

# The - Plattsmouth - Journal

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Isn't it about time we had the safe and sane coal mine?

A department of common sense wouldn't be a bad thing for Mr. Taft to add to his cabinet.

Now is the time to commence the work of keeping the weeds down. Weeds breed sickness.

A tailless comet is reported by the watchers at the Yerkes observatory. Perhaps the comet has it tall done up on hairpins.

"Organize!" should be the watchword of every Democrat in Nebraska. It means much, and will result in victory at the fall election.

Evidently Mr. Lawler thought Mr. Taft meant that he should write that Ballinger letter "as though he were president" with a whitewash brush.

After Mr. Ballinger is whitewashed, and then resigns, great care should be taken to see that his successor is not another Guggenheim selection.

Senator Aldrich is "offering sugar" to the insurgents, but the sugar is purely figurative. It does not mean that he is going to desert the sugar trust at this late day.

With marked sagacity, Buffalo Bill concluded not to take his Wild West show to Europe this year, the competition over there just now being strenuous and no admission price charged.

Persons who are worrying over the problem of what to do with our ex-presidents might take a hint from Paris, where the other day ex-President Loubet was run down by an automobile.

It's astounding what mean advantage some people will take of helpless children. Here's a fetish worshiper proposing that all babies born on the day of Teddy's homecoming shall be named after him.

The Democrats in the central and western sections of the state are becoming thoroughly organized. Nearly every county has been organized by townships and precincts. That's the way to do it. A thorough organization of the party in the state means victory next fall.

The friends (and they are legion throughout the state) are shoving Senator Herman Diers, of Gresham, to the front for Lieutenant Governor. Senator Diers is a good man, and a very live wire in any business capacity you take him. He is a brother of W. F. Diers, the leading merchant at Louisville and is an all-round good fellow and thorough business man and gentleman. Herman and the writer formed a lasting friendship in the last session of the legislature, and there is nothing too good for him. We are for Herman for Lieutenant Governor every day in the week.

## LAW AND SENTIMENT.

In an argument in favor of the Miller-Curtis Interstate liquor bill, which gives the state jurisdiction over liquor shipped into it as soon as the state boundaries are passed, instead of only after its delivery to the consignee, as is now the case, Mr. S. E. Nicholson says:

It is pertinent to ask why any state has endeavored to prohibit the manufacture of liquor, and why it is not content merely to interdict its sale. Presumably, because so long as liquor is made, and especially so long as a violator of the law can get possession of it, the state recognizes the practical impossibility of adopting any system or regulation by which its subsequent sale can be wholly prevented.

No doubt while the proposed law would be a step toward preventing

liquor from getting into the hands of those who are willing to take the risk of selling it illegally for the sake of the profits they can make, it will not, as so experienced a temperance worker as Mr. Nicholson doubtless realizes, enforce actual prohibition. The prohibitionists have always been extremely reluctant to recognize what the states tacitly recognize by the kind of laws they pass. That is, where the sentiment of a community is not practically unanimous in favor of prohibition, actual prohibition is an impossibility as long as liquor is made anywhere, whether it be within the state or outside of it. Free men who want liquor always have managed to get it in some way, no matter what may have been the legal restrictions, and there is no reason to believe that they will not continue to do so.

For this reason it might just as well be acknowledged first as last that prohibition is more a matter of sentiment than of law. Thus the influence of education must be a good deal more effective than legal restriction. Neither prosperity, nor morality, nor abstinence from intoxicating liquor can be brought about merely by legislation. There may be legislation that will tend to foster all these things, it is true, but it is not the kind of legislation that actually encourages law breaking by its rigor. As no tax is an effective tax when the expense of evading it is less than the payment of it, so no law is an effective law when the expense of violating it is less than the profit or satisfaction to be derived from such evasion. Thus, wherever prohibition is adopted by a comparatively scant majority of a community there is almost bound to be continuous violation of the law by that part of the community which is actively opposed to it. That is why there are so many blind tigers in cities and good-sized towns, though the larger communities of which they are a part may have voted "dry." In other communities where the prohibition sentiment largely predominates—especially in those which have no cities or large towns—there is almost no difficulty in enforcing the law. In fact, it almost enforces itself.

The logical conclusion from all the experience we have had is that prohibition is largely a local question, and for this reason it is most difficult—if not, indeed, impossible—to make state wide prohibition effective. The long experience of Maine and Kansas and the briefer and more recent experience of some southern states afford abundant evidence of this.—Indianapolis News.

## PUTTING IT OVER THE WEST.

The Beatrice Sun prints the following:

The belligerent Crete Democrat declares that the census will show that the eastern states have increased in population while the western states have decreased, and the Democrat insists that this fraud is being perpetrated upon the country for the purpose of giving the eastern states greater representation in congress. In view of the fact that the taking of the census is all over the country left to local people it is hard to understand how the east could put anything over the west.

