

TALK OF THE SENATORSHIP

Friends of Millard and Webster to Fight for Fontaine Support.

INDIANS WOULD RATHER MAKE A GOVERNOR

Webster Counts on Getting Help from Wattle-DeMott Contest Involves Ambitions of Hitchcock and Thompson.

The conference held last week by Senator Millard to devise ways and means of promoting his candidacy for re-election followed as it was by the most brilliant Webster campaign. The senatorial boom of John L. Leach has started the talk of senatorial possibilities full on. It is already plain that Senator Millard's prediction that there would be plenty of aspirants for the senate is to be fulfilled particularly right here in his own home in Omaha where three announced entries are already listed with more in prospect.

Both Millard and Webster are playing for a Fontaine endorsement. A member of the board of governors who speaks from the inside describes the situation in the club in this way:

"One plan is to keep the senatorship and everything of that sort in the background until after the city election. The first thing in hand with us is to elect Benson mayor and get installed in the city hall and all state and national politics must be subordinated to that. Let the would-be senators all come out and help elect Benson and then we will be ready to talk to them."

"The fact is that both Millard and Webster have friends inside the Fontaine club, but the club does not own either of them a thing. Millard had his chance to get solid when we asked him to name Tom Blackburn for United States district attorney and when he refused we told him he would be begging for favors of us here he got through. Webster never did anything for us either for that matter he never was known to do anything for anybody in politics except when he was after something for himself, but still some think the club should take up with him because we have to back somebody and he might possibly be made a winner with our help. I look for a good hard fight inside the club between the Millard and Webster adherents."

Prefer Saunders for Governor.

"The truth is we Fontaines are not so wedded to this senatorship business any way. We know several people who would like to stick rather than make either Millard or Webster senator. You heard the shouting that greeted Charlie Saunders, when we ratified the Benson nomination and all the boys yelling for 'Governor' Saunders. Well, the uppermost wish of the big Fontaines is to make Charlie Saunders governor of Nebraska and this year is the time to do it or it will have to be put off at least four years. We know we can't get the senator and the governor both, but we might line up behind a man like Webster, just to carry Douglas county for a delegation without any show of preferring the state to come to him and then pull the governorship out for Charlie Saunders. Stranger things than that have happened. If the Fontaines finally decide to line up behind some senatorial candidate, they will want him to be not so much because they want him as because they believe they can use him to accomplish the real purpose."

"The funniest thing yet developed in the senatorial contest," declared an old timer, "is the way the political firm of Baxter and Van Dusen is splitting up. Did you notice how Baxter was in with the inner councils of the Millard brigade, while his partner Van Dusen, as a Webster leader is promising to deliver the goods for South Omaha to Webster. It's really funny."

Wattle-Webster Merger.

The Webster debt is taken as proof conclusive that W. Wattle will not get into the senatorial race—at least not in the open. The Webster boom is regarded as posterity of the Wattle agitation. "Mr. Webster would not have come out so long as Wattle was figuring," declared a friend of Mr. Webster. "You see, Webster is the regular salary attorney of the Omaha Street Railway company, of which Wattle is the political master hand and he could not cross Wattle's political plans. As a lawyer, Webster has also been under obligation to Millard for several big cases, but he does not take that as enjoying any political fealty. I have heard of suggested that Webster may be put to the front to get a delegation to be turned over later to Wattle, but I hardly believe that would work, as Webster would want to hang on until all chance of delivering to some one else had passed. It is certain, however, that the influence and money of Wattle will be behind Webster if it goes anywhere."

In the meanwhile the question of the senatorship is stirring not only the repub-

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can, but the democrats as well. Here is the way a well-informed politician looks down a Lincoln has sized up the democratic situation:

In the Democratic Camp.

