

The Plattsmouth Journal

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In republican circles "the man with the dough" is received with more consideration than "the man with the muck rake."

THE names mentioned for governor on the democratic ticket are Shallenbarger, Sullivan, Dr. Hall and George W. Berge. All good men, and a mistake could not be made in the nomination of either.

THE Kearney Democrat nominees Jim Dahlman for governor. Well, if the new mayor of the metropolis can make as good a run for governor as he did for mayor he would get there with both feet.

THE republicans of Illinois are all broke up over the passage of a primary election bill passed by the legislature. Lieutenant Governor Sherman says the passage of this measure means defeat and disaster to the republican party in that state.

THE "kissing bug" will be an issue in the Kansas gubernatorial fight. Governor Hoch is now in the Hobson class as a kisser, but is not on the same footing with the Alabamian. Hobson kissed people who wanted to be kissed, but Hoch kissed people who didn't want to be kissed.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT evidently thinks the democrats will elect a majority of the next congress, for he is said to have decided to call a special session after the 4th of March, for the purpose of revising the tariff. He knows as well as any one that if the republicans should have a majority of congress it would be useless to call a special session, for the standpatters would be in control.

THE annual appropriations by congress have grown nearly 50 per cent in the last ten or twelve years, and we now have a billion-and-a-half congress instead of the "billion-dollar congress," which excited unpleasant remark when it first appeared. Out of all this money \$50,000,000 is not more than the west has a fair right to claim for annual betterment of navigation in its 12,000 miles of navigable stream.

IT is certainly time for the male citizens of a city to face the public improvement proposition with an energetic spirit when the ladies take hold of the matter and push it to a successful issue like the ladies of Plattsmouth are doing. They are evidently waking up some of the mossbacks of this city to their duty. All good citizens should encourage the movement inaugurated by the noble and enterprising ladies of Plattsmouth.

SO SENSATIONALLY absorbing have been the consequences of Mr. Roosevelt's betrayal of the democrats whom he had solicited in aid of a limited review rate measure that the original and striking fact of his surrender to the Aldrich clique has been temporarily obscured. It must come to pass, however, after the resultant question of veracity and issue of good faith shall have been disposed of, that the immense significance of the president's abject capitulation to the enemy in his own party will transcend other matters and become the great fact in the public mind. Consideration of the incidents and circumstances will give place to the central question, Why did Mr. Roosevelt surrender to the Aldrich crowd, whom, up to the very day of surrender, he had been fighting bitterly and with every force at his command? What was his motive?—for motive he must have had. A trivial motive will not explain so weighty a transaction. To surrender was a grave, vital, history-making matter.

THE death of Senator Gorman will remove a prominent man from public life, and a leader of the democratic party not only in his own state of Maryland, but the nation at large.

WHAT has become of all those "Buster" Brown bouquets? Has the "soft soap" bureaut ceased to exist, or has the sudden appearance of Edward Rosewater upon the political platform chilled the Brown hot-air boom?

WHILE Nebraska City is arranging for the Woodmen Log Rolling in July, and have a proposition for a street carnival before them, Plattsmouth does not appear to have even life enough to start a Fourth of July boom.

WHO will start the Fourth of July ball to rolling? Plattsmouth ought to have a celebration this year by all means. Let's find out how bad our business men want a celebration. It can easily be told by the amount they will donate.

SENATOR BAILEY, of Texas, is the one man who comes out of the freight-rates fight with large gains of personal reputation. His part in the debates on the Hepburn bill lifted him in a few weeks to a recognized place among the ablest leaders the senate has known.

PLATTSOMUTH merchants can and should sell goods as cheaply as any of the surrounding towns, and can and should pay as much for produce. And the way to draw trade is to make prices and let the people know what they are. That is the way merchants of other towns are drawing the trade—and much of it that rightfully belongs here.

SINCE everybody is supposed to know the law and nobody is excused for ignorant violations, it might be well to order another edition of the Supreme Court's recent decision on divorce. There are evidently more divorced persons in the United States than there were copies in the first edition, and they all want to know where they are at.

IF THE freight-rates law to be passed by the republican congress doesn't satisfy the constituents of Senators Culom, Dolliver and others from the west, it will not be through ignorance on the part of the republicans. Democratic senators labored prayerfully to show the republicans how to make a law that would please the constituents of western republican senators.

