

The Plattsmouth Journal

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GEORGE SHILDON'S majority for governor is 12,862. Not so large, after all.

POLLARD'S majority for congress is 1589. Taylor, the prohibition candidate, received 1043 votes.

THE failure of two savingsbanks in Washington in one week, shows that republican prosperity is not universal.

IT must have been the sweetness of his temper that caused a colony of Iowa bees to follow their dead master to his grave.

THE official returns show that Hoch had a plurality over Harris for governor of Kansas of 1,939. That is a pretty close shave in Kansas.

"PUT IT BACK!" should be the battle cry from now until the State Journal returns that \$85,000 graft to the state treasury, where it properly belongs.

IN THE opinion of Senator Culom, if the republican party does not eliminate the tariff from politics the tariff will eliminate the republican party from politics.

MR. HARRIS of Kansas is very uncharitable. He says that the republicans would steal the election in that state if they could. The returns rather sustain the assertion of Mr. Harris.

IF ever a town needed the enforcement of a curfew law Plattsmouth does right now. This fact was fully demonstrated last night. Some boys cut up last night and made more noise than a band of Ute Indians on the war-path.

THE democrats in the recent election done something to Speaker Cannon's committee on Ways and Means by electing three of its most stiff-necked stand-patters to stay at home, and by warning others through decimated pluralities in the congressional elections.

THE season of the laughing heath, with its chill winds out of doors and its warmth of heart within, is a precious time to most of us. Leading as it does to the climax of Christmas, which is the world's great day of reunion, and ending in the first bloom of spring, which is the day of regeneration—it is the season of nature's satisfaction and repose.

THE council last night decided to shut down on new street work for the winter, with the exception of repairing a few crossings that need immediate attention. The city has done an immense amount of work upon the streets the past season, and no one can possibly have any kick coming from that direction, unless it be the same old chronic knockers.

ARIZONA has decided that she prefers to remain a territory than join New Mexico in statehood. The question was submitted to the two territories, and as Arizona rejected the proposition we will still have the two territories in the southwest to be run at the expense of the federal government. In point of territory either would make a state greater in extent than all the New England states.

IT is no part the duty of democrats to steer the republican party to the safest and best road, but we honestly advise them that they had better begin doing something toward revising the Dingley bill before All Fool's Day dawns. That party has existed for some years only by stealing from the democratic code, and it is increasingly apparent that its existence cannot be much longer prolonged without stealing some more.

THERE is a movement on foot to merge Omaha and South Omaha under one government. This is what ought to be done.

THE "Mysterious Stranger" shook the dust from his feet on the 6th and left Missouri, not to return again until another Parker telegram is flashed in Bryan's face.

THE Journal is pleased to learn that Plattsmouth will be well represented in Trans-Mississippi Congress at Kansas City. A delegation of eight or ten will attend, headed by Mayor Gering, who is always alive to the interests of Plattsmouth.

C. W. POOL, democratic candidate for representative in Johnson county, got beat one vote in the recent election. Pretty close, Charley; but you are better off without it, as many others who were elected, had they been elected to stay at home.

BUT few tears are being shed over the troubles of the Wall street speculators, since it is known that Secretary Shaw, with the approval of President Roosevelt, has loaned them all the surplus money in the United States treasury, without interest.

A LINCOLN correspondent says that nearly every reformer in the country in the republican ranks is now a candidate for some office within the gift of Sheldon or Brown. To attempt to catalogue the aspirants or their preferences would be to outline a complete directory of "fake reform."

THE next legislature will be composed, politically speaking, as follows: Senate, 28 republicans and 5 fusionists; House, 69 republicans and 31 fusionists. Therepublicans can easily carry out their pledges to people if they feel so disposed. Governor-elect Sheldon says he expects to stick to his campaign text. "We shall see what we shall see."

AFTER all our fuss and feathers, after submitting a constitutional amendment to the people, and having it advertised at a great expense, the chances are more than even that the whole thing will be declared illegal for the reason that the advertisement was not legally inserted. The first insertion was too late, and the attempt to amend this defect by having little supplements printed and sent out after the regular issue of the papers had been mailed, will not pass.

SOME of the ultra partisan papers are trying to devise ways and means whereby Gov. Sheldon will be able to enact into law some of the party pledges made in the republican platform. Why should not these pledges find their way upon the statute books in the nature of a result of republican victory? Is it possible that what was said during the campaign of "sham reformers" is true? The republican party promised the people of Nebraska a great many things, if the people would entrust the party with power. The people, relying upon that promise, have placed the republican party in a position to fulfill its promises. Will it meet the expectations of the people? Wait and see.—Beatrice Sun.

