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Yesterday was "Tuberculosis Day" in the churches all over the United States and the pastors thereof were expected to preach upon the "Great White Plague."

It looks to the editor of this paper that the solution of the matter of selecting a candidate for the republican nomination for governor could be solved in no better way than to call upon George L. Sheldon to again lead the party in the campaign this fall. There is no stronger man in the ranks of the party than George Sheldon. It is true that he has some enemies. Every man who ever presided over the destinies of a state has made his enemies. Ex-Governor Sheldon went out of the executive office of the state of Nebraska the most popular governor the state ever had, and his popularity should make him the strongest candidate at this time. We believe that upon a county option platform he would win the election with little trouble and his candidacy would lend strength to the legislative ticket.

It is amusing to see the satisfaction which the wet advocates try to get out of the late municipal elections in Nebraska. As soon as the cue is passed out by the Omaha World-Herald the smaller papers over the state take up the cry and it is passed along down the line. The fact that 211 towns with a population of 197,642 voted wet and 121 with 111,069 voted dry gives them reason to think that things are coming their way. There is one very important factor which they forget to figure on in their estimate, and that is the vote of the country and the small towns which have not sufficient population to vote on saloons. Those towns and the farming communities hold the key to the situation, and they will find that in making up their estimates of the dry strength that if they leave out that factor their figures will be sadly unreliable when the votes are counted.

As the time draws nearer to the November election, though yet far away, it becomes evident that the county option agitation must be met squarely. The party which dodges it or leaves it out of their platform will find that they have made a great mistake all over the state. There may be a few counties in Nebraska, notably Douglas, Platte and others in which a declaration in favor of county option will mean defeat to the party, but take it throughout the state and if fought on the square and openly, will mean a county option legislature. The matter cannot be put off any longer. The liquor interests are leaving no stone unturned in an endeavor to win the legislature. They know it means death to their plans if county option legislature is elected, and while they try to make people believe that under county option or prohibition they can sell more of their product than under license, yet they are trying to kill county option and everything which tends in that direction. It will not work. The hand is writing on the wall and the inscription will read "County Option in Nebraska."

REPUBLICAN SINCERITY

Congressman Longworth hit the nail squarely on the head when he said that the time of adjournment is unimportant to congress as compared to the redemption of every pledge made to the people and the fulfillment of the entire Taft program. The country cares little whether congress adjourns in June or July, but it cares much what congress does before it adjourns. The people must want the Taft program carried out or they would not have said so when that program was handed to them in 1908, and the fact that republican leaders on the floors of both houses of congress are taking the position of Mr. Longworth will doubtless sustain public confidence against the democratic campaign which

has set in a little early this year—especially when the republicans have made good so many of their pledges already.

The republican party cannot, as the Ohio congressman pointed out, afford to have its good faith questioned at this time. While there is no occasion for flying the danger flag, there is every reason for sober, cautious action, for the party is coming up to a contest in the fall elections which not only involves the continuance of its majority in congress, but it may involve the integrity of the party. Of course sentiment plays a part in every election and it is a difficult factor to meet with an argument, but if the republicans go into this campaign with the consciousness of duty done, so that they may be able to point to their pledges before election and to their redemption after, they will have nothing to fear.

An honest analysis of what has been accomplished since Mr. Taft and congress went into power March 4, 1909 can reveal nothing but a clean slate of public service and it is this fact and nothing else that is disturbing the democrats, who pretend to be deriving great comfort from other sources. The party has faith and all it has to do now is to keep its head and not to become stampeded.—Omaha Bee.

"IT IS SAID."

Generally when a newspaper man desires to attack the character or standing of someone he knows is beyond his reach and which he also knows is untrue and a base insinuation, he stoops to the little expression "it is said" as his foundation for the attack. Such an expression is nothing more or less than acknowledgment that he knows the stuff he is printing is untrue and also that he has not the sand to back up a statement made in an open fight.

The local exponent of democracy attempted last week to cast reflections upon Hon. E. M. Pollard in a way which was uncalled for. It attempted to convey by insinuation that "it is said that if he was a candidate there would be revelations regarding the manner in which he became interested in the lumber industry and that it was secured by the influence of Joe Cannon in congress," or words to that effect. The democratic authority then goes on to tell how much Mr. Pollard has done for Plattsmouth and how desirable he is as a citizen and all that. But it had fired its cowardly dart of insinuation and then attempted to soften its fall with the latter information, which by the way was about all the truth there was in the whole column and a half tirade. It admits however that Mr. Pollard was the best compliment the first district ever had with the exception of W. J. Bryan, which while possibly intended as a congressman, might be taken by some as a very doubtful one.

