The Plattsmouth Journal

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THE postmaster general has issued a notice that all rural mail carriers have the right of way on all county roads, and that other carriages or conveyances must surrender the right of way to the rural carriers, so don't bump into the mail wagon.

THE democrats will have the advantage in the campaign this year. The republicans have taxed the people to death and will have to defend the cause of the most corrupt and extravagant administration in the history of Nebraska. This they cannot do to the satisfaction of the voters.

LET the democrats of Nebraska nominate for governor a man of both integrity and brains, and make the campaign upon the party's typical elemental principles, and the people of the tax-ridden state may witness the downfall of the republican ring in Lincoln, which has been instrumental in sapping the very life-blood from the common people through a system of increasing taxation.

THE flaunting of the "bloody shirt" is a thing of the past, the Blue and Grey comingle in reunions while Corporal Tanner, Grand Commander of the G. A. R., is visiting with Confederates in the south, and all the bad feeling engendered by the civil war cemented with everlasting friendship, what has the g. o. p. in store for an issue except the protection of robbing trusts through a fraudulent pretective tariff.

IT is not the purpose of The Democrat to write at great length to state an important fact nor is it neccessary to do so. Adams county democrats will present to the next state convention as a candidate for state treasurer, Dr. Frank Babcock, of Adams county, the present treasurer, serving a second term. With a complete ticket composed of men as well fitted for place and like standing, there need be no doubt as to results.—Hastings Democrat.

HON. GEORGE W. BERGE ran for governor two years ago on an anti-pass platform. He made a most remarkable run, and had it not been for the extreme popularity of President Roosevelt in that campaign he would be serving as governor of Nebraska today. As the republicans since that campaign have had so much to say about railroad passes and the surrender of the pasteboards held by the state house ring, why would it not prove the proper caper for the democrats to renominate Mr. Berge on the kind of a platform he so ably advocated at that time. On such a platform the Journal candidly believes Mr. Berge can carry the entire ticket on to a glorious and complete victory.

AN exchange remarks that "government ownership, rather than government control, should be the watchword of all who sincerely desire regulation of railroads." While it is not at all likely that either of these conditions will confront the public soon, we are rather inclined to believe that government control is preferable to goveenment ownership. If the government owns the roads, it simply adds their operation to the other intricate branches of the government, and enlarges the civil service to the extent of a few hundred thousand more officers. If wholesome laws for the regulation of railroads can be passed, they will correct the evil complained of. If they cannot be passed and enforced, then nothing could be hoped for from government ownership. The incentive of life is to accumulate property, not to hold office. If we are to have a purely paternal government, then there is no incentive in life, but to get into government employ. Let us have laws that will regulate and enforce the laws.

THE latest reports from the San Francisco disaster place the number of deaths at less than 400.

WE might comment upon the generosity of J. D. Rockefeller in making so large a gift to the San Francico sufferers if we were not sure that he will tax the consumers of oil to pay the money.

THE nearer the approach of the Omaha municipal election, the more positive the success of Jim Dahlman becomes. The republicans haven't forgotten how hard Benson tried to defeat the deceased Mayor Moores two years ago by running as an independent candidate. Dahlman is a hustler, and the independent voters have great confidence in his abilities to make a fine chief executive for the metropolis.

THE country is safe and is likely to continue safe as long as a democratic ticket can be elected once in a while. The chances are that the democrats will carry the elections of this year and capture the presidency in 1908, in which events the country will experience a fresh access of confidence in itself and feel very much as an ailing person does who learns from the doctor that he is in a fair way to vigorous health.

EVEN though Chairman Allen in his convention call, failed to ask that body to take action on the question as to how the democratic candidate for United States senator shall be selected, the delegates will no doubt have something to say about the matter in the convention just the same. It would have been just as well for Mr. Allen to have included this proposition in the call. The Journal is positive that it would have met with the approval of the democratic masses, if not the cherished few.