Our esteemed contemporaries, we are confident, are both of them in the right church. But they are in the wrong pew.

The east has been "putting something over on the west" for a long while. The east has been "putting something over on the west" not alone in the past few weeks, while the census was being taken, but during the last several decades.

The east has gained control of the government and Washington, and holds that control still, although the signs are not lacking that the west is waking up and preparing to fight for

its rights.

The east, through its control of the government, has been making laws for the benefit, not of the entire country, but of the east. It has been making laws that make the east prosperous at the expense of the west. It has been making laws that tax the west for the benefit of the east. It has been making laws that discourage western agricultural development while fostering the development of eastern trusts and monopolies.

The east has made tariff laws that compel the west to buy in a protected market where prices are fixed by monopoly conspiracies, while at the same time it sells what it has to sell in a world market; tariff laws that impose a heavy tax on every imported article the west buys, which tax goes to the government; and tariff laws which impose a tax, immeasurably larger in the aggregate, on every eastern product the west buys, which tax goes into the coffers of the eastern plutocracy.

The east has so controlled and manipulated railroad traffic and railroad laws and other kindred legislation so as to discourage manufacturing enterprise in the west, and compel the west to ship its raw material to the Atlantic seaboard and then ship the manufactured product back again.

For these many weary years the east has been laying its heavy hand on the west. For many years it has been legislating in the interest of the plutocracy, which has its home in the east, and against the welfare and rights of the home-owning middle classes who are most numerous in the west.

If the great eastern centers of population and wealth, therefore, show an increase in population, it will not be the fault of the census.

And if such great agricultural states as Iowa and Nebraska show an actual falling off in population, or a falling off outside the larger cities, it will not be the fault of the census.

It will be the natural and logical results of the sectional and class legislation which the east has been "putting over" on the west.

And the west will have no one but itself to thank or blame. The west has been helping elect candidates who were nominated from the east, by the east, and for the east.

The west has been supporting platforms loaded down with sectional and class iniquity which were made by the east and for the east.

Thus far the west, because of its splendid resources, because of its cheap lands, because of its industrious, frugal and enterprising population, has been able to pay the tax, to endure the discriminations and injustices, and still make a flattering showing. But it is reaching the end of the lane. The time is coming when the west will have to stand up and fight for its rights, when agriculture will have to demand that it stand on an equal footing with manufacturing, or the west will suffer not only relatively but actually.

The west has only to go on supporting Aldrich tariffs and central bank schemes and commerce courts and railroad and industrial monopoly and eastern politicians who serve them, to become, at last, a satrapy of New York, New England, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

There may be a lesson in the census figures, when they are officially announced. And it will be a lesson it will do the west no harm to study understandingly and prayerfully.—World-Herald.

The Ludden case will not down—that is to say, Rev. Mr. Ludden does not purpose letting go of his little \$300 a year slice of the public funds, even though he has been drawing it in violation of law. Mr. Ludden made out a voucher for his salary, but Governor Shallenberger insisted that it be held up until it was shown that the claim was a legal one. Mr. Ludden has now asked for a writ of mandamus compelling the auditor to issue a voucher. The law governing the normal school board provides for the expenses of its members, and specifically states that no payment shall be made for services. Despite

this plain inhibition Ludden has been drawing a salary as secretary.

Two big shows last night—the comet and eclipse of the moon.

Iowa doctors in convention at Des Moines the other day voted against raising their own fees. Isn't that wonderful?

Denver's saloon majority was so high that the community evidently did more than "go wet." It voted to inundate itself.

Those who have seen the comet agree that it is built on the plan of a kangaroo—most of it is a backward protruberance.

Senator Aldrich is offering all kinds of concessions for the passage of the railroad bill. Evidently the railroad bill contains more jokers than anyone suspected.

As recently as 1905, Mr. Taft advised the Cincinnati Republicans to defeat the Cox machine. He wasn't so awfully particular about "party solidarity" in those days.

Stenographer Kerby expresses the belief that public duty compelled him to tell the truth as he did. This however, is a consideration with which the Ballinger crowd has very little patience.

Burkett's advertising bureau at Lincoln is again busy, with five or six clerks in charge. This costs lots of money, but then what's the difference, Aldrich, Cannon and Taft will see that the trusts pay the freight.

The commercial club meets again tomorrow night to take some action in regard to a Fourth of July celebration. The action at this meeting will be definite. So if you want a celebration be on hand to speak your little piece.

Whenever Secretary Ballinger found himself in a tight corner he always appealed to the committee to protect him "from the insolence of this man" Brandeis. And the worst of it is that the committee was usually right there with the protection.

There will be a big effort made by the church people throughout the land to stop the Jeffries-Johnson fight in San Francisco on July 4. Petition after petition, signed by thousands of people will be forwarded to the governor of California to the end that the big fight be called off.