Scarcely does the republican administration get one scandal checked when another comes to the front. Now there is one connected with the insane asylum at Norfolk which indicates that that institution is primarily under the management of incompetents with employees and attendants more brute than human. At least two patients have died as the direct cause of brutal treatment of attendants. Governor Mickey has filed charges against the superintendent and assistant, to be tried by the state board. If such things happen under their noses, it is self evident that they are unfit to have charge of the hundreds of poor unfortunate committed to their charge.

SAYS the Beatrice Sun: The announcement that President Roosevelt and Postmaster General Corry have decided that hereafter postmasters of the presidential class will only be removed for cause, has created consternation with a certain class of congressmen. Heretofore the postmasterships of their districts have been used as a nucleus for political machine, to keep them in congress, and to this end the position of postmaster of the various towns of importance, has been trading stock. The result is that frequently appointments are made of men whose chief recommendation is their pliancy to the hand of the congressman making the recommendation, rather than of some more competent and generally desired candidate of the entire community interested. By the new order of things this will be done away with—and it is time.

Roosevelt's Complete Surrender.

Mr. Roosevelt surrendered all the vitalities of the rate-regulation bill and deserted the democratic senators whose co-operation he had invited and whose attitude agreed with his own.

The evidence seems to be clear. The point was whether the court should be left to "broadly" assume control of a rate dispute—in other words, whether rate regulation should remain where it is. Mr. Roosevelt professed to desire effective regulation. For that reason he took a position of sharp disagreement with the Aldrich-senatorial machine. He summoned the democrats to his aid. Then he abandoned them and accepted the Aldrich dictation.

He wears today the yoke of the Aldrich machine.

If there were no disclosure by Senator Tillman and no corroborative statement by ex-Senator William E. Chandler, the history of the bill would demonstrate conclusively these three facts: First, that the president professed to hold firmly against "broad" court review second, that he asked and received the aid of democratic senators, when it was apparent that there was an agreement between him and them; third, that he surrendered his position unconditionally, went over to Aldrich and supported unlimited court review and suspension of rates fixed by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The statements of Tillman and Chandler are hardly necessary. Controversy about personal veracity is outside the main issue; or rather the question of personal consistency, if not that of veracity, is settled beyond doubt in the obvious sequences of the main issue.

President Roosevelt is a Rough Rider who rides as hard in retreat as in advance.

Bryan's First Race.

A special from Washington credits Senator Millard with telling the following story of the days when Nebraska had just half as many congressmen as it has today, and when Omaha and Lincoln, its two chief cities, each of which now dominates a congressional district, were in the same district, together with Cass and several other rural counties:

"We had a lawyer in Omaha named Connell," he said, "who was a mighty good talker and a bright politician. He got the notion of going to congress, and went out and surrounded a republican nomination. The democrats didn't have any chance in the district and a nomination was as good as an election."

"Connell came around to my office one day and wanted me to go to a meeting that evening. The democrats, it seemed, had nominated a chap down in the country that I didn't remember to have heard of, and he actually had challenged Connell to a debate.

"I went around to the meeting. That was before I was in politics. The place was full of people, and I had been asked to sit on the platform, so I met the democratic candidate. He was a funny appearing young fellow, in a black cassimere suit, with trousers that were too tight and stuck to his legs and did not come much more than half way down from the knees to his shoes.

"Connell spoke first, and made a mighty good speech. It was tariff, and he told us about two-penny nails and the cost of tin buckets and all that stuff, and the audience liked it.

"Then his opponent was introduced. He opened his mouth and began to get interested; and so did the crowd. In ten minutes he was down to business, and was making fun of Connell and his arguments, and the crowd was roaring with laughter and applause. It was one of the meetings that I always have remembered.

"Connell was completely cleaned out. Well, they went out into the district and had a joint debate in every county; and would you believe it, when election was over Connell wasn't elected at all. The other fellow was."

"Who was the chap with the funny pants, senator?" asked a listener. "Oh, didn't I tell you? It was William Jennings Bryan. Ever hear of him?"

