

The Plattsmouth Journal

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How a head of a government can be popular remains an unsolvable mystery to the Czar of all the Russias.

ELDER DOWIE'S effort to capitalize Zion City on a \$7,000,000 basis brings him into the "frenzied finance" class.

"PLATTSMOUTH'S will" is stronger than "Plattsmouth's push," because "when she will, she will, and you can depend on it."

THERE are ten bankers in the Ohio penitentiary. The only regret their depositors have is that they did not get there sooner.

NEARLY \$2,000,000 worth of licorice is used in this country annually. And a great deal more than that is spent for "licor" without the "ice."

TWO Standard Oil officials have been indicted in Illinois. This is even more offensive than questioning the purity of Mr. Rockefeller's contributions to church work.

IF Grover Cleveland was the best republican president the democrats ever had, why is not Teddy Roosevelt the best democratic president the republicans ever had?

CHAIRMAN J. R. DOUGLASS of the First district democratic congressional central committee has called the congressional convention to meet in Lincoln, Thursday, June 15.

"Grows while you wait" would seem to apply to this country. There were 12,039 immigrants admitted in twelve hours, at the port of New York, one day last week.

IT certainly was thoughtless of Henry Clews not to include Tom Lawson in his list of the twenty-two American citizens who lead in wealth. The things Lawson is likely to do to Clews beggar description.

ERNEST POLLARD can thank the Journal for the instructions from this county to the congressional convention. If this paper had not exposed the "secret ballot" scheme concocted by the Plattsmouth ringmaster, he would have been downed in his effort.

JUDGE HOLMES, who received the instructions of the Lancaster county delegation last Thursday to the Falls City congressional convention, is not by any means a popular man and is not very acceptable to g. o. p. manager in Lincoln. The instructions were given him after a very hot contest.

ON the first ballot at the Louisville convention the vote stood, Pollard, 88; Senator Sheldon, 66; Lyon Clark, 22. Then talk about the ringmaster and his dupes not trying to down Pollard. They went up to Louisville to do this, but the rural fellows would not stand any monkey business from the ringsters.

PAUL CLARK got a very black eye in his aspiration for congressional honors. He was sure of the Lancaster county delegation to the Falls City convention. Wonder if President Roosevelt's reiteration of his policy on the matter of railroad legislation didn't have some bearing upon the contest at Lincoln? The Clarks are not popular with the people. But as tools of the railroads they are a success.

SECRETARY WILSON has scored one in his controversy with the officials of the terminal railroads. They insisted that the law which required the unloading, for feeding and watering, of stock in transit once in each twenty-eight hours apply only to through roads and while they were maintaining the secretary was gathering evidence with which he now proposes to institute upwards of four prosecutions. The attorney general has rendered an opinion upholding the correctness of the secretary's construction of the law and many of the railroads are preparing to pay their fines without entering any defense.

THE tribulations of the "stand pat" are many and now Germany has added one more. The Treasury deficit was bad enough, the voraciousness of the trusts was worse, and now comes Germany and declares her intention of assessing a high discriminating duty on American products in retaliation for the Dingley tariff act. Of course most of Germany's importations from the United States consist of wheat, flour and other agricultural products so that it is only the farmers and not the trusts that will suffer from the discrimination, but even the farmers may weary of continually contributing to the profits of the trusts. Even the worm has been known to turn.

THE war dogs in the Orient are contenting themselves with walking around each other. For Admirals who profess to be about to fight, the Russian commanders and Togo and manifesting a peculiar disinclination for each other's society. They will have to become better friends before they can fight.

E. M. POLLARD has selected the following delegates to the Falls City convention: John Adams, T. H. Bobbitt, W. E. Hand, William Deles Dernier, R. E. Neitzel, T. T. Young, F. E. Bricke, G. H. Olive, J. M. Teegarden, I. N. Woodford, Charles Richie, Stewart Rough, George L. Sheldon, L. C. Todd, J. A. Root, Ben Horning, R. B. Windham, Jesse Root, C. A. Rawls, J. A. Beeson, A. L. Tidd, Charles Clapp, D. A. Lynch, A. N. Sullivan, H. A. Schneider, and D. M. M. Butler.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S Denver speech, in which he returned to his railroad-rates campaign with vigor, is accepted by the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce as a new challenge and a reopening of the contest between the president and the railroads. The speech came at a time when the issue was waning, so far as the Senate committee was concerned, and after it had been accepted by all who have watched the present series of hearings that there was no hope in this committee of a bill giving rate-fixing power to a Federal commission. The President's speech is accepted on all sides as an indication that he intends to push his campaign through the next session, and he will continue consultations on this subject through the summer here and at Oyster Bay. His specific mention of regulation of rates by Government commission means that he will not be satisfied with a bill which only aims to correct the private car and terminal abuses.

