

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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Scientists are now figuring on the age of the earth, yet not a mother's son of them can tell us the age of Ann.

Governor Aldrich wants more than any other governor wanted, notwithstanding the constitution says he can't have it.

Another new manufacturing enterprise is about to materialize in Plattsmouth and will come to the surface in a few days. Good!

The non-partisan judiciary bill has passed one branch of the legislature and no doubt will pass the other branch and become a law.

Plattsmouth people who want an Omaha paper prefer to take it first-handed, and not wait till it is folded in with another paper to be sent out.

The Hon. Buffalo Bill Cody thinks he would like to be one of the United States senators from Arizona. Why doesn't he speak to the Southern Pacific about it?

The suffragettes ought to memorialize the legislature to pass a law placing nippers under the head of concealed weapons. A mere man has adopted a pair of wire nippers as a means of protection from hatpins.

The federal corporations tax, the validity of which was upheld by the supreme court Monday, should not be confused with the income tax, although it will yield the government an income of \$25,000,000 a year.

Later advices are to the effect that the Goulds have not entirely lost control of the Missouri Pacific, although there is still some hope that the property may pass into the hands of railroad men.

The Journal has never had to depend upon donations to keep up and pay its debts. It started in with a small plant and by hard work has been fairly successful. Ain't that the kind of industry the people of Plattsmouth believe in supporting? A sensible person would think so.

The distinguished Archbishop Ryan evidently did not believe in laying up treasures on earth, for his estate only amounts to \$4,031. He used his income as he received it for the betterment of men, women and children. His small estate is a significant commentary on his life.

For nine years the present management has published the Journal, and during that time we have never asked for advertising from Omaha merchants. Always depending upon home merchants for support. The business men know the paper that has been their friend.

Senator Skiles' bill to prevent graft in bridge contracts and to provide uniformity in bridges was passed by the senate Wednesday morning by a vote of 28 to 3. The bill hits at the alleged bridge graft when it compels separate bids on all county bridges costing over \$500, thus cutting out the blanket bids covering a number of bridges and which are made, it is said, the vehicle of graft. The state engineer is to furnish uniform plans for all bridges.

Whether the governor shows the people of Nebraska "how to do things," he has evidently shown the legislature that he wants more money to furnish more necessities than any other governor has been able to do, and he is not "from Missouri" either. And the state constitution prohibits such legislation.

Now we understand what Governor Aldrich meant when he told the people at his boyhood home in Ohio just after his election that he proposed to "make the state one to be proud of." Who would not be proud of a state which would violate its constitution to pay the governor's family board bill?—Lincoln Star.

Of course we have never blown our own horn very much, while others are blowing theirs continually. Now we would like to see the color of the man's hair who will say that Plattsmouth ever boasted of a newspaper that worked harder for the best interests of the city than the Journal. It has never saw the day or the hour that it was too busy or did not have room to say something that was directly in the interests of our people. The Evening Journal is purely a home paper. It has always been and will continue to be, opposition or no opposition.

## SUBSCRIPTION CONTESTS.

There are two bills in the present legislature, the passage of either of which will do away with all subscription contests. They are house roll 197, by F. M. Housh, and senate file 54, by Bartling. The language of each is identical and both provide that any gift enterprise or the bestowal of any article or thing for and in consideration of the purchase by any person of any other article or thing whether the object shall be for individual gain or for the benefit of any institution whatever, shall be deemed to be a gift enterprise and the punishment is fixed at a fine of not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months, or both. This effectually does away with the giving of pianos or automobiles in connection with newspaper subscriptions. Some of the boys who may be contemplating a contest may not like the provisions of these bills, but the Democrat has always been opposed to the giving of anything on the side as an inducement to secure subscriptions. In addition to the nuisance of being bored to death by canvassers or their friends there is a broad principle that if the paper isn't worth the price, the subscriber who has it put over him against his better judgment through the importunities of friends, will never cease to regret it and thereafter prove a detriment rather than a help to the business. We have no fault to find with the bill. If the Democrat isn't worth the price we ask for it, no one is under obligation to continue a minute beyond the period for which he is paid.—Wahoo Democrat.

