

The Plattsmouth Journal

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AN EARLY democratic state convention is the proper caper. No one seems to object to an early date.

EVERY railroad organ in the country is tearing its shirt for Buster Brown. When this sheet has got to do the aping, mouthing and ranting for corporations or their tools it will hike, the way the crow flies.—Strang Reporter.

JOHN L. WEBSTER is now being groomed by his republican friends for the senatorial toga. Such a man as Webster is a great improvement over such fellows as "Buster Brown." And in the senate would lay such fellows as "Busthead" Burkett in the shade.

WITH an early convention, the nomination of a gentleman like Judge Sullivan for governor and a live and energetic state committee, backed by an enthusiastic democracy, the state can and will be redeemed from the clutches of its proven enemies.

THE prospects for the party of Jefferson and Bryan in Nebraska are exceedingly bright. The leaders are united, the rank and file harmonious, and the state house gang realize that they have the fight of their lives before them. They know they deserve defeat.

THE idea advanced that the nomination of a candidate for United States senator by the democratic state convention would not prove beneficial is all bosh. There is just as much sense in nominating a senator as there is in nominating a candidate for governor or any other state office.

METCALFE opposes a primary for nominating a candidate for United States senator, which system our friend G. M. Hitchcock favors, as neither objects to the state convention making such nomination, why not let the matter rest at that. That's the only sensible way of doing it, anyway. Let that be recorded also.

THE democrats should now be looking around in their various localities to see who they have among them that will make a good working member on the state committee. An able and energetic committee can do wonders in the way of carrying on a campaign that will lead to victory. A poor committee is worse than done at all.

IT don't matter much what Congressman Pollard's cigar bill may have been when he ran last campaign, nor is it any of our particular business who the First district put up for Congress, but one thing is certain, Mr. Pollard has already achieved a national reputation by doing something practical for the farmers of his district, state and nation and the beauty of it is the farmers all know it. We really like to see farmers in Congress, like Pollard. They do things. They leave the big bunch of lawyers down at Washington first rate.—Fairfield Herald.

WOULDN'T this cork you? The New York Times lays all present troubles in the republican ranks to the populists who have joined the republican party in recent years. Editor Sedgwick declares "there was no such racket in the republican party when the pops were out of it as there is now." He intimates that the chief desire of a populist is to eat pie, and complains because the pops have returned to the republican fold with a peremptory demand that the fatted calf is cooked in their honor. The complaint of Editor Sedgwick is pleasing to our ears. There must be some truth in the charge which he makes against those populists who went back into the republican

ranks. Surely they did not go back for the sake of principle, because not one of the principles in which the pops believed were advocated by the republicans until President Roosevelt landed with both feet upon the democratic and populist platform.

IT is again given out that Governor Mickey will not be a candidate for United States Senator. Ha! ha!

THERE is no question as to the democrats of Nebraska having the state house ring on the run. It is a reality.

MORTENSEN can't run for governor and his friends are bound that he shall run for something, so they are pressing him for railroad commissioner. Quite a fall, my countrymen!

NEBRASKA has just experienced its first coal strike. The entire coal mining force struck at Peru last week. The water flooded the pit and the man who has been digging the coal went out on a strike.

OMAHA'S biggest policeman, who weighs 300 pounds, was driven from his home by his 87 pound wife and forced to sue for divorce of account of cruel treatment, and still there are men who claim that a woman isn't competent to sit as a member of a public school board.

IF Mr. Bryan's ears are not burning these days, there is nothing in that old saying that your ears burn when you're talked about. Just now he is the most talked of man in this or any other land. It is curious to note how public opinion has changed. What Mr. Bryan has always advocated seems now to be more popular than ever.

THE cranks and small ones are after Congressman Pollard in the First district for violating the corrupt practice act, by setting up the cigars, to constituents during election. If anything will increase Pollard's popularity with the public generally it is to know that he isn't a "short horse." So many public men use the corrupt practice song to cover up their despicable stinginess.

JOHN PAUL JONES will be buried some more at Annapolis on April 24. The funeral service will be attended by Governor Mickey and several other distinguished military heroes from the different parts of the state. However, in looking over the list, we fail to find the name of a single Cass county citizen, although the woods are full of men who carried the banner.

IT will not be sixty days before the moving picture fiend will be on the road with "The Destruction of San Francisco." You will hear the rumbling of the earthquake, witness the falling of the buildings, see the thousands of people who rush forth in their night clothing to escape the falling walls. While the moving pictures may not be so thrilling, most people will prefer it to the real thing.

SPEAKING of the the candidacy of Senator Sheldon, the Fairfield News-Herald says: "Hon. George L. Sheldon, of Cass county, has announced his candidacy for governor of this state. Mr. Sheldon is by occupation a farmer. He is a graduate of the state university, was captain of a company in the Third Nebraska regiment in the war with Spain where he served with credit.

Has represented the Fourth senatorial district (Cass county) in the last two sessions of the state legislature, also with credit and distinction. Mr. Sheldon has stood for every genuine reform in Nebraska since he entered upon public life. Is distinctly and decidedly in favor of the square deal for every man, and the people ruling their own affairs rather than have them run them for a favored few. Mr. Sheldon would make a first-class executive in these strenuous times. Honest, fearless and able, we don't know of a better man than the senator from Cass. Either Sheldon or some man who stands for the principles he does is bound to be nominated and elected."

The Vengeance of the People.

