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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1920.

STROTHER & STOCKWELL, Proprietors.

RENEWALS—The date opposite your name on your paper, or wrapper shows to what time your subscription is paid. This Janis shows that payment has been received up to Jan. 1, 1920. Payment to Feb. 1, 1920 and so on. When payment is made, the date which appears as a receipt, will be changed accordingly.

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CHANGE IN ADDRESS—When ordering a change in the address, subscribers should be sure to give their old as well as their new address.

The suggestion has been made that Holcomb resign. Resign what?

There is "unrest" in Cuba again. There will never be rest in Cuba until the American flag floats permanently over the island.

Governor Shallenberger is a fair and honest man, but it didn't take Ransom and his gang long to make a monkey out of him.

Before and after his defeat Mr. Bryan had rosy visions. He says that if the election took place now his plurality would be equal to that of Taft's.

When the mistakes of the present legislature shall have been compiled, the most glaring error appearing in the list will be the attempt to disrupt the supreme court.

Ransom's name has been mentioned as "a last resort nomination" now that Holcomb and Sullivan refuse to contest. But Ransom is not a lawyer shrieks an enemy of the "boss." Neither is Rose.

Senator Foraker has dragged the Brownville question to the front again in the hope of unearthing something to the discredit of the president. Be patient. Foraker will be a private citizen in a few weeks.

Representative Sink has introduced a bill in the legislature to regulate hotels. The measure is receiving much attention from the press outside the state and is alluded to as a freak measure. The reputation of Nebraska has not been enhanced by the actions of the present body of alleged lawmakers now rattling around at Lincoln.

Representative Willet of New York, in a bitter speech delivered against President Roosevelt, denounced him as a "gargoyle." Now a gargoyle is a wooden image or ornament, and its application to a live wire like the president is a misuse of the word. The president is too animated to be alluded to as a wooden man. Willet represents a district notorious for its hostility to the president and the reforms he has stood for. Until the opportunity presented itself for Willet to unburden himself, the general public was unaware that a fellow bearing that name was drawing a salary for representing his district in congress. Willet appears to be the Ransom of the house of representatives.

Although Andrew Jackson, while president, was abused and harshly denounced by prominent members of his own party, yet the assaults made him all the more popular with the people. Lincoln, too, was abused by men professing to be in sympathy with him politically, yet all the mean things said about him in the heat of debate are forgotten now, like the men who uttered them. Andrew Johnson was charged with having conspired to remove Lincoln in order to succeed to the presidency. The charge was a cruel slander against an honest and patriotic, but unfortunate man, and he came within one vote of being impeached in conflict with the senate. Wrong in some things, Johnson was right in the effort he made to restore to southern white people the places of worship which a military governor had confiscated and turned over to negroes to be used as their places of worship. This was the starting point in the misunderstanding between President Johnson and congress, and the real cause for the attempt made to impeach him. There was the late Grover Cleveland who at one time had a congress "on his hands," and finally on his back. Of all the men in the democratic party who opposed the reform measures of Cleveland, only one is rarely mentioned now, and he failed, after trying three times, to reach the high position in the nation so ably filled by the man he denounced as a traitor to his party. "Grilling" presidents does not pay as a political investment.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

January 17th was the anniversary of the birth of a man passed almost unnoticed. In the list of great men America has produced, Benjamin Franklin stands at the head, and by some he is regarded as the greatest man known in history. Born in Boston at a period when opposition to the rule of the mother country was slowly but surely crystallizing into a physical protest, he was instrumental in shaping the destinies of the colonies and creating a sentiment against the acts of the English parliament which made him a central and commanding figure when the hour for action arrived. Coming to Philadelphia at the age of 17, with less than two dollars in his pocket, he commenced a career which placed him in the front rank in literature, diplomacy and invention. As the representative of the colonies in England before the Revolution, and the representative of the United Colonies abroad after the war had been fought to a successful issue, he displayed such genius that he was regarded by European governments as the greatest diplomat of his day. His success in making a treaty with the English government after the Revolution without dictation from France, and at the same time retaining the friendship and good will of our allies in the war for Independence, could not have been accomplished by any other American statesman. Not only in diplomacy and statecraft did Franklin excel, but he was also a philosopher, inventor, scientist, and a promoter of things that tended to intellectual and moral development. Not only did he draw lightning from the clouds and blaze the way for Morse and Edison, but he invented the cook stove, organized the first fire department, the first building and loan association, and established the first public library in America. Franklin was the first man in America to take a stand against the use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and during his sojourn in London as the "water American." When he refused to contribute to the ale fund of the printing establishment where he was employed, he was alluded to as mean and stingy, but within six months he had converted his brother printers and enlisted them in the cause of total abstinence.

