

are frequently placed where they are unsightly, and the electric light wires are attached to corners and roofs of private down town buildings without the consent of the owners thereof. But many holders of gas stock, on the other hand are public spirited citizens whose character and efforts have made Lincoln the city it is.

In buying artificial light of the city for a year it is the duty of the council to buy it as cheaply as possible. Mr. Thompson has a trust to fulfil. The stock holders of the gas company have elected him president of the company and he would be recreant and faithless if he were to make a poor bargain with the city. This principle is reiterated because the prejudice created by Mr. Thompson's methods of securing the present city lighting contract is obstructing an understanding with the gas company now.

The lighting committee of the council has made a proposition to the company which involves a decrease of the cost of illuminating gas of ten cents a year until the price reaches the cost of fuel gas. If the company accepts, in four years the rate will have reached the price of the ordinance gas. It has also been proposed that the company remit \$3,500 of the price of this year's gas, otherwise there will be a deficit. Of course the present council can not make any proposition which will bind next year's council, but a recommendation of the present council and negotiations made without prejudice may be effective with new members, and of course, the council will not consist entirely of new men. It has been frequently urged, in discussing street car matters, that the owners were non resident capitalists who bought the stock as a cold blooded investment and that the city should, in consequence, get as much from them as the law allows and a little more. The Courier has at all times disapproved of such indirect and immaterial arguments, nevertheless they have accomplished the delay of an adjustment of the street car company's dispute with the city. In contradistinction, the gas company is composed of citizens of high estate, who are a credit to the city. No member of the council and no citizen wishes to injure their business, but it is foolish to pay ten thousand dollars more than our income for lights than we have and to be obliged to borrow the rest. The interest we have to pay on the money we have already borrowed consumes so large a share of the annual income of the city, that we cannot afford to hire a competent fire chief, we are obliged to measure out water to the citizens by the gallon, we have no city park or city recreation grounds of any kind, such as down town play grounds or summer free kindergartens for the children of the poor. If the generations continue to borrow money to pay for gas or anything else, the inevitable climax will surely arrive.

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The Circus.

It is becoming more and more the custom here to get up at five o'clock on circus morning to watch the cars unloaded at the railroad station. Nothing that the ground and lofty tumblers, the equestrians, the trapezists and the trained quadrupeds do, is so wonderful as the team work of the humble tent men and drivers. The six Ringling brothers whose circus was in Lincoln on Wednesday have accomplished a remarkable system which assigns to every man a place and insists upon a perfect performance of all duties. Nothing in the profiles of the six black-moustach-

ed brothers displayed in diagonal perspective on all the billboards in Lincoln, indicate the energy and executive ability they must possess. Their home is in Baraboo, Wisconsin, and the show winters there. The father of the six brothers is a harness maker and he makes harnesses for the monkeys, dogs, elephants and camels, as well as for the horses. In winter the show is a little community. The animals are learning new tricks and the tent-men turn painters, carpenters and leather workers.

After and during the night performance the show is loaded into the cars and by two A. M. the workers are in their bunks asleep. At five o'clock the trains arrive at their next stopping place and there is no more sleep until after the unloading, the erection of the tent, and the parade. When Mr. Ringling was questioned about the number of hours his employes slept he laughed and said they slept in the winter time, that it was a shock for a showman to hear employes making demands for sleep in the summer time when everybody who knew anything at all about the business realizes that there are only three hours of the night, and during those of the afternoon performance that a circus employe can be spared. Two performances a day, except Sundays, involve a daily putting up of miles of canvas and a daily taking down of the same. Men who have worked all the afternoon assisted by the hired girl and the lady of the house, to put up a little shade tent on the lawn can appreciate the miracle accomplished by these Ringling driven men.

The afternoon performance is the most interesting. At night the animals are in brilliant light and deep shadow and their huge forms loom out of and lapse into darkness like the grotesqueries of a dream or the bugaboos of tremens. In the afternoon the tent is decorated and illuminated with children to whom the world-old antics of the clown are new, to whom the ladies on horseback are angels and their glittering belts and skirts are jewel-starred. Then the blazzy grown up people can watch the children and be legitimately and really happy too. In the evening the tent is rather oppressively full of tough looking men and overdressed women. The clowns realize that they are no longer amusing the innocent and the unsophisticated for their evening jokes are as broad as they were innocuous in the afternoon.