THE state of Nebraska has not been slow to respond to the call for aid for the sufferers in San Francisco. Many of our people remember the call of Nebraska after the grasshoppers had destroyed their crops. Many recall the feeling of genulne satisfaction, when the people of our sister states sent corn and food and seed to our farmers. When calamities come, our heartfelt sympathies go out to the stricken people, but the geniune expression of sympathy is shown in a form more substantial than words.

ERNEST M. POLLARD is asking for a second term as congressman and, according to all precedents, he is entitled to it. He has made his short term count for the farmers of his district, and from his efforts they may expect that a reasonable time in the house will enable him to do great things for them. It will depend upon the farmers of the district to see that he gets the nomination. If they desire to be represented by a man working for their interests they should send delegations to the convention who will be for Pollard.—Falls City Journal.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT made no mistake in notifying, with thanks, the representatives of foreign governments that America needs no help in taking care of its own in California. The highly organized machinery of American civilization, with marvelous adaptability and in response to an impulse as widespread as the nation, has concentrated itself upon the task of relieving the distress caused by earthquake and fire. From Los Angeles, from Portland, Seattle and other uninjured cities of the coast, aid sufficient to last for the first few days has been sent into the stricken cities, and the supplies that will carry on the good work are daily going forward by trainloads from Chicago, St. Louis, Omaha and Denver. The world has never witnessed a more liberal outpouring of aid for the victims of calamity than that which has come in response to the news of the earthquake of five days ago. No appeals for aid have been necessary. The one spur to giving has been the simple publication of the news that the cities of California were in distress.

The Road of the Grafter.

The road of the grafter is not an easy one. The temptation to graft is insidious, and men who mean to conduct themselves with honesty and dignity may be betrayed into it. "Modern business methods" is a sufficiently euphonious term to fool a brisk and ambitious man not too much given to reflection or self-examination. And all goes well for a time. The bank account increases; the man feels himself to be shrewd and influential; he is able to put his family "at the top of the heap;" honors come easily to him, and young men are flattered to be associated with him in business. Then the exposure comes. Those that have trusted him know him for what he is; his own specious plea of "the modern business method" sounds strangely inadequate even to himself. His name, which he hoped to see associated in the minds of men with great enterprises, and which he expected his sons to use as a sort of "open seasame," becomes, suddenly, the synonym for dishonesty, greed and failure. The grafter has, perhaps, thought himself hardened. He finds, to his dismay, that he is not. Shame awakens; conscience no longer sleeps. The dreams of his ambitious youth come to haunt him. He would give his fortune, many times duplicated, for the innocence and integrity of his early manhood. He is not a bad man—he can suffer, he can be ashamed, he can long for innocence. Perhaps, on reflection, there are no bad men. At any rate, the grafter has shown himself capable of dying broken-hearted, or of going, a melancholy lunatic, to the asylum for the insane. His career requires stern metal. Let him who enters it be sure that his conscience is dead, his family pride buried, his self-respect quenched, and that he is obdurate to the reproachful tears of the women who love him! Having made quite, quite sure of all this, one might adopt a grafting career in an expectant spirit.—Reader.

THERE are some things that nothing can stop, not even an earthquake, and that is the "infant industry." Thirty-two babies were born in one day in camps around San Francisco. In the language of President Roosevelt, "let the good work go on."

CHAIRMAN ALLEN displayed wisdom in calling the democratic state convention to meet a week previous to the republican convention. Democrats should always lead, and let the republicans follow, as that party has done in many instances by adopting principles advocated by the greatest living statesman, Hon. William Jennings Bryan.

A NEW state committee will be selected at the democratic convention August 15. It is to be hoped that care will be taken to select men who will at least give a portion of their time to the duties required of one in that position. If they don't want to thus serve they have no business to attempt to represent their district in the counsels of said committee.

THE Omaha News is doing good work for Jim Dahlman, but not intentionally, however. The voters of Omaha have very little faith, politically speaking, in such papers as the News.