"G. M. Hitchcock is proprietor of the only strong democratic daily newspaper in Nebraska. If there is to be a democratic senator, Mr. Hitchcock desires to be that man. W. H. Thompson of Grand Island has been democratic candidate for governor and congressman, and general democratic campaigner for the last twenty years. If there is to be a democratic senator Mr. Thompson desires to be that man. Instead of submitting the issue to the democratic state convention Mr. Hitchcock proposes a free for all race of democratic candidates under that provision of the Nebraska constitution which permits candidates for United States senator to place their names on the official ballot and receive the preference vote of the electors at the polls—the one receiving the greatest number of preference ballots to be pledged the votes of the democratic members of the next legislature, supposing there are such. Under this plan, of course, republicans, populists, prohibitionists and newsmen would have the privilege of expressing a preference among democratic candidates for senator, if they cared to use their influence in the booth on such a matter."

"There is still another significant circumstance in connection. Douglas county, the home of Mr. Hitchcock, casts one-eighth of the entire vote of the state and chooses twelve members of the legislature. Owing to the inability of Douglas county republicans to agree upon a candidate satisfactory to the rest of the state there is a prospect that for the first time since Nebraska came into the union Douglas county may be without a resident United States senator if the republicans have the next legislature. As during a large part of that period Douglas county has practiced the habit of electing States senators from this state Mr. Hitchcock relies strongly on local sentiment there to support him with preference vote for senator and to elect a delegation to the legislature which would vote for him there."

"On the other hand, Mr. Thompson distrusts the majority of an enormous local vote in Omaha, republican as well as democratic, back of Mr. Hitchcock's candidacy and prefers to risk his chances in the democratic state convention, where his statewide campaigning tours may yield him a crop of favorable delegates."

What Hitchcock says.

"I am accused of being a candidate for many offices," says Mr. Hitchcock. "With regard to the senatorship I will say that if the plan for permitting the people to choose their senator is adopted by the party and in use I am willing to have my name submitted to the ballot."

"So far as I have heard the only democratic senatorial candidate out in the state spoken of is W. H. Thompson of Grand Island. It may be stated that Mr. Bryan is not a senatorial candidate and does not wish to be considered in that light. If he were he would be the unanimous choice of the democrats of this state."

"I am not making any senatorial campaign. If this plan of selecting a senatorial candidate is not followed I may or may not remain a candidate. There will be plenty of time to cross that bridge when we come to it."

"The idea I am interested in having tried is similar to that employed by Mr. Rosewater, when he received 5,000 votes for senator in 1900, the largest number ever cast for that office by way of preference in this state."

W. H. Thompson is Conservative.

W. H. Thompson of Grand Island, former democratic candidate for governor of Nebraska, is in the city.

"I am here just on a little private business," said Mr. Thompson. "I do not know as I care to talk politics just now. The senatorial question is yet a long way off and a great many things may happen before it comes to the front."

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Tuesday's Bargain Bulletin

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In Our Busy Suit Department
Stylish Tailor Suits that sold at \$15—choice Tues.—
8.90
Handsome Taffeta Walking Skirts, worth up to \$15—choice Tues.—
7.50

Women's Covert Coats that sold up to \$10—choice Tues.—
4.95
Women's Silk Shirt Waist Suits, worth up to \$15—choice Tues.—
5.95

Special Furnishing Bargains
Ladies' Jersey Ribbed Vests, with high neck and long sleeves, regular 50c values, Tues.—
25c
Ladies' Knit Pants, lace trimmed, light weight, worth double Tuesdays' prices—25c and—
15c
Ladies' Lisle and Cotton Vests, in pinks, blues and white, all sizes, in great bargains, at 25c, 15c, 10c and—
5c
Ladies' Hose, in fine lisle or mace cotton, black, white or fancies, in plain or lace effects, worth 25c, at, pair—
12c

Ladies' Union Suits, lace trimmed, with low neck and short sleeves, all sizes, great values, at 50c, 35c and—
25c
Men's Fancy Hose, in all colors, the greatest assortment ever shown, 25c values, at 12 1/2c and—
10c
Men's Hose, regular 15c quality, in blacks, tans and slate color, great snap, at—
8c
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12c

Wool Dress Goods Sale
FROM 2:30 TO 3:00 P. M.
We will sell All Wool Waistings and All Wool Challies that sold at 50c, 75c and 98c yard—only one pattern to a customer—at, yard—
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