The Plattsmouth Journal

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B. A. BATES, PUBLISHER.

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AN exchange is printing a sensational story of a "Trip Through Hell." While it may be a hot number, few people care for a forecast.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL BROWN will have to "get up and be moving" if he wants the republican nomination for governor. Treasurer Mortesen is close on his trail with plenty of "solid backing."

WHEN Russell Sage said that a man cannot have too much money, he probably meant that a man in the newspaper business could not have too much money, or that a man never thinks that he has too much money.

THE name of Ex-Congressman Hitchcock has been mentioned by a number of newspapers of the state as a candidate for governor on the democratic ticket. The Journal could not suggest a better man, nor one better fitted for the place.

STATE TREASURER MORTENSEN says that he will accept a nomination for governor, but will not make a campaign to secure it. It is not necessary to make a canvass. If the powers who direct things political for this state want Mortensen, he will be notified.

THE democratic papers in the state should keep pounding away on the question of organization. The state committee should get a move on themselves and take inititory steps in this direction, and rural democrats will bring up the rank and file. The Journal would like to see the committee meet not later than March 1. Get a hustle on you, Tom.

IF the map of the United States would be improved by doubling up the four Southwestern Territories into two States, mightn't it be still more improved by doubling up Vermont with New Hampshire, Connecticut with Rhode Island and Delaware with Maryland? After a few more doses of Addicksism Delaware, at least, might gladly give consent to be joined for all eternity with the State which Charles Carroll of Carrollton has made immortal.

IT is amusing to watch the newspaper chain gang trying their hand at political slate-making. While there a few of the "Me, Too" class emitting the cuckoo cry when they are told the proper time has arrived for them to be heard, and the notes are given out from certain Lincoln newspapers, the fact is that the great majority of the thinking, no-ax-to-grind newspapers of the state are not swept off their feet by a little spring fever of hero worship.—Lincoln Star.

DID John Brown die in vain? Has his soul been marching on to no purpose? It would appear so, because the supreme court of Kansas has held that the law of that state providing separate public schools for white and black pupils is a good law. A few years ago, when some of the democratic states of the south provided separate schools for the whites and blacks, a great cry went up from our republican friends in the northern states—a cry of protest.

EVIDENTLY there is going to be "great doings" in Omaha during the municipal campaign at the coming spring election. The successful candidate for mayor will have to have the saloon element with him. And he cannot have this element with him without the opposition of the civic federation. Now, how is he going to manage it? The fact is it is the hardest job any man ever undertook to control three or four hundred saloons, and at the same time attend promptly to his other duties as the chief executive of a great city like Omaha. The liquor men are up in arms and they are going to know who their friends are before supporting them this spring for city offices.

WHILE they are discussing the lock canal across Panama, it would be a good scheme to put a lock on the appropriation.

THE only case on record where the beet and cane sugar men have gotten together is in their opposition to a reduction of the Philippine tariff.

A PENNSYLVANIA man aged 27, married a woman aged 47, she being the mother of his first wife. This should explode the mother-in-law bugaboo.

ONE headline announces "Dowie Relinquishes the Cares of Zion," another that "The Sheriff takes Charge." It may be remarked that both were over the same dispatch in different papers.

PENSIONER COMMISSIONER WARRER says 26,000 pensioners have died within the past six months. Time is marching on the old veterans faster than they marched on the enemy in the sixties.

THE money deposited in the various banks of Omaha during the year 1905, by saloon men of that city, amounted to $6,075,000. In addition to this the liquor dealers' association have a large amount of money in its treasury, which is also in the banks. A mighty power to "buck" against.

THIS is a funny story which Mr. Swift tells on the witness stand to the effect that Commissioner of Corporations Garfield told him that the president desired to protect the packers charged with violations of the anti-trust laws. But this is not the first time we have heard that the commissioner was not zealous to enforce those laws.

THE Honorable Joseph G. Cannon, boss of the house of representatives, has indicated, officially, that he is a candidate for the republican nomination for congress in the Eighteenth Illinois district again this year. After he gets it, there will likely be a stalwart democrat camping on his trail from beginning to end of campaign; and Mr. Cannon will know that somebody besides Yates is after him.

"KEEPING eternally at it" is what makes success in any undertaking. This is why the Journal desires to keep prominently before its democratic readers the necessity of a thorough organization, and an early one at that. We are not going to lose sight of this fact until the state committee meets and starts the ball to rolling in that direction and adopts a system. We know the effects of a thorough organization, and would like to see the Journal's plan of doing so adopted in every county in Nebraska.