Nothing that has happened in a long time has been so impressive, so dramatic, as the fate which has lately overtaken those gentlemen who were chiefly concerned in the insurance scandals. In the Dark Ages such a fate would have been recognized as the direct vengeance of the unseen God, who at last had sent a bolt from a clear sky and blasted the evil-doers where they stood. Nowadays we call that bolt the force of public opinion. It is a form of social punishment that has been growing in power fast of late years. The chief agency by which it works is the press. Thanks to the activities of journalism, every man and woman in the nation has the power to judge—and condemn. And the verdict of these millions of private judgments gets itself registered, and with an irresistible impulse, like fate, exacts the penalty ultimately. It is the only court that the big criminals are beginning to fear. In the force of this extralegal power that lies in the popular conscience the safety of democracy rests.

But public opinion in its hearing of public causes depends pretty generally upon the daily press for the presentation of the case. At the best the daily press is an imperfect instrument, liable to prejudice and indirect influences. If the people are to sit in judgment and condemn the guilty to disgrace and even death, their sources of information should be above suspicion. Too often the newspapers misrepresent or ignore or suppress the facts. In the service of justice we need an absolutely fearless, honest and impartial daily press.—Saturday Evening Post.

The Tariff Iniquity.

The iniquity of the tariff was shown up splendidly in the lower house of congress last week by Congressman Rainey of Illinois. He charged that the American watch manufacturers are in a trust and are selling watches abroad for less money than they are selling them at home. The head of the Waltham Watch Company wrote Mr. Rainey a letter admitting that his company is selling watches abroad for less money than they are selling them at home, but denied that there is a trust—merely an understanding. That is all a trust is—an understanding as to prices, output and the territory in which certain products shall be sold. Mr. Rainey then produced the advertisement of a New York dealer who is selling American watches at from one-third to one-half less than is asked by the home dealers. He goes into the markets abroad and buys American watches, ships them back to New York and then sells them at the prices stated above. Now, mind you, these watches are taken abroad, the ocean freight, insurance and other necessary expenses are paid, including profits to dealers, then bought and returned to New York, again paying transportation expenses and sold for less money than the same article can be bought from the home dealer.

What is true of the watch deal is also true of nearly all American manufactured products. The foreigner is more sacred to the tariff beneficiaries than the home consumer, yet we hear the cry of "let well enough alone" coming from those who are made victims of this legalized robbery. "Stand pat" and sell your products at home at the highest possible combine price and sell the same products abroad at the lowest possible price. It is indeed inspiring that a very strong sentiment of opposition to this system of organized robbery is asserting itself in the republican party. Two speeches were made by Republicans in congress last week warning the "standpatters" that the lesson of 1892 may repeat itself if something is not done to allay the tariff revision sentiment.

THERE is not a democratic paper in the state but that favors the nomination of a candidate for United States senator by the state convention.

Curious Verification of Prophecies.

Here are Spangler's prophecies for 1906, published at the beginning of the year in the New York World: The dissolution of Russia. The overthrow of Turkey. The assassination of the Czar of Russia. The assassination of the Sultan of Turkey. The prevention of three wars by President Roosevelt. A protracted race war in the south. Destructive spring floods in the United States. A DESTRUCTIVE ERUPTION OF MOUNT VESUVIUS. The activity of Mounts Pelee and Popocatepetl. VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD. The eruption of many volcanoes now supposed to be extinct. Great loss of life at sea by storms. Destruction of two western cities by cyclones. Earthquakes in all parts of the world. DESTRUCTIVE EARTHQUAKES IN CALIFORNIA AND THE PHILIPPINES. Rebellion in Spain. Great disturbances all over Europe.

The summer of 1906 will be hot and sultry throughout the temperate zone, with extensive death rate. Christ will make his spirit felt among the people of the United States and England, in which countries there are to be fervent religious and political movements, which are to overcome in a great degree the present spirit of graft and commercialism.

The United States will continue as a world power and the leader of other nations.

Pennsylvania is to have an administration of the people, and discoveries of corruption will be discovered which will drive some of the guilty to suicide.

God will wreak terrible vengeance upon the Russians for the massacre of the Jews.

In order that you keep the record straight, look up your divorce proceedings and see if you are single, double or triple.

IT requires no prophetic vision to see that there is some kind of a political upheaval close at hand. The people are pretty thoroughly aroused, and the chances are that they will act sensibly by seeing to it that the machinery of the government shall hereafter be operated by friends of the people. Looks like corporation rule would shortly come to end.—Custer County Beacon.

NORRIS BROWN'S anti-trust play was a pretty shrewd political trick on his part, but his failure to accomplish anything is reasonably sure to have a reaction before he is able to affix the title of senator to his name. The time of hot air reputations is past, and if Mr. Brown does not want to receive a severe jolt somewhere in the vicinity of the solar plexus, he better be up and going. Now, it is possible that Norris is all that he pretends to be, even though he hasn't made good, but a person must be judged from the company he keeps, and it appears that he has been keeping mighty bad company—with all due respect to Ross Hammond.—Humphrey Democrat.

SOME of the republican papers in Nebraska seem to be greatly worried as to the future political career of Hon. George W. Berge. Why so? Is it because they fear him? Mr. Berge has always been recognized as one of the ablest men in the state, and is beloved for his many noble traits of character. Able, conscientious and purely honest, the democrats are not going to growl if he is nominated for governor, while many would prefer to see him at the head of the attorney general's office during these trust and graft times. If the people of Nebraska want a Hadley in that office they can get him in the person of George W. Berge; or, if they want a Folke in the chief executive's chair, they can also get him in the person of George W. Berge.

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