DURING the campaign just closed the republican press and speakers declared that Roosevelt alone was the issue. Let us analyze the result and see how well the voters sustained that view of the situation. The democrats made a gain of fifty-four congressmen, elected governors in North Dakota, Minnesota and Rhode Island. In New Hampshire there was no election of governor and that duty will devolve on the legislature. In Kansas the republicans barely saved their governor, while in Iowa they elected Cummins by a greatly reduced majority. In New York Hearst was defeated, but the balance of the state ticket went to the democrats. Moreover, Roosevelt's pet New York congressman (Wadsworth) was defeated, as was also another pet, (Babcock) of Wisconsin. If such endorsements shall continue until 1908, Rooseveltism will be wiped off the map.

Keep It Up, Brother.

Adam Brede, editor of the Hastings Tribune, wipes the perspiration from his classic brow, smiles the smole born of victory and observes that it was a grand victory. Then he grows sober, and takes his pencil again in hand to say that the people will now demand:

"A law to compel railroads to pay their taxes at the same time and in the same manner as a private individual.

"A law providing that an employer may recover damages from an employer for injuries received, notwithstanding said injuries are due to the negligence of a fellow servant.

"A law prohibiting the giving of free passes in all forms, except to actual employees, their intimate families, and men in charge of shipment of live stock.

"A direct primary law for the nomination of all state, county and district officers, including congressmen and United States senators.

"A law or constitutional amendment providing for an elective state railway commission, which will prohibit the giving of rebates, the discriminations and special rates to persons, corporation or localities, and to secure just and reasonable freight and passenger rates.

"A law providing that railroad property in cities and villages shall be assessed and taxed the same as other property for municipal purposes.

"A law providing for uniform inspection and tests of dairy product.

"Besides this the people will insist upon having the most rigid economy in the matter of appropriations for state government.

"All of this the people of Nebraska will expect, and all this they are entitled to.

"Let not a single man fear to do his duty."

There is great deal in the above demands, to which the republican party stand pledged, and it is up to the incoming legislature to carry out these pledges. But they will find out before the session is half over that it one thing to promise, and another thing to "deliver the goods."

A Republican Dilemma.

The republicans nominated a negro judge in Chicago and although many of the voters of that party cut him at the polls, it seems he was elected. They now find he is an ebony elephant on their hands and are trying to get him to resign. It would seem that the republicans should stand by their party choice, now that he is elected, for although the negro they nominated for judge was merely intended as a stool pigeon, to draw and catch the other negroes in the republican net, they should certainly abide by the result. As far as the democrats are concerned they are rather pleased at their opponents' show of lack of consistency, but will not join in any effort to upset the votes of the majority of the people.

OF Hon. A. C. Shallenberger, late democratic candidate for governor, the State Journal says: "Ashton C. Shallenberger has a right to be proud of the vote given him at home. He has lived in Harlan county a long time and the people know him like a book and evidently believe in him." This is a peace offering sop to make up for the lies and infamous forgeries perpetrated by the Journal during the campaign. But it is rubbing it in a little, too.

THE constitutional amendment for a railway commission has carried by an overwhelming majority. The republicans will now proceed to give us freight rates and such other railway regulation as they deem wise. Lower freight rates are very much desired, and it makes no difference which party does the business.

GOVERNOR-ELECT SHELDON says he will make no appointments until after he has been inaugurated. This announcement is a sad disappointment to the many who have been hovering around the new governor the past week with the hope that the would gently whisper an encouraging word in their ears.

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STUDY THE LABEL

Democratic Days Coming.

Railroad magnate Harriman may be "above the level" of the rest of us, but it is dollars to doughnuts that he is riding for a "fall." His latest attempt to rule the destinies of the Illinois Central railroad, which is about the last of the independent railroads, will, if successful, lead to his undoing, for the public will only stand about so much concentration in the hands of one man and he is trying to overdo the thing. The magnates that control railroad combinations, the trust corporations, the express combine and others that charge "all the traffic will bear," will soon be feeling that life is hardly worth living when the long suffering people get through with them. There will be no confiscation, no socialism, which is un-American, but taxes will have to be paid by these corporations like other people pay on the value of their property and rates will regulated so that surpluses will not pile up to be used for stock speculation, but there will be "equal rights to all and special privileges to none" in the democratic days that are coming.

A Talk on Tariff.

The class in primary political history may now recite:

"Does a tariff on agricultural products protect the farmer?"

It cannot and does not, for the reason that a tariff only protects against imports.

"What constitutes the greater part of our exports?"

Agricultural products. They comprise more than three-fifths of our exports.

"Since there is no export duty, is it not true that our farmers lose the benefit of the tariff levied on their products?"

Yes, it is plainly and unquestionably true.