Referring to the above insinuation regarding his connection with Mr. Cannon being the means of securing the lumber concession in Hayti, Mr. Pollard says he does not believe that Speaker Cannon knows that he has any such concessions and that the statement is false in every particular.

In an article the following day this same reliable (?) public information bureau attempts to give the inside reasons for Mr. Pollard's withdrawal and also for his visit to Plattsmouth and the outcome thereof and also the policy of this paper from now on. As usual the "it is said" authority is given and as usual it is just as reliable as such information usually is. "It is said that the paper will now swing out strongly for Hayward where the sympathy of the editor has long known to lie," is just as near the truth as the Journal can get. Such declaration on the part of out unreliable and unsophisticated contemporary is only evidence that it knows nothing about the matter and is just simply trying to make the public believe that it knows more about somebody's else business than somebody knows himself, when the facts of the matter are it is only an attempt to guess with poor results. What the policy of this paper will be in the future is our business and

will be known in due time. At present those who think they know have the liberty to keep on guessing until such time as the paper gets ready to announce that policy. There is no telling what it might do. It might change to a democratic paper for all we know, as several prominent democrats have told us, "so it is said," that a reliable democratic paper would be a big help to the party in Cass county.

LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES

"Out of the confusion of the liquor question, the senatorship and corporation interests," remarked an astute participant in public affairs the other day, "heaven only knows what kind of legislature Nebraska will draw at the fall election." Ex-Senator Patrick wrote recently that the brewers would pay the campaign expenses of his opponents in case he were a candidate for the state senate. There have been hints from other sources that business interests such as used to control conventions, are now busied in bringing out candidates before the primaries, relying on gratitude for campaign funds furnished to make the candidate duly amendable to suggestion when he has become a legislator.

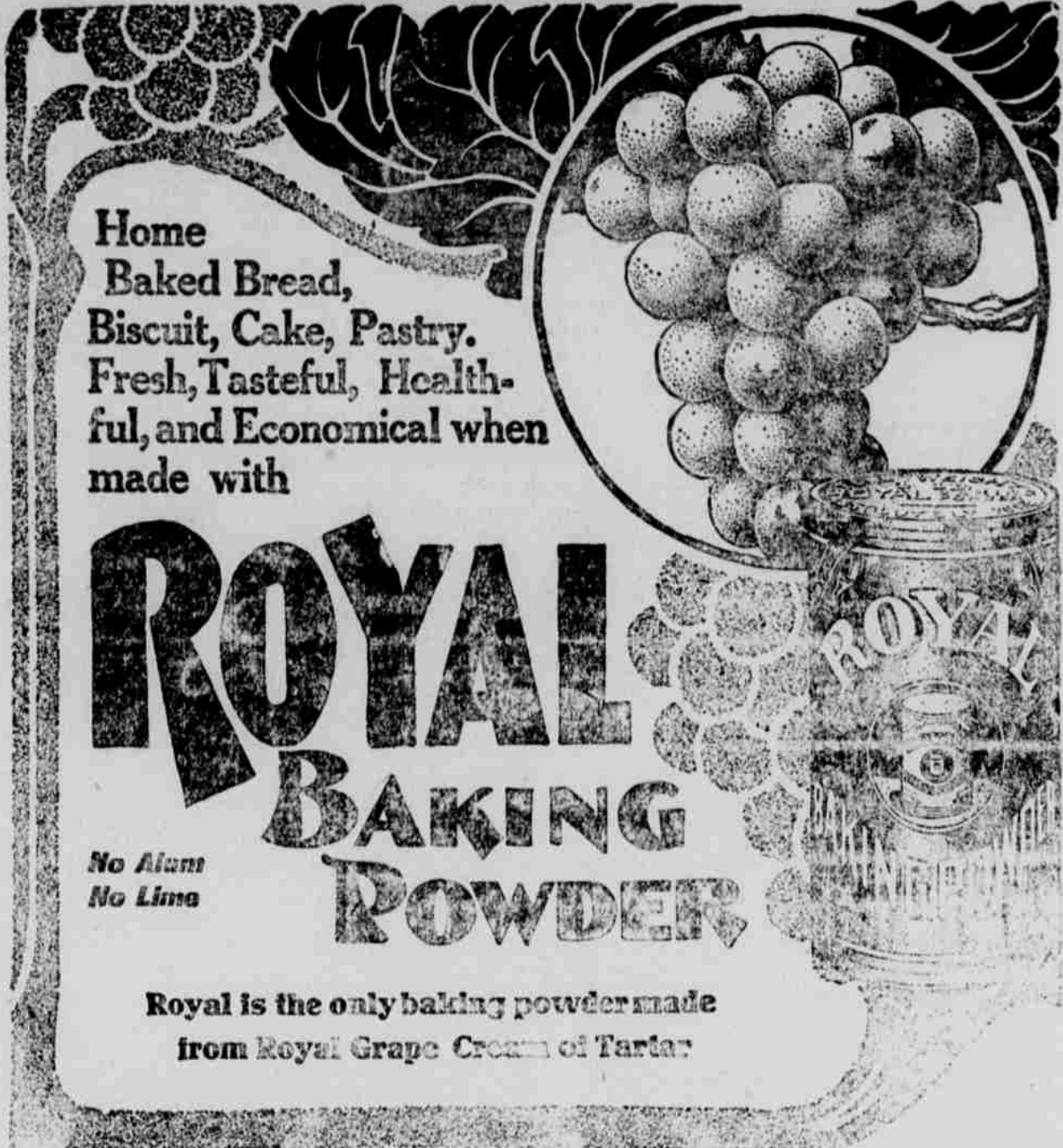
The danger that undesirable men may slip into the legislature under cover of the great interest in special issues is not imaginary. A confusion of issues in the fog under which the "black horse cavalry" of politics makes its most successful charges.

