

THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1905.

While most of the counties in the state went republican on the head of the ticket we notice from our exchanges that about half of the county offices went to the democrats. The experience of Hall county was repeated in most of the counties of the state.—Grand Island Democrat.

A man, who on the election board as judge, would steal a vote properly marked, under the pretext of trying to read the voter's mind to the contrary, also would rob others of their vote who had plainly shown their intentions but failing to mark properly, is a rascal and in secret, we believe, he would not hesitate at greater criminal action.

The republican party in Nebraska has the same self-satisfied feeling in regard to the future that they had in 1889. The next year they were jarred loose and the independent votes cast at the last election presage another attempt to break away. If such is the case and an effort is made to send Senator Millard back to the United States senate there will be trouble and probably a political revolution.—Stanton Register.

Judge T. O. C. Harrison, formerly supreme judge in Nebraska by grace of the republican party, was defeated for county judge of Hall county last week and a democrat elected over him. The county was carried by Judge Letton, but Harrison was too well known in his own county. Fact is most of the republican state officials are not afflicted with any too great a degree of popularity in the vicinity where they are well known.—Polk County Democrat.

The Rising Tide of Poverty.

In the United Kingdom of England, Scotland and Wales, according to Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman, leader of the English liberal party, there are nearly 8,000,000 people living on the "hunger line." To those the loss of one week's wages means lack of food, and the loss of two week's wages leaves them homeless and starving. In the city of London alone there are 100,000 paupers thousands upon thousands of homeless wanderers of both sexes.

In Massachusetts, according to figures recently cited in these columns, the enormous sum of \$15,000,000 is spent in charity every year, while the total for the United States will run close to \$300,000,000.

In Chicago, says Leslie Bodine, superintendent of compulsory education, there are 18,000 deserted wives. He gives as the causes for wife abandonment in the great majority of instances long hours of labor, small salaries, large families and earnest but vain efforts to sustain the family in a moderate degree of comfort.

And all the while, in the United Kingdom, as in the United States, wealth is piling up! All the while the production of wealth in relation to the unit of human labor is increasing.

Never before in the history of the world has there been such an enormous and such a cheapened

production of the things that go to sustain life and add to the comforts, conveniences and luxuries of living.

Labor-saving machinery, producing an increased product at a decreased cost, is piling into the mills and factories, and these, at home and abroad, are running, for the most part, to their capacity limit. New and valuable lands have been opened to cultivation. The mining area is increasing and the volume of product piles up higher and higher.

The world is getting richer and—it is no cant phrase, but the solemn and dreadful truth—the poor are increasing in number. The rising tide of poverty is slowly creeping up by inches, while the production and accumulation of wealth is mounting by feet. It is a poverty that not all the charity and benevolences in the world serves even temporarily to check.

With better machinery, greater intelligence and efficiency, more ably directed and superintended, the masses, adding more and more to the wealth of the world, are sharing less and less in its benefits.

Even in the United States, in an age of wonderful prosperity, and even among those constantly employed at a higher wage, the latest report of the United States bureau of statistics shows that the increase in the cost of living has more than kept pace with the increase in wage.

And side by side with the struggling poor the favored wealthy classes are reveling in riches that would have made a Midas turn green with envy. Mr. Rockefeller measures his yearly income by the scores of millions and in England the duke of Westminster has a rent roll almost as large. So strongly has the tide set in that the very rich of both countries are absolutely unable to spend the incomes of their fortunes, though they indulge in unheard of luxury, extravagance and profligacy.

What will the harvest be? Was that Nebraskan an inspired poet who penned the lines:

The laws of right are eternal laws,
The judgments of truth are true.
My greed-blind masters I bid you pause
And look upon the work you do.
You bind with shackles your fellow man;
Your hands with his blood are wet,
And the God who reigned over Babylon
Is the God who is reigning yet.
—World-Herald.

SENTENCE DISGUSTS SECRETARY HITCHCOCK

Surprise and Indignant That Such Leniency was Shown Comstock and Richards.