The above expresses our sentiments. The News has never given any presents in order to secure subscribers, and as long as we believe as we now do we will never have a subscription contest. The News wants every person in the state or any other place to be a subscriber, but we do not believe in getting a number of young ladies to go all over the county asking for subscriptions, in order that they might win a prize. We do not believe in that principle. If the News is not worth subscribing for it is not worth taking at any price. And if you do subscribe and do not wish to continue as a subscriber your paper is stopped when your time expires.—Nebraska City News.

If a newspaper man will put in the time he consumes in getting young ladies to run around over the county getting those who do not want the paper, but take it for the friendship they have for the solicitor in her efforts to secure an automobile, piano or like prize, in trying to give the people a paper worthy of their support, their work would be more high-

ly appreciated. The Journal has never been pushed to resort to anything of this kind to secure plenty of readers, preferring, rather, that our paper should speak for itself, and up to the present time we have had no cause to complain. The Journal is highly appreciated by the people in every section of Cass county, as our large and rapidly increasing list can fully testify.

## GOVERNMENT AND LABOR.

The wage workers of this country, and they include nine-tenths of the people engaged in the production of wealth, are inquiring more than ever why the government except in some indirect way, never does anything for them. They point to the fact that whole departments of the government, and especially the diplomatic department, are devoted to assisting the business man, the banker and the manufacturer, and not even a bureau tries to increase the wealth of the workers. There is a department called the department of commerce and labor, but it is all commerce and labor receives none of its attention.

The diplomatic department keeps an agent in every business center and port of the world whose whole time is given for the benefit of trusts and corporations that have goods for sale, telling them the sort of goods that will find a market there, how they should be packed, the price they can be shipped, the credit that must be extended, what sort of agents should be sent, the language in which correspondence must be carried on, the manner of the collection of payment, the character of the competition existing, the products of the country that can be imported and every other sort of information that a seller of any kind of goods, from the makers of chewing gum to the manufacturers of locomotives, could want to know. But there is not one office, except those established by states, that is giving the laborer any assistance as to where he can sell his labor to advantage, or is devoted to furthering his interests in any way.

Men who do not come in friendly contact with those who do the work of the world have little knowledge of how much these things are talked among them, or what a powerful effect it is going to have on future elections. These masses are looking to a democratic congress to increase the purchasing power of their wages by lowering the tariff on the necessities of life. That would be doing something for labor.—World-Herald.

## INFANTILE PARALYSIS.

If the expectations of Dr. Simon Flexner should be realized and a cure for infantile paralysis should be perfected within the next few months, the Rockefeller Institute will have added another remarkable achievement to its record. This disease occurred rarely in the United States before 1907. Since that time it has claimed many victims, and last year it was epidemic over a large area. The discovery of a cure would mean the prevention of a vast amount of suffering.

To the small list of specific remedies for the disease Dr. Flexner, working in the institute, already has contributed the successful serum treatment for spinal meningitis. His colleagues have undertaken a hopeful series of investigations in the growth of organs apart from their natural habit, which promise to be of the greatest service to medical knowledge. Other important series of studies are now under way.

Medical progress must depend largely on patient and prolonged investigation conducted with ample resources. The physician in private practice can hope to do little work of this sort. The Rockefeller Institute, with its interest bearing endowment of nearly \$6,500,000, is the one adequately equipped institution in the United States to carry on the experiments devoted to alleviation of suffering from disease. It is likely to become the greatest monument to the name of its founder.—Kansas City Star.

The legislature has only two more weeks to complete its labors.

The Missouri Pacific "slate" was so badly smashed this week that it is feared the wrecking crews will be busier than ever.

The democrats made no mistake in renominating Carl G. Fricke for city treasurer. He has proved the right man for the place.