And yet the danger can be avoided by the use of a very little common sense and the expenditure of a small amount of effort on the part of a few disinterested people in the various legislative districts. In each party and on each side of the various leading questions are men of high character and good ability whose standing would guarantee them support such as campaign funds cannot buy. Such men are not much given to seeking office. They do not need office, and there is doubtful honor in public preferment gained by one's own efforts. But there is real honor in being sought out to perform a public service, and men seldom refuse when the office seeks the man. Disinterested people should see that such candidates are brought out at the primaries as against the candidates whom interested persons may be bringing out.

If that is done a legislature dominated by high character and regard for the general welfare may be secured despite the perplexing shuffle of parties and special issues. Party leaders and promoters of special issues would do well to observe, in this connection, that this seems an off year for the yellow dog in politics. They will help themselves and their cause by seeing to it that their candidate has character and ability to recommend him as well as right opinions on one or two leading issues.—State Journal.

TO THE FRAY

There are a few people who appear to have caught a severe attack of "cold feet" upon the county option proposition. We discovered one or two in our recent trip to the capital city of the state. They claim that the late municipal elections have shown that county option is not popular. This is not the first time that people have contracted cold feet upon the great propositions which have come up in the state of Nebraska in the past. Neither will it be the last. It is not a question which should be taken up because of its popularity, but because it is right. Some have said that if the republican party adopts a county option plank in its platform that it would go down to defeat and the victory would go to the democratic party. If the republican party has got to that stage in its career when it has become a question of "expediency" instead of "principle" it has arrived at that portion of its history where it should go out of business. In its long and eventful career its battles have been fought upon principle. Some of them have been lost, but many of them have been won. Those which have been lost were fought upon a principle where later developments showed defeat was a victory, for the next election proved that the people of the country loved its stand and that its principle was a true one. Victory came back and the party was made stronger than ever before, because the people recognized that it had a principle and fought for it. If the republican party, after its long and prosperous career is now going to sacrifice principle for votes; if it is getting ready to lay down because it thinks that the democratic party with a whiskey platform can win the victory, it is time that some other party was formed in order that the great and important issue which now confronts the people can be fought out by an organization which will have the sand to go into battle and fight it out until such time as victory shall come. The greatest fight before the Amer-



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ican people is not the tariff. The great battle of the future which must be fought is not Aldrich-Cannonism or anything like that, but it is a fight against the powers which at the present time have gained such a foothold upon the country that every attempt to curtail its power has been met with a deluge of money and graft which has made it almost impossible to overcome. Every day that the liquor power is given to longer hold its sway over the people, will make it stronger entrenched and harder to control. Every election which passes by and the question is not made an issue will make it harder to be made an issue at the next election.

The party which shows cowardice at this time will go down to defeat and never again be a power among the people. If the republican party, which has always been to the front in every great question which has confronted the people in the past shall now refuse to come to the rescue of the country upon the greatest question it has ever known, it will see the day when it will never again be a power in politics and never again have the confidence of the people. The time has come to strike a blow in the defense of right. Is the republican party to stand back and forget its time honored record and close a brilliant career which has made it honored all over the world, with a cowardly retreat to the rear and mar its history with a disgraceful rout before even a gun is fired? The battle will have to be fought. The battle will be fought; and if the republican party will not take the initiative and uphold its record of the past, the fight will be made anyhow and such a step would mean its downfall.