Had Hoped Results of Trial Would Be Warning to the Smaller Fencers.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 16.—Secretary Hitchcock was today unofficially informed that in the matter of the prosecution of Bartlett Richards and W. G. Comstock in the federal court at Omaha for the illegal fencing of 212,000 acres of government land in Sheridan county, Nebraska, upon pleading guilty the defendants had been sentenced to remain for six hours in the custody of the United States marshal and pay a fine of \$300 each.

"You can say," said the secre-

tary in discussing the verdict, "that I am surprised and indignant. The punishment is utterly inadequate. The indictment was the result of four years of determined effort and the expenditure of thousands of dollars by the government. We had selected the large operators in the hope that the result would be a warning to those engaged on a smaller scale. That the case was a strong one is evident by the fact that the men pleaded guilty. The result is discouraging, but we shall not cease our efforts. They have promised to tear down their fences, and if they do not keep the promise, they will be indicted again and again until they learn that laws are made to be obeyed. We will not let up."—World-Herald.

MUNGER MAKES REPLY TO HITCHCOCK'S CRITICISM

Federal Judge Practically Tells Secretary of Interior to Mind His Own Business.

Thinks United States Has Attained Its End—Moody Ask Baxter What He Himself Advised.

Speaking of the Associated Press report to the effect that Secretary Hitchcock of the interior department was "surprised and indignant" on account of the \$300 fine and six-hour sentence passed upon Bartlett Richards and William G. Comstock for inclosing 212,000 acres of government land, Judge Munger, who imposed the sentence in federal court, had this to say:

"He is surprised and indignant, is he? Well, the secretary of the interior has a perfect right to be surprised and indignant if he wants to be. One would naturally think he had enough to look after with the affairs pertaining to his office without seeking to saddle himself with additional responsibilities.

"You may quote me as saying, however, that I think the result which the government hoped to attain has been effected. The indictments and the prosecution was primarily for the purpose of obliging ranchmen to abandon their unlawful fences. Now the inclosing of the public domain is not a crime per se. It is nothing more than a statutory offense.

In view of this fact and of the additional fact that the defendants declared that they had removed their unlawful fences in part and avowed their intent of taking down any fences which might still remain on government land, I believe the sentence passed upon them was sufficient to meet the situation.

"You were in the court room, I believe, when the district attorney was asked if he had anything to say before sentence was passed upon the two defendants. My recollection is that he replied Messrs. Richards and Comstock had been acting in good faith as regards the removal of their unlawful fences, and that they would continue to act in good faith in the matter of removing the remainder of their fences.

"As for the 'four years of determined efforts and the expenditure of thousands of dollars by the government' before the defendants were indicted, that, of course, was not a matter submitted for my consideration. All there was in the case for me to decide was the sentence, and that decision was not made until after I had given the matter thorough consideration."

Irving W. Baxter, United States attorney, being asked if he had any comment to make upon the criticism by Secretary Hitchcock, said:

"I was as much surprised as anyone could be over the change of attitude on the part of Comstock and Richards with reference to the case against them. I had expected and prepared for a hard fight. I think that possibly their decision to plead guilty was brought about by the fact that it had come to their

knowledge that I had caused to be made a complete survey of their entire enclosure and also a thorough investigation of nearly all land entries within their enclosure, thus being fully prepared for trial upon every point at issue. From my standpoint, we had a good case against them and I can scarcely see anything else that they could do unless they were fighting for time. They could not hope successfully to defend the case. Of course, I have nothing to do with the sentence of the court."

The fact remains, however, that District Attorney Baxter has received a letter from Attorney General Moody which makes the inquiry as to whether or not he (Mr. Baxter) made any suggestion regarding a prison sentence before the defendants were fined. The district attorney says he made no suggestion to the court; merely saying that he was satisfied that Richards and Comstock meant to comply with the law in regard to removing their fences.—World-Herald.