It Depends on Whose Ox is Gored.

Senator Elkins and the other republican senators, with the possible exception of Senator Cullom, are getting anxious to close the hearings on railroad-rate control, now the railroads have got in their evidence. Just after the fourth of March Senator Elkins declared he was willing to sit all summer at Washington and continue to hear everyone who could throw any light on the control of railroad rates. Now we are told by the Washington Post that "several of the senators, among them Senator Elkins, the chairman of the committee, have reached the conclusion that there is little necessity for prolonging the hearing." This sudden change of front is due to the appearance of E. P. Bacon of Milwaukee, president of the shippers' national organization, before the committee and giving evidence that completely destroyed the contention of the railroads. Mr. Bacon's evidence produced on Senator Elkins and the other republican members of the committee, that tired feeling that generally attacks politicians when they have an uncomfortable tax to perform. In Washington they call it "political malaria" and the remedy that has a good effect is a trip pass to Europe on one of the steamship trust steamers mainly controlled by the railroad trust.

To stop in Washington, now the warm weather has commenced, and hear the arguments of the business men of the country for relief from railroad discrimination and overcharges would of course be disastrous to the health of these gentlemen, especially when the majority of the committee have made up their minds to favor the railroads and that their good health hinges on either sea air or a free trip to the mountains.

People Right to Govern Themselves.

A century and a quarter after the American people fought for and obtained the right to govern themselves it seems somewhat odd to hear this right questioned. Yet this is the state of affairs at the present time. The right of self-government is laughed at in certain quarters. It is denied in others. The principles of the Declaration of Independence have just been declared by a distinguished citizen of Massachusetts to be obsolete.

The democratic party should assert the right of popular self-government. In a republic this is the right preserving all rights. If the people lose to monopoly or corruption or trust or oligarchy this right then the real republic dies, whatever forms remain. Here is the strength of the democratic party. In a failure to realize and act upon it is weakness.

The platform of the democratic party is in the making. It will be written by the people or by certain well-defined, smooth-spoken gentlemen holding briefs for special interests. We confess to a belief in the right of the people to govern themselves and as corollary to this belief in the right of the members of a political party, the rank and file, to write their own platform. When this or that danger to the perpetuity of republican institutions is pointed out it is well to remember that a denial of the right of the people to govern themselves or an attempt to defeat the exercise of this right is the worst of dangers.

Public Opinion.

The republicans are having a warm time in the first district going through the form of permitting certain corporations to name the candidate for Congress.—Crete Democrat.

In this country we have more to fear from the black flag of corruption than we have from the red flag of anarchy. The beef trust, the coal trust, the oil trust, and every private monopoly are greater enemies to the welfare and integrity of the republic than all the anarchists societies of the world put together.—Auburn Herald.

E. M. Pollard of Cass has the solid delegation of his county for the congressional nomination. There is a great feeling over the district that Lancaster county should not have both the senator and congressman and Pollard's chances for nomination may not be so slender as some would suppose.—Lincoln Herald.

The time has come to call a halt upon the practical selection of judges of all courts by the railroad magnates of the country. We want a square deal but we are not going to get it by allowing this practice to continue. The News calls upon every man who believes with it upon this proposition to join hands with it in protesting vigorously and loudly against the promotion of Mr. Greene from the Burlington legal department to the judgeship of the federal court.—Lincoln News.

As a restraint upon the liquor traffic and its evils the Slocum law suffers in comparison with a prohibitory law, for its restrictive features, one and all, are a howling farce. The attempts to enforce it in our cities have always been spasmodic and ineffectual, and as a rule bitterly opposed by the very ones who so loudly proclaim its virtues. There is but one feature of the Slocum law that has any value, and that is the prohibitory section. The other so-called restrictive sections might as well be repealed.—Central City (Neb) Record.

The Lincoln Star quotes Governor Mickey in connection with the rumor that he will call a special session of the Nebraska legislature as follows: "The announcement is news to me, and no one has been authorized to state for me that a special session would be called. I am very busy considering the assessment of railroad properties and have not given the matter of a special session, a thought. I have received several requests to call a special session, but absolutely have not given the subject any consideration."

Representative Ernst of Johnson county hits the nail on the head when he says it would be no use to recall the present legislature together to make a freight rate bill. He reasons that a body of men that once failed of their duty in this respect will fail again. He also says that when the commodity rate bill was discussed and finally defeated last winter he never heard that Governor Mickey was in favor of it. He believes that it will be just as well to wait until the next legislative session and then the people will instruct their representatives in unmistakable terms upon this question. He thinks the last legislature had a great deal of "gall" to call a congressman on the floor demanding to know if he would support the president in his reform policy and then itself refuse to carry out the same policy when called upon to do so. That is the trouble with many reformers. They are like the Irishman—in favor of the law, but agin' the enforcement of it.—Beatrice Sun.

