The Plattsmouth Journal

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT
PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA

R. A. BATES, PUBLISHER.

Entered at the postoffice at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, as secondclass matter.

WANTED—Cheap, a second-hand whitewash brush in good condition, for heavy work.—Theodore Roosevelt.

THERE must be something to this man Pollard after all.—News

Well, he must be a rather poor man if there isn't.

THE official vote of the First congressional district shows that there was not near half the votes polled at the election on Tuesday, July 18.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT has instructed his assistants to "uncover all culprits." The directions are broad enough, but the example of whitewash is more tempting.

THE official count of Otoe county shows that Pollard received 958 votes and Brown 927, a majority for Pollard of 31. Burkett last year carried the county by near 700.

IN Nehawka, Mr. Pollard's home town and which is a strong republican precinct, Mr. Pollard received 100 votes and Brown 56. In Liberty precinct, which adjoins Nehawka on the south, Pollard received 57 votes and Brown 107. That does not speak very well for Pollard at home.—Nebraska City News.

THE News would like to make it appear that this city is democratic by a big majority, in order to ease down the party who made the claim that Pollard had carried it by at least 100. When a claim like that was sent to Nehawka, the Journal has cause to feel highly gratified over the result in this city?

WHAT our esteemed contempoary chooses to call "Pollard's little gang" that "couldn't do much" apparently gave the "democratic hosts" a pretty lively chase for their money.—News.

Evidently you didn't do what you expected, or you wouldn't have telephoned to Nehawka about the "100 majority sure" that Pollard would have in this city. That 34 majority didn't show that "pretty lively chase for their money." Now, honestly, did it?

THE Omaha Bee says that the executive committee, which is charged with the duty of selecting a temporary chairman for the state convention, has decided on Hon. George L. Sheldon, state senator from Cass county. The selection has been made by mail, letters from the various members of the committee being forwarded to Chairman Burgess at Lincoln, notifying him of their choice. The convention meets at Lincoln on September 14.

SINCE the November election in 1876, when Tilden was elected president, and Moxa Morton, of Indiana, telegraphed Old Zack Chandler, his old side partner in political scheming, "to claim everything," the republicans have been following his advice. Wonder if that was not the reason for telephoning to Nehawka that, "Pollard had carried the city by 100 majority, sure?" Too bad that they slipped a cog in their calculations!

IF the newely elected member of congress, Mr. Pollard, keeps his promise to his local managers, Messrs Helvey and McCartney will not be applicants for the position as postmaster at this point. His local managers who are not members of the ring say that they will pay a few debts which they owe to certain republicans when the time comes.—Nebraska City News.

It is different here. The managers of Pollard's campaign in this city belong to the ring, but most of the ring wouldn't play in the game this time. Consequently it is hard to tell who will pull the strongest. The older members of the ring are great friends of Senator Burkett, while the "lesser lights" are aboard the Pollard bandwagon. It is a "pull Dick—pull devil" game, with chances about even for winning out.

Jackying Board of Equalization.

The state board of equalization has been doing considerable jockying with the returns sent in, and last week made an increase in the assessment of horses from 33⅓ in Douglass to five per cent in Cass. In many of the counties the increase ranges from 10 to 30 per cent. The action of the board is based upon the fact that the assessors did not come up to the $14 standard of assessment of some other counties.

The returns from Douglass county show that there are 12,021 horses and the average valuation is placed at $ 11.19. The board took the view that the horses of Douglass ought to be more valuable than in a purely agriculture county, and raised them accordingly.

In the rise Cass comes in for an increase of 5 per cent. Under the new law, the power to equalize by classes is conferred on the officials, and the per centage increase ordered must be charged up to the assesment of each horse owner. For that reason every horse owner in Cass county will have to pay taxes on a two tenths greater valuation. The same principle applies to all the counties of the state.

The same process of equalization will be undertaken with reference to other species of property. An effort is being made to take up about sixteen of the more important personal property schedules in the same way. Merchandise will probably be included, although there is some question as to what will constitute a standard.

It is very evident that the state board proposes to provide ample revenue for the most extravagant dispensers of the public funds.

The lesson here taught is that the people must select men for office who will practice economy both in state, county and municipal affairs to make a lower assessment possible.

Scolding

The News regrets to observe that one or two democratic papers are doing considerable scolding over the result of the congressional election and claim that the campaign was not properly conducted. These papers do not seem to take a very comprehensive view of the matter. They complain because there was not several meetings of the congressional committee held. It was not neccessary. Each committeeman was consulted and requested to do all he could toward getting out the vote, and was kept fully instructed to what was being done by the chairman and secretary.

The committee and its officers are not to be scolded, because they are not deserving of it. The members of the democratic party are the ones who are lax. They did not go to the polls and vote. That is the reason Mr. Brown was not elected.—Nebraska City News.

The News probably has reference to a little article that appeared in the Journal last Thursday. Notwithstanding the News thinks otherwise, we reiterate that the campaign was poorly managed from start to finished. Our candidate contained all the essentials that any candidate couid possibly possess. Every republican who wanted Pollard went out to vote while the democrats, who could have been gotten out with little effort, remained at home. Some one is to blame. And if it is not the leaders—who is it?

The better the home town can be made the better it is for every one living in in it; also all residents of its immediate neighborhood receive a benefit that cannot be overestimated. The farmers of the comunity look to the home town for the education of their children. The importance of the town or city is guaged by its business. The more business that can be made for a town the more rapidly it will advance and the less will be the burden of all residing in its corporate limits, and also the taxation will be upon the farmers.

IF the railroads insist that the State Board of Equalization shall raise each class of taxable property to its highest market value, divided by five, they should also have insisted that the State Board of Asessment set the example by assessing the railroads on the same basis.—Omaha Bee.