Voters of Cherry County.

Once again I pick up my pen to address you. I know that it is not customary for a defeated candidate to utter words of thanks, but I never was a slave to fashion or custom and hope I may never be.

That I have been disappointed in this election, I do not deny.

Still I think the people have been very liberal in voting for those other than their party members. Of course, I should like to have been numbered among the successful, but since I am not I intend to make the most of my circumstances, such as they are, and endeavor to believe that it is a part of God's divine plan for me and remember that "all things work together for good to those that love Him."

However, I am as truly thankful to the 575 men who supported me in this election as though many more had changed their plans and voted with you. And to the friends who worked for me in this campaign I am as deeply grateful as I could have been, had our efforts not been in vain.

I intend to have these few remarks put in both papers, because I realize that both parties include friends that would help me along the road of success if they could.

To these 575 loyal friends I will say, your votes were wasted so far as helping to an election was concerned, but I assure you that they were not wasted upon an ungrateful heart.

MRS. LOTTIE CRAMER.

International Live Stock Exposition to be held in Chicago, December 16 to 23.

In order to arrange for better facilities in handling the large attendance anticipated for this great annual event and on account of the inability of the builders to complete the magnificent new amphitheatre on time, it has been found necessary to postpone the Exposition until the dates above mentioned. All of the events advertised will be held on the days of the week corresponding to the dates arranged for the previous week. All preparations are being made to make the event one long to be remembered. The change in the date will bring it at a season of the year when it will no doubt be more convenient for a larger number to attend.

LOST—Between the Ft. Niobrara bridge and Valentine, Nov. 1st, a Luger automatic revolver. Suitable reward will be paid for the return of the gun to this office.

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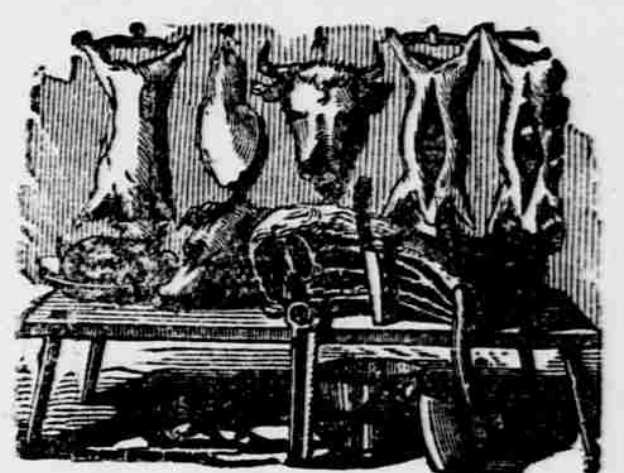
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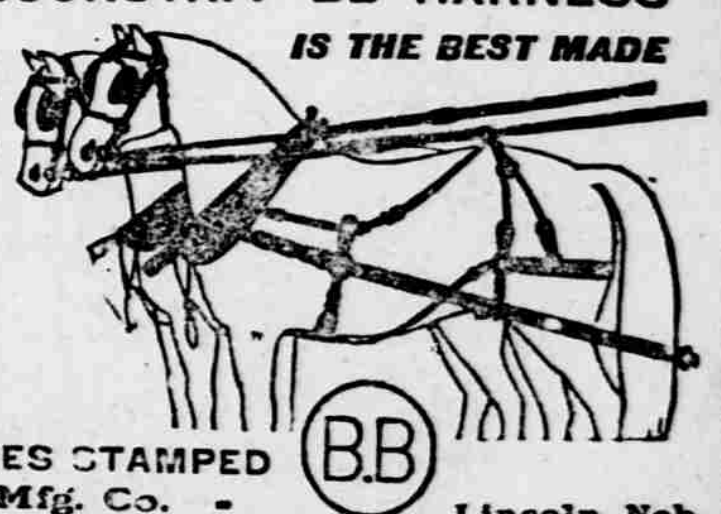
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