It ought not require an argument to prove that it is wrong for a judge to have a railroad pass. The mere statement of the proposition that it is improper for a judge to receive favor from litigants in his court is its own proof. But it can be proven to be wrong for another reason. It is this, suppose some citizen desired to test the question whether a pass is lawful, or as to whether it is a violation of the constitution, which we think it is, how would he test the question? Why he would have to bring a legal proceeding in some court. To what court would he go? Where would he bring his action? Would he institute his proceedings before a judge who holds a pass? He would have to do so for there is scarcely any other kind. Or if perchance he found one without a pass, and his case was appealed to higher court, then he would have to submit to the adjudication of a pass holder. Now we submit, is it fair to the citizen to be compelled to submit his case to the decision of one who is himself a law breaker? He might possibly do so, but he would be inclined to take the side of his own innocence. To say the least, it would be highly embarrassing to the judge, which forcibly illustrates that it is wrong for a judge to use a pass.—York Democrat

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A Shield for Selfishness and Greed.

In the protective tariff, selfishness has legalized stealing and holds itself up as patriotism. The trusts and monopolists, not content with large profits, have so increased their revenues that they aim to control, and do in a great measure, the state and federal governments, and prevent any revision of the system of legalized robbery they have set up. Those subsidized monopolists and special privileged have the political backing of the dominant party; they in a great measure furnish the sinews of war; a majority of the republican members of both houses of congress are recipients of their bounty either directly, or through the medium of political committees, or political managers and therefore are their willing tools.

To revise such a system is a herculean task. It has fostered extravagance for the very purpose of preventing its reformation, so that the cry of lack of revenue can be raised to prevent reduction of excessive rates in every tariff schedule. Even to equalize the price of trust products here and the price the monopolists sell the same products to foreign countries for is opposed by the friends of protection and nothing but a political revolution will effect a change. The patriotic cry of protecting the American laborer from the pauper labor of Europe has been used to install a system to rob the American consumer by charging them vastly higher prices for the same trust products than the same products are sold to the European paupers for.

No defense is set up for this robbery of the American people. It has come to be looked upon by many honest people as an American institution that they must endure and suffer under or disturb business. Aye! there is the rub, it would disturb the business of the trusts. To right the wrongs of the American people would disturb the monopolists.

How long will the people submit to this fleecing? Will they elect in this congressional district, at the coming special election, a congressman who will continue the system? Will they elect another like his predecessor who will "stand pat" and grin with satisfaction and virtually ask his constituents "what are you going to do about it?" Every additional monopolist vote in congress strengthens the more the hands of the trusts and corporations. Is it not about time for the voters of this district to show their independence and vote for their own interests?

Taxation Must Be Equal.

There are indications that some of the public service corporations are going to make trouble again with the city and county authorities over the matter of taxation, says the Lincoln News. An end ought to be soon put to this constant turmoil.

The corporations ought to be willing to be taxed on the same basis as individuals, and they ought to submit with the same calmness and restraint. It is growing tiresome every year to have to use a club upon some of them in order to make them do the right thing.

The council and the county commissioners ought to stiffen their backbones materially this year and insist upon the corporations being put upon the same basis as other taxpayers. One measure ought to be employed, and one only. What is the property worth upon the open market? The value of traction company stock is pretty definitely fixed by recent transactions, and every dollar of its stock now practically represents a dollar of value. The telephone companies have expended large sums improving their plants, and the value of their plants ought to be easily determined from a knowledge of what their securities bring in the market. The gas company's bonds have been selling at around 70 cents lately, and the stock has brought as high as 20 cents. The assessors can easily ascertain the outstanding issues of stocks and bonds and compute what the actual value of the property is.

These results being obtained from the boards of equalization ought not to hesitate about what the assessment should be. Other property besides corporate is put in at approximately market values. If it is not, then corporate property ought to be scaled down in the same proportion.

Our financial magnates ought to do this without any grumbling or juggling of figures. The value of most property is determined by its use, and where this is not the determining factor, custom and the law have established a method that is just and right. At any rate, let us have no more bickering and litigation over the matter.

Saved by Dynamite.

Sometimes a flying city is saved by dynamiting a space that the fire can't cross. Sometimes a cough hangs on so long you feel as if nothing but dynamite would cure it. Z. T. Gray of Calhoun, Ga., writes: "My wife had a very aggravated cough which kept her awake nights. Two physicians could not help her, so she took Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds, which eased her cough, gave her sleep and finally cured her." Strictly scientific cure for bronchitis and la grippe. At F. G. Fricke & Co.'s drug store; price 50c and \$1.00; guaranteed. Trial bottle free.

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