Franklin was a member of the colonial congress that passed the Declaration of Independence and was a member of the committee that drafted the declaration. He served as a member of the convention that formed and adopted the constitution of our country, and organized the first postal system of the colonies. It was on Franklin's sage advice that the signers of the Declaration of Independence relied, and it was through his efforts that La Fayette crossed the ocean to fight for liberty and France became a friend and ally of the colonies and sent to our shores her money, ships and men in the dark hour of the struggle for separation from the mother country. Franklin, like Jefferson, was opposed to the slavery of the negro, and early in his career took strong grounds against the extension of the slave system. He was a foe of religious oppression, and although he was not a professing christian and did not believe in creeds, he always maintained that man should have the right to worship God under his own vine and fig tree. Mangasarian says of Franklin: "He was the Socrates of America. He, too, was the father of his country—of intellectual America. His thought was the first fruit to ripen on the tree planted in the soil of the new world. You are the first philosopher, the first man of letters, for whom we are beholden to America, wrote Hume to Franklin. If we were to use a commercial phrase, we would say that few men have done more to advertise this country than Benjamin Franklin. He made America the vogue in the old country. He gave tone to our struggle for independence. Before his day Europe looked to America for cereals and minerals, for cotton and tobacco—for things—now America is the vogue in Europe. At the Academy of Immortals in Paris Voltaire embraced Franklin while the spectators cheered and wept for joy. In him they saw America stepping to the front—America rising to the intellectual stature of Europe."

One of the reforms that politicians in both parties are opposed to is a measure that will take the election of county officers out of partisan politics and give the people better service. When a man or woman applies for a position as teacher in the public schools he or she must produce a certificate certifying that the applicant has passed a satisfactory examination qualifying them for the place. The man who fills the position of county treasurer, county clerk, sheriff or any other county office is as much a public

servant as the school teacher; yet almost any man, if he has the pull, can secure the nomination for a county office regardless of his qualifications. When a man desires to stand for nomination for a county office, he should be required to file a certificate showing that he has passed a credible examination for the position he aspires to. The government demands a civil service examination, why not the county and state?

THE DEVIL AT THE BELLOWS.

Behind the steam and smoke and rancor of the congressional assaults upon President Roosevelt the Omaha Bee sees the cunning of the big corporations, which are busily fanning the flames and crying on the excited congressmen in the hope that, between secret service investigations and the urgency of the great appropriation bills, no time will be left for the general legislation demanded by the public. Especially do the "interests" desire that no action shall be possible on the president's recommendation for an extension of the powers of the Interstate Commerce commission or looking to the establishment of postal savings banks. The improvement of inland waterways is another of their anti-pathies. And congress, losing all sense of the importance of these things in its furor over imaginary attacks on its "dignity," blindly lends itself to the purposes of the men to oppose whose reactionary plans most of its members were elected. It is a pity that each recalcitrant member could not be immersed for a few days in the cooling atmosphere of his home constituency. He would there quickly discover that he has been on the wrong track—that to join in blocking needed legislation, simply because it is recommended by the president, is a poor way of retaining popular favor.

Nothing that congress can do or say will conceal the one essential fact in the situation, that the whole trouble has arisen over an apparent attempt made by the house committee on appropriations to limit the use of the secret service in ferreting out frauds and rascalities perpetrated at the expense of the nation. Had there been time enough for debate, when that mischievous amendment to the appropriation bill was offered in the house, it is hardly possible that the house would have approved of it. But it was adroitly offered amid the whirl and excitement of the last days of the session. With its customary loyalty to its committees, the house accepted it without debate. In conference it was rejected by the senate. But the house committee insisted—everybody was eager to get away in preparation for the coming national canvass—so the senate conference yielded.

The only affront administered—the only disgrace put upon congress in this whole incident—has come from this unfortunate hasty action. The only cure is the restoration of the secret service to the status it held before the appropriation committee made its initial blunder.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

MARCHING THROUGH GEORGIA.