THE democrats of Nebraska were never in better shape—united, harmonious and eager to do battle. Bickerings and dissensions should not be allowed to enter their deliberations. Already some of the republican papers, no doubt fearing the great popularity of some of gentlemen mentioned for governor on the democratic ticket, are endeavoring to create a discord among the friends of these gentlemen. Democrats should pay no attention to the sniveling criticisms of such blatant republicans as Ross Hammond of the Fremont Tribune, who seems all out of sorts since Edward Rosewater butted into "Buster" Brown's senatorial boom-shoal, and is the most loud-mouthed in this direction. His scheme is to get up a fight for the nomination in convention, embitter the friends of candidates against each other and create a feeling that will be hard to heal. They see the hand-writing on the wall. Democratic victory is in the air, and unless they can stay the tide by engendering a bitter feeling between candidates and their friends they know that republicanism is doomed to defeat. Democrats must attend strictly to their own knitting, and let republicans do their own jarring.

SENATOR LA FOLLETTE is learning who his friends are, and who are his enemies. He offered two very important amendments to the Hepburn bill, and the republicans promptly voted them down. The democrats, however, stood by him. How long will it take him, and Cooper, and Lenroot, and the rest of the decent republicans of Wisconsin to learn that they can hope for nothing from the Roosevelt-Spooner-Aldrich combine?

DID you know how the administration is after the "drug trust"? Having busted the oil trust, steel trust, beef trust, lumber trust, they are now going to bust the drug trust, so that our medicine will be cheaper. It is a wonder that this was not thought of sooner. It's cheaper medicine we need; not cheaper food, clothing, shoes, building material, implements, etc. Sure! What trust busters!

THAT hoary old fraud, the free seed distribution by congressmen, is on deck again. The provision in the annual appropriation bill was knocked out once, but the majority of the congressmen couldn't stand it, and hastened to put it back. And the government will continue to distribute tons of "rare and valuable seeds" to those who don't want them to the tune of tens of thousands of dollars every year.

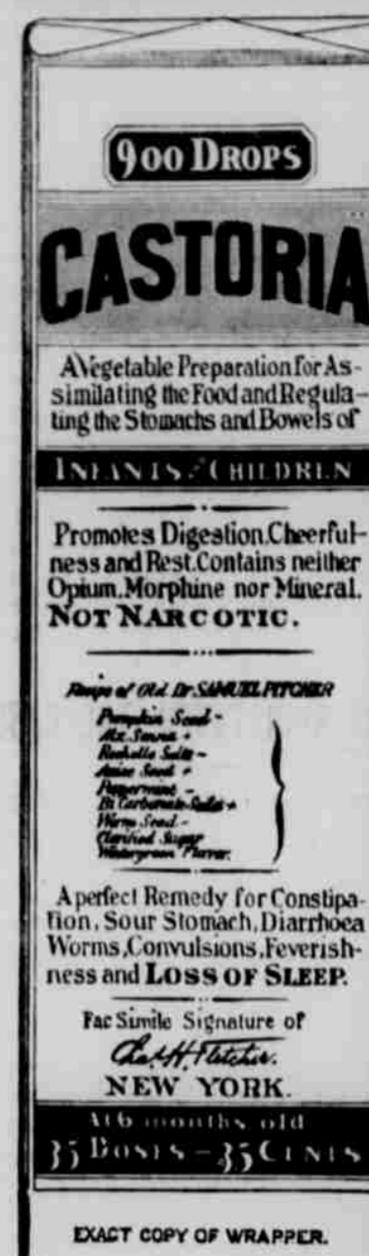
AFTER all that Standard Oil has done for the republican party, even to raising the five millions of corruption funds in 1896, that saved the day for Hanna and McKinley, it seems rather ungrateful for the g. o. p. politicians to sneak away, instead of standing by it in its distress. Even Senator Aldrich appears to have caved in on the alcohol bill.

THE republican leaders in congress are so rattled and politically scared that they can't settle whether the Panama Canal shall be built to a sea level or of the locks type. But Chairman Shantz says he cannot proceed with the digging until the question is settled, so there will soon be 20,000 men idle through the procrastination of a republican congress.

AFTER nearly six years of reputed trust busting, can anyone point to a trust that the administration has made away with, or that has ceased to plunder the people? There have been lots of pyrotechnics, but no dancing.

ANOTHER republican scandal is looming up at the national capital through the investigation of the government insane hospital, and it makes one's flesh creep to read of the cruelties practiced on some of the unfortunate inmates.

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