Note the city ticket at the head of this column. Every name upon that ticket is worthy of your support, from Mayor Sattler down.

Are you for Plattsmouth at all times and under all circumstances? If so, speak a good word for the town both at home and abroad.

"A Hot Time in the Old Town" will be played by all the bands in Lincoln from now on till the city election. And they will have a hot election.

The Commercial club has several propositions on hand that are for the betterment of Plattsmouth which will materialize as soon as the season opens.

According to Mr. Roosevelt all that the United States demands in Mexico is justice and good order. Isn't there danger of Mexico replying that a little more justice and good order in the United States wouldn't hurt?

Well, what do you think of this? Lincoln wants to get rid of the headquarters of the Anti-Saloon league—Ponson and all. Some of them claim it has been a detriment to the business interests of that city.

The supreme court's decision sustaining the validity of the corporation tax law leaves a number of predatory gentlemen in the east to wonder whether the fourteenth amendment has ceased to be their never-failing shelter in time of storm.

It is now rumored that the army has been sent to the Mexican border to be ready to protect the interests of Guggenheim, Morgan and Rockefeller in Mexico. Has it not come to a pretty pass that the United States army is called out to protect those who have already stolen millions from the common people? It is also hinted that Brothers Taft have interests in Texas and Mexico both that need looking after. It makes a good deal of difference whose oxen are getting gored just now.

When Governor Aldrich told the university students a couple of weeks ago that he was kept busy keeping his hands on the unruly democratic legislators, who were obstreperous as donkeys he must have told the truth, for when he took his hands off enough state money almost stuck to them to pay his family board bill.—Lincoln Star.

We do hope the legislature will pass all the laws in accordance with the democratic platform pledges, and then adjourn and go home before they do something rash that they will wish they had left undone. Too many would-be leaders are liable to get reckless and spiteful.

That was a great blow the governor made about such glaring frauds in the Omaha elections last fall, but how soon he closed up like a clam when he found out he had been wrongly informed. Perhaps the governor would like to have seen Omaha placed in the corruption class with Adams county, Ohio, but he couldn't quite cut it.

The trade tributary to Plattsmouth is rapidly getting into the notion that the farmers can do just as well in buying in this city as they can to go to Omaha and at the same time pay railroad fare to and from the metropolis. Among the large crowd in the city last Saturday were two farmers that live twelve miles west of this city, who acknowledged this fact to the writer and, one of them, we know, purchased a big bill of goods here.

A gentleman remarked to us the other day going to Lincoln, that "if everyone in Plattsmouth was booming the town as hard as the Journal is and has been there is no cause for it not booming." That's what we are here for. We have always believed in the motto: "Home first—the world afterward," and every reader of this paper knows how close we have hewn to the line.

Henry Watterson, one of America's great journalists, is said to have the following creed: "To print nothing of a man which we would not say to his face; to print nothing of a man in malice; to look well and think twice before consigning a suspect to the ruin of a printer's ink; to respect the old and defend the weak, and lastly, at work and at play, day time and night time, to be good to the girls and square to the boys, for hath it not been written, 'Of such is the kingdom of heaven!'"

## GENTEEL GRAFTING.

While voting for an increase of the emoluments of the governor's office and allowing the present governor \$2,500 for the board of himself, family and servants, members of the legislature frankly stated that they were doing something that was unconstitutional. And so they were. Not only were they performing an unconstitutional act in allowing the largely increased compensation of the governor, but the governor will be violating the plain letter and the all-prevailing spirit of the constitution in accepting it. Inasmuch as he is said to have asked for it, he will probably accept it. Here is what the constitution says about the executive compensation, as found in section 24 of article V, constitution of 1875.

The salaries of the governor, auditor of public accounts and treasurer, shall be two thousand five hundred dollars each per annum, and of the secretary of state, attorney general, superintendent of public instruction and commissioner of public lands and buildings shall be two thousand dollars each per annum. The lieutenant governor shall receive twice the salary of a senator, and after the adoption of this constitution they shall not receive to their own use any fees, costs, interest upon public moneys in their hands, or under their control, perquisites of office or other compensation, and all fees that may hereafter be payable by law for services performed by an officer, provided for in this article of the constitution, shall be paid in advance into the state treasury.

