



# THE COURIER

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**OBSERVATIONS.****Mayor Winnett.**

The congratulations on his renomination to the mayoralty that Mayor Winnett is receiving are very hearty and sincere. Towards the close of an administration in which the city has materially decreased its outstanding indebtedness, wherein it has been ridden of a detrimental class of citizens, and in which the efficiency of the fire, police, and water departments has been trebled, the demonstration that enough republicans recognize a good administration to insure its continuance for another biennium, is very gratifying to a dumb, helpless class of tax-payers whom the law classifies with idiots, indians, convicts and the insane.

Strict administration of the laws in regard to saloons, and the regulation of the police is impossible unless the mayor has the cooperation of the excise board. The second primary will be held on next Tuesday. It is the duty of every republican to investigate the records and form some notion of the character of the four men who are candidates for the excise board.

Municipal laws all over the United States are very much alike. Yet some towns are wide open and hold-up men and burglars operate without fear of interruption from the police. In other towns the saloons open and close according to the legal schedule and grafters are not permanent residents. The only difference is in the character of the mayor and the excise board or whatever may be the name of the local board, which in conjunction with the mayor controls the saloons and the police. It is therefore essential, not alone that we have a mayor with a single purpose to see

that the law is enforced according to the ordinances but that the excise board shall be composed of men of the same mind and steady nerve. Two of the candidates are known to every citizen interested in Lincoln. The other two are not so well known. Mr. Frank Woods is a young lawyer, who in the few years since his graduation has earned the respect of every one for whom he has done business. Although a young man he has made a certain steady and stern choice of the paths of virtue that makes his election to any post of municipal performance, absolutely without risk. Dr. Finney has been city physician and his excellent record speaks for itself. He is not an untried man. In nominating him men who have boys that are growing up in the midst of temptations, my be sure that those temptations will be minimized and neutralized as the law directs. About these two men there is no ambiguity in regard to their attitude to saloons. The republican portion of the city has just signified approval of Mayor Winnett's administration, the most significant element of which is his regulation of the saloons and insistence upon compliance with the laws regulating liquor selling by drug stores. Unless the excise board had been in complete harmony with him the mayor would have been powerless.

**The Senatorial Situation.**

The deadlock is just as firm as it was last week. Mr. Thompson is determined not to withdraw and it is doubtless within his power to prevent the election of any senator though he can not elect himself. He has the power to name anyone but D. E. Thompson or E. Rosewater for senator. He can move his checkers for any man he pleases, and if he really cares for the gratitude of a bored and weary people he will give a last exhibition of his power and secure federal gratitude, he will name his man and move to Mexico, where the soft, dry breezes rustle the grasses on one of the fairest spots in the old kingdom of the Aztecs.

**Mr. Charles E. Perkins.**

For more than twenty years Mr. Charles Eliot Perkins has been president of the Burlington road. Never forgetting his obligations to the stockholders of the road Mr. Perkins has administered its affairs with brilliant success. The wheat and corn fields of Nebraska have emptied their harvests into the B. & M. cars rumbling heavily towards Chicago. In return the Burlington management has unceasingly advertised Nebraska, its climate, resources and unique wealth-producing characteristics.

It is a phenomenon of business life that the directing, controlling man in charge, of any business, impresses his habit of thought, his manner of doing business, and his principles on all of

his employees. In a small city like Lincoln it is an interesting experiment to visit the different dry-goods stores in the endeavor to get a likeness of the proprietors. The sounder the proprietor's principles and practise the more definite and distinct is the impression made by his employees upon customers. In a large business like that of a railroad, few employees come into direct contact with the president, nevertheless if that president is a man of catholic judgment, of sound and fearless initiative, and of absolute devotion to the task he has been appointed to perform, these characteristics will reappear in the employes, until the character of the road has been established in the minds of the people by means of the thousands of employes faithfully carrying out instructions in harmony with general directions from the president. Many years are required to stamp a system composed of many thousand men with one likeness. In impressing his principles and habit of fidelity upon the thousands of men connected with the Burlington road, Mr. Perkins has done incalculable good to his generation. The virtue of solvency is not often heralded. Managing a large business so that dividends may be paid fourteen thousand stockholders every year, so that in good times or bad, men's faith in the permanent value of its stock is unshaken, requires a moral as well as intellectual elevation.

In placing more than a million dollars of his private fortune at the service of the First National bank of Lincoln at the climax of the years of panic, Mr. Perkins saved the bank, this city and all the tributary banks of the South Platte country from insolvency. His generosity saved fortunes and lives. This city would not now be enjoying the effects of more prosperous times had Mr. Perkins not averted the disaster which would have destroyed the business and credit of Lincoln. He therefore enjoys the gratitude of the people of Nebraska, and especially of Lincoln. His unostentatious service has been commented upon at various times, but it is fortunate that the full meaning and horror of the disaster he averted can not be estimated, only the actual suffering from such a calamity could do that.

**Mr. George B. Harris.**

Having traversed all the way from a clerk in the land-commissioner's department of the Hannibal and St. Joseph railroad to the presidency of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy road, Mr. Harris understands all the departmental machinery of a great business. Like Mr. Perkins, his successor belongs to that not large group of men who can keep still, knowing, at the same time, a number of very interesting secrets which have an immediate bearing upon the plans of their friends, but which it is essential

to the interests of the company they represent be not revealed. There are elective positions in which chance occasionally places men of mediocre ability, dark horses who have not demonstrated their strength, but on whom the harness is thrown because they happen to be handy when politicians' cross purposes have blackaded progress. Directors of a railroad never elect an untried president of properties which if mismanaged means their own ruin and loss of reputation. The selection of Mr. Harris as president of the Burlington road is a testimonial to his ability and faithfulness very much appreciated by his family and by the new official himself.

**Newspaper Women.**

An article has been going the rounds of the newspapers about the effect of newspaper writing upon women. When a short, crisp article derogatory of women gets into one paper it is apt to appear eventually in all of the papers from California to Connecticut and from Maine to Florida. Custom has penned women up for so long that when one woman gets out, there is a hue and cry raised and she is chased from one retreat to another, until she is either dead or back in the pen. This chasing and final surrender has a salutary effect upon other women who have dreamed of larger freedom, and a wider field, than that selected and insisted upon by men like the ossified Bixby or Bok. The first women doctors started similar articles in the newspapers. Horrible examples were constantly being cited to frighten female students from the study of a profession which old practitioners assured investigators would turn women into something which swore, used vain oaths and spit constantly. Nevertheless women studied medicine and are making valuable contributions to the literature of their profession. There are probably less than three thousand women in this country at work upon newspapers. All the newspaper women whose acquaintance I have been privileged to make bear a striking resemblance to women teachers, doctors and the other women engaged in earning their own living. These are distinguished from other women by a certain comprehension of business, and of the commercial value of their own services not possessed by some of the modest *haus-frauen* who have labored life long for clothes, board, and lodging. Legitimate newspaper reporting does not make a womanly woman unwomanly. I have noted its occasional effect on young men, who are perhaps not old or wise enough to realize their unimportant relation to the paper they are employed by. Given a little time and subjected to the discipline of an experienced editor, the intoxication of seeing their own sentences in print soon wears off and they learn to approach a subject of investigation with no apparent