THE man who survived the Johnstown flood, came unscathed through the Galvaston disaster, and was pitched headlong down two stories by the collapsing of a staircase in a San Francisco hotel, sustaining only a few minor bruises, will begin to wonder whether the fates have singled him out for destruction, or whether he bears a charmed life.

THE Lincoln Star, republican, wants to know if the democratic party is more competent than the republican party to revise the tariff. It all depends. If by "revision" is meant making a tariff in the interests of the people, yes; if it means revising the tariff in the furtherance of tariff graft on the part of the tariff-fed trusts, then the republican party is it by long practice.—Commoner.

NORRIS BROWN is a modern politician, and if given an opportunity he will fool the people, but not in their behalf.

THIS is the proper time for every body to put their shoulder to the wheel and assist the city administration in doing something that will result in more substantial improvements this season.

SECRETARY SHAW in his speech the other night in St. Louis said that the democratic party had neither policy nor principles. If Mr. Shaw should be so unfortunate as to get the republican nomination for president in 1908, he will find the democratic party has enough of both to down him.

THE republicans have already started all kinds of stories and are making all kinds of promises that tend toward pulling the wool over the eyes of the voters. They become more desperate as the cam- approaches, and realize the fact that they are standing on dangerous ground.

THE state officials to be voted for at the November election are governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, treasurer, auditor, attorney general, commissioner of public lands and buildings, superintendent of schools and three railroad commissioners.

A LINCOLN preacher figured out last Sunday that the San Francisco horror was a providential punishment because it was the wickedest city on the continent. That sort of talk would inflate most any reasonable person with disgust. If the Almighty was looking for a city to punish for its pure cussedness He would certainly make a visitation to the capital of Nebraska. But such talk is pure balderdash.

CHAIRMAN ALLEN has called the democratic state convention to meet in Lincoln on Wednesday, August 15. The basis of representation is placed at one delegate at large from each county, and one additional delegate for every 100 votes or fraction thereof cast for Hon. W. G. Hastings for supreme judge in 1905. According to this ratio Cass county is entitled to 19 delegetes. The call says not a word regarding the nomination of a candidate for United States senator.

OLD JOE CANNON for president! Wouldn't that cork you? That's the talk now in Washington. But as the democrats are more than likely to elect the next house, maybe it might be prudent for Uncle Joe not to drive the presidential bee entirely beyond the buzzing limit. The music of the busy little insect might amuse him in the days of his retirement, especially if a democrat should get himself elected to the Sixtieth congress from the Eighteenth Illinois district. And what has happened once may happen again.

REPUBLICAN radicalism concedes the truth of almost every vital principle of democracy; it even goes so far as to admit democracy's tariff demands. The tariff, if given into the hands of democrats to revise, would not undergo any greater alterations than the Republican prorevisionists demand. The democracy's time-established position toward the trusts is copied exactly in the attitude of the republicans who have broken away from their old regime. A party imitating the democratic party but calling itself republican, cannot exist at the same time that the democratic party exists. The people would prefer the real thing to the pretense. The republican party cannot get away from itself or its past. The fact that it is trying to do so, the fact that the ablest and most vigorous politicians of the party are trying to shake off the old character, damns the old character. They cannot keep the name without keeping the character. The fact that they are endeavoring to become democrats under another name, and to some extent under false pretenses, proves conclusively that the nation is democratic in this year 1906.

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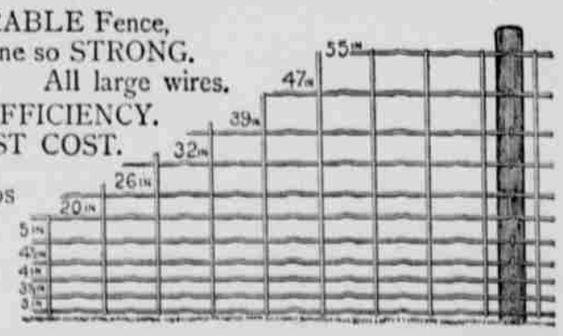

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