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The End of Vacation.

It is cruel to put children back into school after the relaxation of three months, in so hot a time as September. The children can not study, and the parents who are forced to return with them from cool retreats to a hot city are also martyrs to a school board's inflexibility. It has been frequently stated that the climate is changing. It is a matter of observation that the coolness reaches further into the summer and the heat extends further into the fall than formerly. The real summer months are July, August, and September with the climax of heat and dryness in September, yet September belongs to the autumn denomination, and we expect cool weather after the thirty first of August. But in September even the refreshing dews fall and the morning hours are not refreshing but stale as yesterdays.

There would doubtless be many objections in June if school should be prolonged to the last of that month, but the school board would receive thanks and congratulations in September from mothers and children on

The State's Reception to the ... First Regiment.

SEPTEMBER 13. 14. 15.

The First regiment will arrive in squads on special trains on Wednesday from York, Beatrice Nelson, Madison, Fullerton, David City, Geneva, Columbus, Omaha, Broken Bow and other points.

It will be the sight of a life time to witness the greeting on the old camp ground between the old fighters of '61 and these young men late from the battle line in Luzon.

The Battle of Manila

will be on three nights, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evening, commencing at eight thirty. This is the greatest scenic fire display ever invented. The committee has undertaken to provide this entertainment for the benefit of the public, at the expense of \$3,000. The price of admission will be 25c, for there is no business speculation in this enterprise; the committee desiring only to come out even on the venture.

The soldier guests of course will go in free

THIS BATTLE OF MANILA is a great show, and there is no entertainment given anywhere in the world in this line that excels it. No one can afford to miss it. It will be the event of the year to Lincoln people in the way of entertainment. They are making the lake at the Fair Grounds now.

farms and in the mountains. Sooner or later this will have to be done since June is what May used to be and July is June, August is July, and September is August.

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Reception to the First.

The news that Senator Hayward expects to be present at the reception to the First next week is received with pleasure. Senator Hayward is recovering rapidly from the effects of the heat prostration. The members of the reception committee expect to see three thousand soldiers in line, a larger number than most of the residents of Lincoln have ever seen. It will be the sight of a lifetime and the streets will be crowded with the families, friends, and admirers of the soldiers of 1860 and of the soldiers of 1899. As the veterans fall into line and throw back the shoulders which bore heavier burdens in the Rebellion than the First's have had to bear, the sense of the continuing, uninterrupted, virile patriotism of a volunteer army which is the same today as in 1860, will thrill the stay-at-homes with hope and conviction which the hot weather has withered. And speaking of the stay-at-homes it is precisely because members of the First Nebraska are true types that we are so proud of them. They enlisted from no one school, nor did one part of the state more than another contribute flowers of its youth. It is the universal type which rejoices us. And the stay-at-homes have the same courage, lofty patriotism, faith and idealism which distinguishes the members of the First. I know at least twenty young men with stout arms and stouter hearts who longed to enlist but who

stayed at home to support a mother or sister, or to aid a father. These boys, when the people are cheering and going wild over the First, need not feel that their moral courage is not appreciated. I have occasionally seen a shame-faced look on one of these deep breasted young men who are brave enough to run the risk of being called or thought a coward. The look is without excuse. In celebrating the return and the exploits of the First we are celebrating the quality of Nebraska's young manhood, those who went west, those who went east and those who stayed at home. If the country were in need of their services, if a foreign power threatened, and the president called for thirty times the number of men from Nebraska we have sent to this war he would get them. Populists, Democrats, Republicans, in their hearts burn an unquenchable flame of love of country upon which varying opinions as to free silver, expansion, etc., have no effect.

Women love soldiers and conquerors. Because they are cowards they love heroes, because they are weak they welcome the strong. But the real new woman is not to be deceived in the evidences of strength. The young fellows who have stayed at home because they were too brave and tender to desert a commonplace, monotonous duty, are wearing halos too, which their discriminating sweethearts have placed there.

A Well-Drawn Conclusion.

"Tom, I believe you have designs on that young hero's." "Well, what if I have? You know I am the architect of my own fortune."—Philadelphia Bulletin.