A FEW years ago there was an accepted adage which ran something like this: "The democratic party is unlucky. You can always trust the democratic leaders to do the wrong thing at the right time." And it seemed like the adage was always coming true. But it is different now. The situation has changed, and today it is almost safe to say that the two great parties have reversed positions. Today everything in state and national affairs seems working to the welfare of the democratic cause. Today it is the republican party which is making the mistakes.

THE democrats of the state are going to make an effort to organize, to eliminate sectional difference and get together. There is certainly need of it. The affairs of state have been at high pressure long enough. Extravagance and graft have been the main features of republicanism for a number of years. Increasing the number of officers, lengthening the term, increasing the salary or strengthening the appointive power is characteristic of all legislation. Every move in this direction curtails the rights and privileges of the people. If the democrats will organize on Jeffersonian principles they will find plenty of encouragement and a host of new recruits.—Minden Courier.

"AN old fool is the biggest fool of all." This saying was again exemplified Monday when Stephen Laffy of West Point, Ill., gave Miss Lela Lemmon of Quincy a thousand dollars to marry him. She took the money and skipped out.

PACKER MORRIS is right in say- that there is no better business for a young man to go into now than raising cattle. As population increases and the wild lands are brought under the plow the farm breeding, grazing and feeding of live stock on a scientifically economic system is becoming one of the safest and most profitable industries of the country.

THE adoption by the lower house of the Ohio legislature of a resolution asking congress to admit an amendment to the constitution of the United States providing for the election of senators by direct vote is another indication that that method of election is coming. Its arrival may be hastened by exposure of boss rule and machine methods in the election of senators.

WASHINGTON society is in a state bordering on hysteria. The great question is, "Am I on the list of those to be invited to Miss Roosevelt's wedding?" There are to be issued 1,500 cards. There are 15,000 women on the anxious seat. The situation is too painful for discussion! The readers of the daily papers will undoubtedly feel somewhat relieved when the event has passed.

WHAT kind of an uprising would there have been in the north if Grover Cleveland had appointed Joseph Wheeler, the great cavalry leader of the confederacy to the position of brigadier general in the regular army? What sort of an uproar would there have been if the remains of a deceased rebel general had been wrapped in the flag of the confederacy, and taken through the streets of New York and to Washington, to be laid to rest in the cemetery held sacred to the loyal men of the nation? The fact that the men of all parties attended the funeral, and paid their respects to the late Joseph Wheeler; that members of the G. A. R. were among the guard of honor, and marched side by side with the men who fought with Wheeler in the confederate army, shows that this great American republic is big enough and broad enough to recognize the greatness of her soldiers, no matter where they fought, nor how.

Using Public Office for Private Gain.

The whip of public scorn has been wielded in late months against men in public office who use their official position to secure money for themselves. The public calls these men boodlers and lashes them with the state prison or with political oblivion, or both. The public acts wisely and righteously in so doing.

What of the men who use public offices for private gain in other ways?

The office-holder who builds up a personal machine to get himself another term in the same office or to get another office is using his official position for personal ends. If he appoints unfit men to office merely for their support at the primaries he prostitutes a public trust. The boodler has swift condemnation. The office-holder who buys future support by the sacrifice of public interests is equally guilty. He should receive equally swift and severe condemnation.

Public office is a public trust. The saying, which Grover Cleveland dug up for use in one of his ponderous messages, is eternally fine. It is true as opposed to stealing from the public treasury. It is true as opposed to accepting gifts for the office-holder's vote or favors. It is true as against the use of public office for political advancement.

Some men in public are bribed with money, and for them there is exposure and punishment. Ambition bribes other men. For those whom ambition bribes there should also be exposure and punishment. Desire for private gain in each case leads to betrayal of the public good.

A Voice of Protest.