Reciprocity Movement Strong.

No wonder the administration and its stand-pat friends are in alarm over the expansive reciprocity movement which will attain expression at the national conference soon to be held at Chicago. The administration professes to recognize the importance of American foreign trade relations, but is much more given to considering the welfare of the g. o. p. in campaign time and to protecting the heavy contributors in the interim. The land-wide demand for reciprocity, voiced by the comprehensive organization of agriculture, live-stock and business forces will be sounded within the whole world's hearing and standpatism will have to give ground.

There is no alternative; and the privilege interests and their political protectors may as well accede gracefully. Dingley schecules have had their day and the politicians who cannot recognize the truth will have to go to the wall. American commerce in the aggregate is too strong for any set of interests and American commerce has awakened to the impositions which have been for many years practiced upon it in the name of protection. American commerce commission in the aggregate can make politics and unmake legislation.

Threatened foreign discrimination by the way of retaliation against our excessive tariff rates are the only real cloud upon the horizon of prosperity. Naturally the business of the nation feels that it is time to conciliate the foreign markets offended. Germany's announcement that it would virtually discontinue American purchases in the near future has been the immediate moving cause behind the business agitation for reciprocity.

That we must at least make reasonable treaties of give and take as to tariff or content ourselves with the home market is now plain to producers and merchants. Our commercial expansion will not brook any longer the restrictive operation of ultra rates, and revision and reciprocity in the near future are the only logical outcome.

THE election over in the first district went to Pollard. There is absolutely no reason why any other result should be expected. Every county in the district is republican. Last fall in the congressional election Burkett carried Cass county, Mr. Pollard's home, by 677. Tuesday Pollard carried it by about 200. It looks like kicking against the pricks for a democrat to run against a republican in a district made up of counties with a normal republican majority in each county ranging from 200 to 5,000, unless the republican nominee is rotten and everybody knows it.—Beatrice Sun.

THE Weeping Water Herald has had so much to say about bloodhounds employed in capturing criminals, we wonder if it has ever occured to Mr. Olive upon whose order the bloodhounds were brought here to assist in the capture of Ploehn? If it has not we would refer the over anxious editor of the Herald to commissioner Marshall, who hails from his own city. If he can't get the desired imformation from Mr. Marshall, then we will take the trouble to give it to him. This is one time Sheriff McBride had nothing to do with the employment of bloodhounds. It was the other fellow.

"WELL," said one of the staunch friends of Senator Burkett last night, "Burkett elected Pollard, and the Senator will naturally run the affairs of the district, just the same during Pollard's two years of incumbency." That's just the way we figured it out before the election.

SECRETARY SHAW says that deficit does not disturb him, but what may stir Mr. Shaw's successor considerably is the question of how new taxes can be imposed to make the receipts equal the expenditures.

A PIONEER republican says "that every republican who wanted Pollard was out to vote, and those who didn't want him remained at home." It looks that way.

Official Favoritism.

Special rebates and discriminations in favor of individuals and corporations to the ruination of the competitors is clearly shown in the case of the advantage gained by the Kansas Salt Trust over the independent salt producers of that state. The Interstate Commerce Commission in its investigation developed one of the most flagrant cases of rebating and law-breaking that the members of the commission have found since first this subject engaged their attention. Hearings in this case were held in December, 1903, and a decision was promptly rendered in January, 1904, and the commission found the facts complained of "plainly illegal." As required by the criminal sections of the act to regulate commerce the commission referred the evidence and its findings to the Attorney General of the United States for prosecution in the federal court, but no action appears to have been taken by the Attorney General or his subordinates.

The evidence produced before the commission showed that two brothers of Paul Morton, the late Secretary of the Navy, are the officials of the salt trust and the rebates were granted by Paul Morton as Vice-President of the Santa Fe railroad with especial supervision over traffic agreements. The fact that Attorney General Moody has taken no steps to prosecute the Morton brothers may not be due to the fact that Paul Morton has been a member of the Cabinet, but it certainly looks that way. It can hardly be possible that President Roosevelt is protecting the whole Morton family in the unlawful acts, although he did exonerate Paul Morton from personal complicity in the other Santa Fe rebate cases.

The duty of the Interstate Commerce commission ended when they referred the case to the department of justice, and whether their work is to count for nothing remains with President Roosevelt, who has shown no signs of compelling his Attorney General to prosecute these offenders and allow a square deal between the salt trust and its competitors.

WE have no complaint to find with the railroads so long as they play fair. They have done a great deal to develop this country, and they are entitled to a full share of the profits in the way of increase of business. But the farmers have done much to develop the country. They have done a great deal to add to the business of the railroads. They have opened up the country and made homes, and the railroads have come here to do business with them. The value of farm lands have advanced, and the assessed valuation have gone up with it, although the soil does not produce more, the cost of production has increased, and the market value is not so much better than it used to be. What the farmers want is to see the valuation of the railroads raised for taxable purposes in proportion to the stock inflation. Nobody wants to do injustice to the railroads, but all want the railroads to do the right thing by the people.

THE defeat of Mayor Brown, although not unexpected, was greatly due to the stay-at-home democrats. In Plattsmouth precinct, where the democratic majority is about 75, only about 72 votes were polled, and the majority 16; while in Eight Mile Grove, where the democratic majority is almost 60, but 70 votes were polled, with 8 majority for Brown. If the democratic precincts had done as well as Mt. Pleasant and Liberty, Mr. Pollar would have lost his own county.

PRICES are regulated by supply and demand, shouts the republican organs. Certainly. By whatever supply the trust keeps on hand and the demand it choose to make.

THE News booms Windham for governor, while the Nehawka Register wants Senator Sheldon. Now watch and see which wins out. We'll bet on the Register.