

OBSERVATIONS

Continued from page 5

no danger that Nebraska will be slighted in the disposition of patronage. It will not be necessary to make trades or indulge in threats.

The bids received on the city refunding bonds were opened at the council meeting last Monday evening. There were three bids submitted, two of which were for a currency bond, as provided by the vote authorizing the issue. The third and successful bid was for a gold bond and came, as the successful bid for municipal contracts has been in the habit of coming, from Mr. Elmer Stephenson. His bid provides for a gold bond bearing 4½ per cent interest due in twenty years and payable after ten, for which he is to pay the city par and accrued interest. The amount of bonds to be issued is to be determined by the council. Mr. Stephenson is to have four months time in which to complete his contract and the contract contains a stipulation that the council shall "do all things and pass all ordinances necessary to make the issue of bonds regular and legal." Competent authorities seem to think the council has a big job on its hands if it attempts to legalize a gold bond at this time. Under the charter or under the vote of the people it certainly cannot be done, so that unless Mr. Stephenson is the proud possessor of a customer who does not care whether he is buying a legal bond or not, the sale of last Monday is of the same farcical nature as the previous so-called sales of the bonds have been. Probably the matter will be submitted to the people again at the spring election.

Mr. Stephenson's contract provides also for a commission to him of ½ of 1 per cent on all bonds sold. This would amount to about \$2,750 on the whole issue. Just where the city will get the money to pay this commission is not explained,—possibly Mr. Stephenson intends to take a receipt for it as payment on account of balance due. The bid is considered a fairly good one although the ten or twelve thousand dollars profit in the deal would no doubt satisfy most bidders without an additional commission from the city. The trouble was Mr. Stephenson had no competitors, the other bidders apparently not seeing the philosophy of bidding for something that was illegal on its face. It remains to be seen what Mr. Stephenson will be able to do with what he has bought.

THE EDITOR.

A FEW GADNDIDATES

Fritz Westerman is a candidate for city attorney. So is George E. Hibner. Frank Waters wants a third term as police judge. Dr. Kerman not only wants to be a delegate to the national republican convention—he wants a second term as councilman as well. George McArthur is a candidate for water commissioner. So is H. B. Sawyer. D. W. Mosley may be a candidate for this office. Comstock will contest with Meyers for councilmanic honors in the Seventh ward. Dr. Graham and Woodward the financial agent are candidates for councilman. Frank Graham wants to be mayor again; then he wants to be county treasurer. J. H. McClay has definitely decided that it is the nomination for auditor that he wants. A great many people regard W. Summers as a possible nominee for a state office at the coming state convention. F. W. Collins' name is mentioned in connection with the delegation to the national convention.

THE MEASURE OF A MAN.

Would you your duties do as well
Tho' their reward you could not see
Could you wait till time should tell
Just what that reward should be?
'Tis the measure of a man.

Would you good deeds as well discharge
Knowing they should ne'er be known
Content without men's praise at large
Conscious that the seed you'd sown?
'Tis the measure of a man.

Would you your honor keep in mind
When at temptation's door you're tried
With no ruling force behind
But to your conscience, only, tied?
'Tis the measure of a man.
Katherine Warfel.
Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 28, 1896.

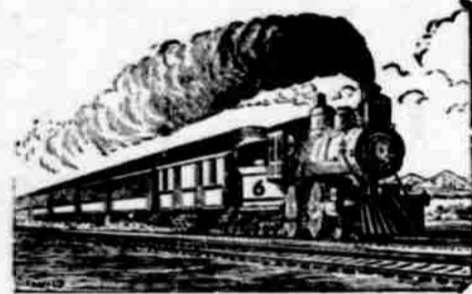
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