But as if that were not enough, the constitution further provides, in section 16 of article III, under the classification "Legislative," as follows:

The legislature shall never grant any extra compensation to any public officer, agent, servant or contractor, after the services shall have been rendered or the contract entered into. Nor shall the compensation of any public officer be increased or diminished during his term of office.

It may be true that the salary of the governor is not sufficient. He did not so consider it when he ran for the office, or at least did not consider it so sufficiently inadequate to justify him in refusing to run. But whether large enough or not, it is what the constitution provides. Augmenting it in any way out of state funds, or even changing it during the term of office of any governor, is one of the determined inhibitions of the constitution. Be it said to the credit of ex-Governor Crouse that when an over-generous—a lawlessly generous, if you please—legislature sought to increase his compensation to the extent of \$2,500, he vetoed the bill, showing that he was not only a lawyer, but a man of conscience and of pride in evading even a semblance of graft.

Again are we reminded of the days wherein the populists of this state were held up to ridicule because one of the heated legislators sent down to Lincoln by that party was understood to shout in the midst of debate, "Damn the constitution." It remains for a safe and sane democratic legislature and a safe and sane republican governor to simply ignore the constitution in ruthlessly violating it.

Some may attempt to justify this gubernatorial raid upon the state treasury by the suggestion that Congress has from time to time increased the salary and allowances of the president. There is a difference. The federal constitution places no specific limitation upon the executive salary. Here is what it says:

The president shall, at stated times, receive for his services, a compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that period any other emolument from the United States, or any of them.—Lincoln Star.

## POLITICAL PROGRESS.

There are dark days when it seems that the good old times were better than the degenerate present, that democracy is going down hill instead of up, and that the world is going with it. And then, again, there are moments of illumination from the past that make the glory of modern popular government shine brighter than ever.

One of these little illustrations is a quotation from the diary of President James K. Polk, in which he comments on the fact that John Quincy Adams, a former president, lived in Washington and was a member of congress during the Polk administration, but never met the president. They were political opponents, and in those days men could not be political opponents and personal friends at the same time.

If Theodore Roosevelt, while vice president, had challenged William J. Bryan to fight a duel to the death with pistols, and if Mr. Bryan had felt that the sentiment of the times were such that he was compelled to partake in this form of murder, we should have had a specimen of the good old times. If every democrat in Washington passed by on the other side of the street when he saw a republican coming, it would be another specimen. The good old days had their drawbacks.—World-Herald.

Both city tickets are now in the field and you have your choice between some good men, but we think the ticket nominated by the democrats is a little bit the best.

"What we want," says Gabriel Madero, speaking for the insurrectionists, "is honest elections." Apparently the Mexicans have become tired of being governed the way Pennsylvania and some other states are.

A bureau has been established in New York to deal in titles and arrange international marriages, although the ambitious New York members seem to have succeeded very well along this line without assistance from any bureau.

The revolutionists in Mexico say that all they want is better government and that as soon as this is assured they will throw down their arms. Diaz is a tyrant and his tyranny over his own people has been more than they could stand longer.

John P. Sattler has made a most worthy and efficient official and the people generally seem very well satisfied with his administration. He certainly has been an incessant worker for the best interests of Plattsmouth.

Bailey of Texas has become a thoroughly hated man. He is disliked by the democrats, ignored by republicans and disdained by the people because of his persistency in serving the moneyed interests rather than his own constituency.

## For Sale.

R. C. and S. C. R. I. Red Cockerels, \$1.00 each. Eggs, per setting, 75 cents; \$4.00 per 100. Inquire of Mrs. C. E. Schwab, Murray, Neb. Phone 3H Murray. 2-16-2mos-w.

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