraska are sixty-six feet in width. That is an unnecessary waste of good land and a constant method of weed-propagation. Legislation permitting county commissioners to sell one-half and make all roads in the state only thirty-three feet in width would be beneficial. The land money thus accumulated would make a permanent road fund. If this cannot be done, compel the planting of trees on either side of the road until thirty-three feet is utilized for arboriculture.

BE IT REMEMBERED. Let those who find fault as to the genuineness and sincerity of the populism of the gallant and peerless Colonel Bryan—distinguished in war by his battlelessness; in law by his brieflessness; in statesmanship by his successlessness—remember that in 1892 he voted for the Weaver presidential electors. He never voted for the Cleveland electors. This great fact was known to the National populist conventions in 1896 and in 1900. That is a record unstained by democratic symptoms. Be it remembered!

THANKS. A member of the faculty of one of the eastern colleges writes as follows:

"It seems to me that you people, with your letters and articles on western archaeology, pioneer-history and lore, have opened up a very promising vein. It furnishes not only excellent reading, but does for the nearer West what I should think a high-class journal would like to do—it does not merely represent the region in its commercial today, but helps to give it background and coloring. I hope you may keep on, and the idea prove successful."

STRIKERS. There is a style of humanity in every rank of life which studies, creates and disciplines discontent. In religion, politics and the mechanical arts and trades these men frequently dominate. They scatter the seeds of envy, distrust and malice wherever they can find lodgment for the sowing. They are never satisfied with that which exists. They constantly insist upon something which does not exist and never can exist. They pray for the advent of the impossible.

If they were in heaven they would find fault with the music. They would repudiate the golden streets of the New Jerusalem as not fit for thoroughfares. They would strike for contracts of greater length than eternity and favor an eight-hour day for singers in the heavenly choirs.

NAMELESS LETTERS.

THE CONSERVATIVE experiences an influx now and then of nameless letters of a very abusive character, and they are generally written by ardent and zealous workers in the forecasting colleges of Bryanarchy. They flay the editor of this journal with dull knives. They bathe his lacerated epidermis in rank brine, and pour turpentine and wrath into his wounds with satanic glee. Really their barbaric tortures in words are hideous, but never signed by their savage authors. Why not autograph your ravings?

THE CONSERVATIVE.

Those who criticize THE CONSERVATIVE as a non-democratic periodical are entirely correct in their assumption of the non-partisan character of this periodical. And those who denounce THE CONSERVATIVE as an exponent of the views of the independent thinkers, workers and voters of the country are equally in the right. This journal is not run in the interest of partisans. It is not conducted by sectarians. But it works and wars for lawful freedom in all things, political, economic and ethical.

It believes that capital has equal rights with labor to the protection of justly administered laws. It is not afraid of the truth nor backward in telling the truth. It is not a caucus-governed journal.

FREE READING. The New England Free Trade League, Tremont building, Boston, will mail any of its instructive tariff trust articles to any one requesting them, and remitting two cents postage, or all for ten cents.

The articles and writers are as follows:

"An Important Discussion," Henry W. Lamb; "The Remedies of Trusts," Prof. John Bascom; "The Ship Subsidy Trust," Hazard Stevens; "Free Ships," Osborne Howe; "Free Trade and Foreign Markets," Hazard Stevens; "Protectionism," Prof. A. L. Perry; "The Plate Glass Trust," Henry W. Lamb; "Warning Voices on Tariff Trusts," The Oregonian *et al*; "Russian Retaliation," Norman F. Hesseltine; "Exports and Retaliation," Calvin Tompkins; "A Typical Protection Victory," A. B. Farquhar; "Protective Tariffs and Public Virtue," Franklin Pierce; "Protection for Infant Industries Outgrown," Arthur Scott Gilman; "The Paper Trust," John Norris; "The Industrial Situation," Gov. Horace Boies; "Reciprocity with Canada," Hon. John Charlton *et al*.

THE CONSERVATIVE commends the foregoing economic literature to all who seek for the truths of commerce.