The people are not satisfied with present conditions. Some claim it is one thing and others claim it is another. In any event the coming battle will be such as the country the never witnessed before. The two old parties need not think that they can force the temperance question to the background any longer. It is coming to the front. For years it has been steadily advancing. It is but a short time ago that its approach could be dimly discerned in the distance. It came on only to be driven back. But each year its skirmish line advanced just a little farther; just a little stonger was the army coming up in its rear, until now the skirmish line is on the ramparts and the main army is ready to scale the great wall of political expediency and no power on earth can keep it from entering the city and winning the victory. The question which now confronts the republican party is, will it join the approaching army and hasten the victory or will it hold back in fear and trembling and be trampled underfoot by the approaching victorious hosts.

Viewed Halley's Comet Yesterday

A local party and his wife who are interested in the movements of the planets and other parts of astronomy were out yesterday morning about four twenty and got a glimpse of the big comet which is making us a visit after having been away some seventy five years. The visitor which can now be seen in the east in the morning, is very faint and presents an appearance of being a bright star through a slight fog. The location of the comet, if any should wish to look for it, is about

twenty or so degrees north and probably from two to five degrees west of the planet Venus. The latter can easily be located as the morning star, slightly to the south of east and appearing as large as the electric light at the intersection of Sixth and Main streets. Better, those who are interested in the comet, get out and look at him, as when he comes back next time you may not be here.

Local Items

(From Wednesday's Daily)

D.L. Dwyer was a business traveler to the Gate city this morning.

A. J. Schaefer from south of town left this morning for the metropolis.

County Treasurer Schlater was among the day's callers in the metropolis.

Mrs. Charles Peacock left this morning to make a brief stay with friends.

Ed Fitzgerald is spending the day in Omaha making a combined business and pleasure visit.

Byron Clark and William Weingarten returned on No. 6 this morning from a short business trip.

M. Fanger made a brief business call at the Market town this morning going up on the 8:15 train.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Martin were callers in Omaha today expecting to return home this evening.

Miss Edith Johnson left this morning for a few days stay with friends and relatives in the Capital city.

Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Morgan went up on No. 15 this morning for a day's visit at Omaha and South Omaha.

John W. Amick of Weeping Water was in the city yesterday evening visiting among his friends and relatives.

Mrs. A. J. Kanka bought a Burlington ticket reading for Omaha this morning where she went on a days visit.

Mrs. J. L. Root of Lincoln came in last night from Lincoln and is making a visit in the city as guest of Mrs. J. N. Wise.

Mrs. C. S. Forbes was among the morning passengers who traveled to Omaha this morning, expecting to return in the evening.

Mr. S. A. Wiles and wife and daughter boarded the north bound Burlington this morning to make a short trip to Omaha to visit friends.

Mrs. Elmer Monroe and daughter, came over this morning where she came over this morning from Pacific Junction to make a few days stay with friends.

W. H. Puls who live a few miles west of Murray were in the city this morn-

ing on their way to Omaha where they expect to spend a day or so.

A baby daughter is reported to have arrived at the home of County Treasurer Schlater.

The Womans Auxiliary of St. Lukes Parish will meet Thursday at 2:00 with Miss Verna Leonard.

Miss Margaret Scotten returned yesterday from a few days visit in Lincoln.

A new permanent sidewalk is being laid on the Trility property on South Fifth street.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Friedrich are visiting today at the farm of their son a few miles from Murray.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Robertson made a trip to Louisville today visiting their farm a short ways from that place.

Mr. Schriver of Des Moines, owner of the Coates block, was in the city today tending to his business interests.

D. E. Sheesley and son Edward were in the city last night, signing up at one of the local hotels. They left on one of the early trains today for their home town.

Rev. Lounnot of Highland, Butler county was in the city last evening with his friend Father Shine, leaving this morning for Omaha where he will return to his home.

David Kneec, a rather old gentleman, who has been suffering for nearly a year from a stroke of paralysis, was able to walk down town today for the first time since the stroke.

A. S. Will and Mayor Sattler went up to Omaha today to see about the purchasing of tools for the coming work on the streets. The city supply along that line is rather low, and the paving of the avenue this spring will necessitate the purchasing of a number of tools for the purpose. From Omaha Mr. Will is planning to proceed to Akron, Colorado, a few miles from Denver where he will remain a few days looking over the land in that vicinity.

The presentation of "The Burglar and the Lady" by the William Grew Players next Friday evening at the Parmele theater will give Mr. William Grew one of the best opportunities he has had this season for clever work, and he arises to the occasion in his usual admirable manner. While very similar to Raffles' this play (once starred in my Jim Corbett) is more brisk in action, more crisp in dialogue, and, in fact, superior in many ways. Miss Maybelle Cullens, the new acquisition, will be seen to advantage of the rather trying role of the "Lady," and all who see the play will have an opportunity to pass upon the merits of a remarkably clever and winning actress. Friday evening's performance will be the last appearance of this company in the city, the troupe having been booked for engagements in the east.