"Can you give an example showing how the farmer loses out on the tariff that purports to protect him?"

Yes. During the year 1904 the farmers of the United States exported 44,230,169 bushels of wheat and 16,999,432 barrels of flour.

"Did the farmers realize any benefit on those large exportations of wheat and flour?"

No; not one cent. There is no tax on exports.

"Now, how much wheat and flour was brought into the United States from foreign countries in 1904?"

The amount was 6,852 bushels of wheat and 46,851 barrels of flour.

"Was there a tariff tax levied on the 6,852 bushels of wheat and the 46,821 barrels of flour?"

Yes. The government collected on the wheat a tariff tax of \$1,713, and on the flour \$41,000.

"Who ultimately paid the tax the government collected on this imported wheat and flour?"

The consumer paid it.

"Then the farmers received protection on 6,852 bushels of imported wheat and 46,851 barrels of flour and lost it on 44,230,169 bushels of wheat and 16,999,432 barrels of flour?"

Yes, that is the fact, and the farmers are getting their eyes open to the false pretense of the protectionists who have bamboozled them so long with the sophistry of a protective tariff.

The Legal Boss.

The republican party, through Secretary Bonaparte, has at last invented a reform, that no other party has prior claim to, and that no other party will probably care to claim. This Bonaparte invention may be styled "The Legal Boss," for the fantastic idea is, "that the people should have legally constituted bosses to make all the nominations for public offices and thus do away with nominating conventions." No one but a republican boss, or would-be boss, could invent such a scheme of licensing the boss system. Democrats are intent on self-government and are determined that the people must govern the bosses and not the bosses the people. But in the republican breast there ever seems to dwell the lingering hereditary hope, descended from Hamilton, that the few, or for that matter the one, shall rule and dictate to the many. If the voters are capable of electing a boss, they are certainly capable of nominating and electing their public officials; otherwise universal suffrage is a failure and, like the Hebrew of old, a King is the only natural boss that the people would elect.

The fact is the republican leaders see trouble brewing for them in the near future, for the people are awakening to the fact that their only salvation is to abolish bosses, with the certain corruption and grafting that stalks in their train and as republicanism means the rule of bosses, as democracy means the rule of the people, the republican leaders would legalize the political machine they have set up, in hopes of preventing the breakdown they see approaching. The American people wouldn't stand for Hamiltonism a hundred years ago, nor are they going to stand any such monkey business now.

An Honest and Impartial Republican.

The retirement of Secretary Hitchcock from the cabinet is a great loss to his countrymen. He is the only member of the administration that has accomplished real results in his department that are worth talking about. He has not boasted or blustered but has pretty effectually cleared out the land thieves and punished them without fear or favor. Republican United States senators and congressmen that were mixed up with the land grafters were not shielded but prosecuted with as much vigor as the lesser grafters, and as this is the first time in the history of the republican party of a cabinet officer being impervious to party pressure and impartial in punishing and preventing fraud. Ethen Allen Hitchcock is entitled to the thanks of democrats; the more so, as so many of his own party are secretly denouncing and backbiting him. It is too bad that smaller good deeds cannot be recorded by any other member of the official family of the "reformer" Roosevelt.

The Pure Food Law.

The republicans claim the credit of the pure food law, but the republican congress made no appropriation for carrying the law into effect. The majority of the republican members of congress have little sympathy with the law and tried before they passed it to weaken it at every point. When it comes to voting the appropriation of \$1,000,000 which Secretary Wilson says is necessary to carry out the provisions of the law, we shall see how much influence has been exerted by such opponents as the patent medicine people and other interests that are interfered with. The law goes into effect on the first of January, but until provision is made for its enforcement it will be virtually a dead letter.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT is authority for the statement that the supreme court has been wrong in some instances in the past, and the Washington Star hints that the president may pack the court "by filling of the present and another prospective vacancy" and thus "alter the opinion of that honorable body." The Star is good republican authority, but what a howl would go up if a democratic president had attempted to pack the supreme court for the purpose of obtaining a decision. These be strenuous times, my countrymen.

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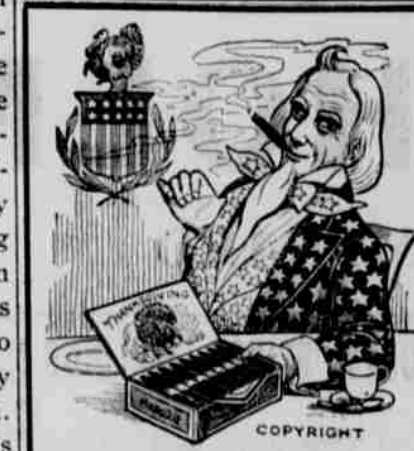


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