If Mr. Taft issues any statement from his winter capital regarding the way that Georgia is treating him it will be eloquent in praise of the people of that region. Augusta, where he has been residing for the past few weeks, is giving its visitor distinguished honors. So is Atlanta. No native of that state has ever been treated more cordially by its citizens than has this Northern man and Republican chief. He has the freedom of the town wherever he goes. Roosevelt in 1904 carried ten of Georgia's 137 counties. Taft carried all of those ten counties in 1908, and sixteen others, although Bryan was more popular in the South as well as in the North than Parker was. Roosevelt's percentage of Georgia's vote was 18.47. Taft's was 31.57. A large majority of the business men of that state voted the Republican ticket in the recent election. Taft was particularly strong in many white counties. It was said at the time that the Brownville incident sent many negroes in Georgia and elsewhere over to the Democrats. Perhaps this was true. Whether it was true or not, the Republican gains in many of the Southern States in 1908 over 1904 are significant. They show that in Dixie Taft is among friends. It was said during the campaign that Taft would exchange the electoral vote of any of the old Confederate States for twice as many votes of states in the North or West. The recent election shows that some of the members of the Confederacy are likely to come over to the Republicans within the next few years. The political South is getting tired of holding aloof from the industrial South. The old taunt by Calhoun, Hammond, Barkdale, Jefferson Davis and other Southern chiefs of half or two-thirds of a century ago that their section was a hewer of wood and a drawer of

water for the North is no longer applicable. Mining and manufacturing are increasing with great rapidity all over the region below the Potomac and the Ohio. The influences which have given the Republican party its sway throughout the North are working in the same direction in the other section. They are overcoming prejudices and tradition. Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee may be placed in the doubtful list in 1912.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

SUPERVISORS' PROCEEDINGS.

Columbus, Nebraska, Tuesday afternoon, January 19, 1920.  
The board of supervisors of Platte county, Nebraska, met in regular session at 10 o'clock a. m. in the court house, and on motion, same was referred to the committee on roads and bridges.  
The undersigned appointed by the chair at the last regular meeting of the board to view certain school lands near the town of Creston, Nebraska, accompanied by a bond in the sum of \$200.00 and a check for the same, and on motion, same was referred to the committee on roads and bridges.  
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On motion of Supervisor Smith the following was adopted: To the Honorable Board of Supervisors of Platte County, Nebraska: I hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the records of the county of Platte, Nebraska, for the year 1919, as shown in the report of the county clerk, J. C. Carrig, deputy county clerk, and on motion, same was referred to the committee on roads and bridges.

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of Platte County, Nebraska: Gentlemen—The undersigned County Superintendent of Platte county respectfully shows your honorable body that his salary is fixed at the sum of \$1,200.00 per year, which is the amount at which the salary of said office was fixed twenty-two years ago. Since that time the cost of living has almost doubled. What was a fair salary twenty-two years ago is wholly inadequate at this time. The amount of the salary allowed him he is compelled to pay livery hire and traveling expenses incident in the matter of each school in the county at least once a year. Which, with other expenses, materially reduces the net amount received by him for his official services. Boone county, with a much smaller population, pays a salary of \$1,300.00. Colfax county with 29 school districts pays a salary of \$1,400.00. Adams county with a smaller population and precisely the same number of school districts pays a salary of \$1,500.00. York county pays \$1,600.00; Hamilton county pays \$1,600.00. The undersigned believes that he is justified in asking your honorable body that his salary be increased to \$1,500.00 a year, and therefore asks that it be increased to that amount.

Respectfully submitted, FRED S. LECRON, County Superintendent.

Edgar Howard, of Columbus, Nebraska, now appeared before the board in the capacity of a private citizen and requested that the board consider the advisability of giving the commission on County Superintendent's salary due consideration in the matter of his request.

After lengthy discussion on the above communication by the board it was moved by Supervisor Schwarz that the communication be referred to the County Attorney Hensley for a written opinion. Motion carried.

The following was presented: To the Honorable Board of Supervisors of Platte County, Nebraska: I hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the records of the county of Platte, Nebraska, for the year 1919, as shown in the report of the county clerk, J. C. Carrig, deputy county clerk, and on motion, same was referred to the committee on roads and bridges.

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Moved by Supervisor Smith that the appointments of deputy assessors made by County Assessor Frank W. Motton be confirmed by this board. Motion carried.  
The following resolution was now offered by Supervisors Clothier and Smith: Resolved, That the application of Gus G. Becker, the duly appointed guardian of the person and estate of Martha Michelson, an insane woman, for the approval of the sale of the ward's interest in real estate.  
The undersigned Platte County Supervisors of Platte County, Nebraska, do hereby certify that we approve the proposed sale of the interest of the said ward in the northwest quarter of section No. 2 in township No. 17, north of range 22, west of the 6th principal meridian, in Platte county, Nebraska, and we hereby pray the court to make said order.  
ADAM SMITH,  
M. E. CLOTHIER,  
County Supervisors.

On motion of Supervisor Clothier the following was adopted: To the Honorable Board of Supervisors of Platte County, Nebraska: I hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the records of the county of Platte, Nebraska, for the year 1919, as shown in the report of the county clerk, J. C. Carrig, deputy county clerk, and on motion, same was referred to the committee on roads and bridges.

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