

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

the politics of Maryland and West Virginia.

Nebraska owes much of its wealth and importance to the Burlington railway company. It has been the greatest factor in the material upbuilding of the state. There is no desire or intention to make any attack in your columns, on this railway company, but I honestly believe, and I am not by any means alone in that belief, that the Burlington railway company would be infinitely better off today if it had kept its hands out of politics. It is a dangerous thing for a great corporation to play at politics.

Populism in Nebraska is in a critical stage. This year it may dissolve until it will lose potency as a political factor. It may be strengthened and again place in jeopardy the republican state ticket. Presidential politics is inextricably mingled with state politics. Should McKinley carry Nebraska and be made the nominee for president there will be injected into the political situation in this state an enthusiasm that will carry thousands of populists into the republican camp. On the other hand if the Manderson-McKinley fight continues, and particularly if Manderson should be successful in dividing the delegation from Nebraska the antagonism to the railroads that will be aroused will add to populist strength. If the railroad issue should be emphasized and if Bryan should be made the demo-pop candidate for governor, the republican party would have a rocky road before it. And this year there is a legislature and state officers to elect. It may be remarked that now is a good time to stand up for Nebraska."

There is much wisdom in this view. The republican party in this state is threatened as it has not been threatened for years. Already there is a strong feeling between the two factions, and this feeling is fast merging into bitterness. General Manderson is undoubtedly sincere and honest in his candidacy. He believes he has a chance of receiving the nomination, and certainly any man has a right to aspire for the presidency. As has been said before the friends of McKinley are the friends of Manderson, and it is to be regretted that it is not possible to harmonize the two factions of the party.

There was no good reason why the city central committee should have refused to give the republican voters of the city an opportunity to express their preference for president. An overwhelming majority of the party demanded it. The situation was precisely the same as it was three weeks ago. A majority of the party demanded that the committee give the party a chance to try the new system of voting. The committee, after some hesitation, obeyed the demand. Mr. E. P. Brown, who was one of the prime movers for the adoption of the Lincoln system, maintained from the stage of the Funke opera house that the majority of the party was greater than any committee and had a right to dictate. He said republicans had a right to express themselves on any subject. Later, as a member of the city central committee, he took an exactly contrary position on the same general question, and was one of the prime movers in denying republican voters the right to express their preference for president. Mr. Brown has found the

difference between tweed-dum and tweedledee. In finding it he disappointed his friends, who had regarded him as an unflinching antagonist of anything that savors of gag rule.

The action of the committee was the occasion for another breaking out of McKinley enthusiasm; and it is doubtful if Mr. Manderson's cause was strengthened any.

THE EDITOR.

THE STATE AND THE PRESS.

Ross Hammond's Tribune says: "State Auditor Moore, in pursuance of his usual policy of looking carefully after the interests of the people as a part of his official duty, has gone after the Omaha Fire Insurance and will compel the receiver of that defunct concern to re-insure its policy holders in other companies. It has about \$30,000 of unearned premiums to account for."

Somebody signing himself "I. M. H."

writes a letter to the Firth Graphic, which is rapidly becoming celebrated, and lays down the proposition that "our county officers should do their own janitor work." I. M. H. continues: "We the tax ridden people have observed hosts of hangerson at county headquarters, simply putting in their time at our expense. Some handling an old perforated hose sprinkling a lonely bluegrass sprout here and there. Others handling spittoons, while others were emptying waste baskets, etc., etc. Now while our lords and masters from the district judges down to our road overseers never heed, nor care for the best interests of them who gave their consent that they might enjoy their present positions. Yet our county commissioners and trustees are greatly to blame for so much waste and extravagance. They the commissioners and trustees need not allow waste. From the state house down to the justice court is one line of flagrant extravagance. Judges giving one horse lawyers large sums for defending petty criminals while the commissioners and trustees of the people wink the other eye at the outrage. Now do not the officers elected by the people get more for their services than they are really worth, why should they have any help whatever only what is absolutely necessary. There are a thousand and one things that they, as our servants can do themselves and they should be made to do it. It would stop a thousand leaks." L. L. Lindsay, of

this city, is the reputed owner of the Firth Graphic. The idea will occur to some people that Lindsay is prejudicing his chances for a republican deputation by his newspaper course.

Dan Freeman, of Gage county, the man who entered the first homestead in the United States, says: "We have plowed every month in the year so far, and I am much encouraged over the farming outlook. Wheat is all right and I think we are going to have a big crop of all kinds this year. These little flurries of snow are all right and the ground takes them all in, too. It is not just the time yet for rain, but we will get it this spring when we need it. I may be off in my calculations but I'll be seventy years old in April, and I have never seen a winter like this but was followed by a wet spring and big crops Nebraska is all right."

Norfolk is not the only place where there is scandal and tearing down of character, though the Lord knows there is altogether too much of it here. Over in Alton, Iowa, things have come to such a pass that a man named Brunson publishes the following significant card in the Democrat:

I take this occasion to notify all whom it may concern that I will not submit much longer to the falsehoods that are circulated about me. I have always attended strictly to my own business, paid my debts, and would recommend that

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