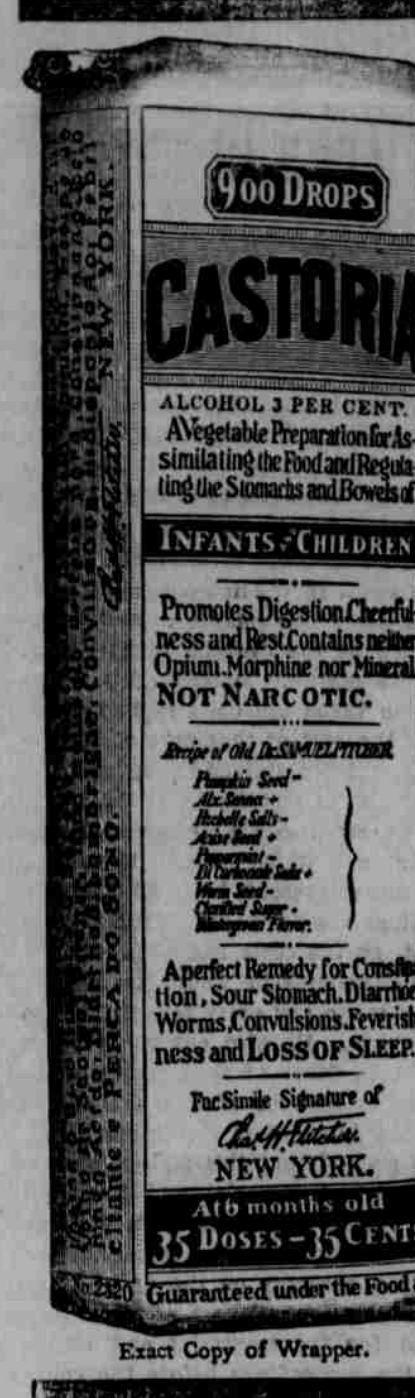
Plattsmouth will fare pretty well this summer and fall even if we do not have a Fourth of July celebration. Besides our animal stock show and carnival for one week, we will have the annual meeting of the Red Men of the state for three days, which will bring hundreds of strangers to our city.

That Ballinger will be whitewashed by a vote of 7 to 5, is predicted, but the official announcement will not be made until after the November election. Why wait so long? The people know he is guilty and that the president wants to protect him administration from scandal. It can't be did, Mr. Taft. The American people have lost all faith in you.

As much as the Lincoln people would like to see the state capital moving question die out, it is like Banquo's ghost—will not down. The people in the central and western sections of the state don't intend to let it. All they have to do is to keep everlasting pegging away. The people all over the state would not care if the capital was moved tomorrow.

Stung by the caustic comments made upon his efforts to hang to his petty little slice of public funds, Ludden prepared a long list of charges against ex-Superintendent Crabtree of the Peru normal. When Mr. Crabtree's answer was submitted it made the Ludden charges look as small as the Ludden grab of public funds.

We regret to report that Colonel Pell Barrows has discontinued his sitting posture on the Plattsmouth News tripod. It is heavy enough work for any man to successfully run a daily paper in any town, but



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## PLEASED WITH THE SOUTHLAND

Frank Hawksworth Talks of His Recent Texas Trip.

Frank Hawksworth came down this morning from Lincoln for a day's visit with his parents in the city. Mr. Hawksworth who runs between Lincoln and McCook on the Burlington's fast trains, reports indications around the latter city are for the greatest small grain crop in many years in that section. Wheat is looking fine and he considers it as much superior to this section. General conditions seem better throughout that section for crops than here. Mr. Hawksworth recently returned from an extended trip through Texas and he is very much impressed with that state. He visited at Ft. Worth, Dallas, Temple, Cleburne, San Antonio, Houston, Galveston, Laredo and Brownsville, besides many intermediate points. He found some wonderfully impressive cities in that country and their marvelous growth was a complete surprise to him. He found the state to have a great abundance of heavy crops this year; wheat, cotton, corn and all the other field crops being in evidence on every hand. Another thing which surprised him was the extent of railway communication in that section. He found all the large cities with lines of railway radiating from them in every direction and Houston and Ft. Worth had far more railroads than most of the large northern cities. He looked over the land to form an estimate of its worth as compared with land throughout this section and found it marvelously rich. The only drawback which he heard while there was the inability to tend the heavy, rich, black soil of the central and southern parts of the state during wet season. Owing to the depth of the soil it is difficult to get into the fields when the rains prevail and many advised against the black land. However, he noticed everything was being grown there. Taken altogether he was very much pleased with the country and contemplates another trip to that section in the future.

B. B. Danlher, the well known Murrayite, spent this morning in the city attending to business, driving up from his farm during the morning.

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