Several of the republican state papers are violently objecting to the programme of the Lincoln Journal, which paper is seeking to make Norris Brown the heir to all the anti-railroad sentiment in the republican ranks. Editor Breede declared that the woods are full of good republicans who have anti-monopoly records equal to that of Norris Brown, and he finds one of them in Fremont. Discussing the Lincoln Journal's pro-Brown attitude, the Hastings editor says:

"Our highly esteemed contemporary, the Nebraska State Journal, is grooming and booming Norris Brown, the present attorney-general, for United States senator to succeed Senator Millard. Just why the Journal should single out Mr. Brown, at this stage of the game, for that high office when it is not known what candidates will be in the field, remains for that paper to explain. Mr. Brown has been an efficient officer as attorney-general, but even that does not qualify him for senatorial honors. So far he has done his duty—that is what the people elected him into office for—other state officers are doing likewise, and they are entitled to just as much credit as is Mr. Brown. Those who have conducted the affairs of their public office in a satisfactory manner are entitled to the second term, and Mr. Brown is one of them. The Tribune is free to confess that it has no pet candidate whom it desires to boost into state, national, or any other office, and therefore we are particularly desirous of seeing the best man win. We do not know, but we have heard it said, that Ross Hammond may become a candidate for senatorial honors. Mr. Hammond is one of the ablest and strongest editorial writers in the west, he is a pleasing and forceful orator, and in fact he has all the qualtities that go to make a United States senator. The Tribune would be pleased to have Mr. Hammond declare himself a candidate, for the more men we have of the Hammond makeup in the senatorial race the better it will be for the republican party."

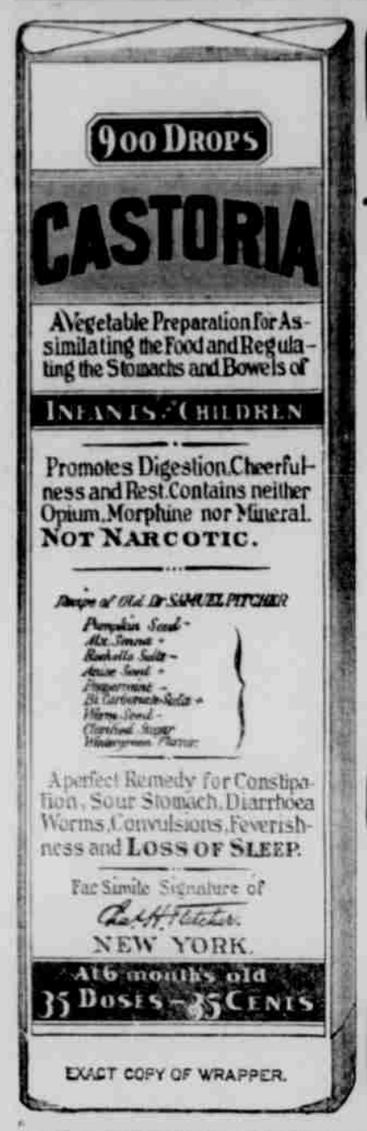
It is only natural that the country press of the state should view with suspicion the political acrobatic feats of the Lincoln Journal, which until recently was the acknowledged organ of the railroad interests. To permit the Journal to pose as the only Simon pure anti-monopoly sheet in Nebraska is evidently not the purpose of many country editors who have live memory regarding the days when that paper was popularly known as the "Burlington Bulletin." In fact so suspicious are the country brethren that Brown's goose may be cooked by the simple fact that he is the first senatorial favorite of the Lincoln paper.—Columbus Telegram.

Certainly Not Pollard.

A special from Washington says: "Members of the lower house of Congress are chuckling over the predicament one of their colleagues finds himself in. It seems the unsophisticated private secretary of this especial Representative forwarded to Washington by mail three parts of a sectional bookcase, using his employer's postal frank. The bookcase contained private books, and one of them is said to have concealed a miscellaneous collection a kitchen utensils, intended for the owners's own home there. The entire collection was "unfrankable," and the local postmaster has called on the Representative to pay postage on this property to the amount of $72. The name of the Representative is being kept secret, but that doesn't soothe his feelings to any great extent."

Proved Up Illegally.

W. A. Davis received word last week from the department of the interior that he had proved up on his South Dakota claim illegally and would have to make other proofs in sixty days. It seems Mr. Davis proved up in a district outside where his claim is located, although much closer than the one where he should, and by advice of those at the land office. Mrs. Boyd has also received notice to the same effect, and in making the change considerable expense will be incurred.—Weeping Water Herald.



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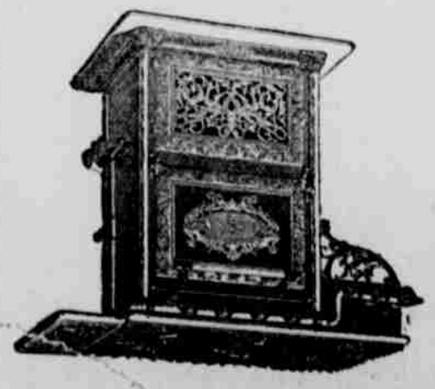

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