

The Plattsmouth Journal

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EVERY democrat should attend the ward primaries tomorrow night.

WARD primaries tomorrow night at 7 o'clock. Be on hand to assist in selecting delegates to the city convention.

THE Omaha Bee is constantly reminding the legislature of the republican promises to the people last fall.

EVERY democrat should make arrangements to attend the ward primaries Saturday evening next at 7 o'clock.

If President Roosevelt is really against the railroads, why is it he holds so many conferences with J. P. Morgan, Hill, Harriman and other magnates?

WITH the advent of spring weather the Journal hopes to see a revival in cement and brick work constructions. The summer ought to see the finish of the remaining old wood walks that still remain as an eye-sore.

WHATEVER people may think of our strenuous president, the entire nation is "pulling" for the recovery of little Archie, who has had a hard battle with diphtheria. The heart of the people goes out to the small boy in suffering, and the fact that he may some day grow up and become a republican makes not a particle of difference.

CHAMP CLARK says: "I am totally opposed to a third term for any man now living or who may be born hereafter. It would be the beginning of the end of our republic. No man will ever be given a third term until this government is on its last legs. I am in favor of a constitutional amendment extending the presidential term to six years and prohibiting even a second term."

It looks like a simple indulgence to create a new federal judgeship in this state, although it is absolutely unnecessary, but when one looks over the list of new clerks and court satellites at fancy salaries rendered necessary by a simple indulgence, he must feel that there is something really outrageous about it. Yet this is what statesmen call "Doing something for the state." Filching from Uncle Sam to create life jobs at comfortable salaries for a score of politicians is certainly doing something for this state.

WONDER what excuse Governor Sheldon gives for not signing the bill prohibiting the shipment of liquor to fictitious persons and prescribing that every package must bear the label, "Intoxicating Liquor." It has become a law but without the governor's signature. That man Sheldon is pretty touchy. He has reasons to be, best known to himself. He owes the liquor interests of Nebraska for his election and he is afraid to act in any manner detrimental to the liquor interest of this state.

THE best man we have in Plattsmouth for the general good of the town is the one you will always see on the front seat in the progressive "band wagon." He is the first one to extend an open and warm hand to greet the stranger and welcome him to the best town of its inches in the state. He will represent an insult to our city as quickly as he would a slur at a member of his own family. He very politely invites the chronic croaker to "move on." He is ever ready to give his just proportion to every enterprise. He talks up for the town at home and abroad and believes it the best place upon God's green earth in which to live and desires to be buried here when he dies. Let us all try to be like this man for one year at least, and Plattsmouth will take on new life and improve as never before in its history.

A SAUR KRAUT trust has been formed. Thank heaven, Limberger cheese is still strong enough to stand out against the trust.

FROM some of our exchanges we see that the "endless chain prayer" fake is still making the rounds. Such silliness should not mislead any one with the least modicum of sense.

DON'T forget the democratic primaries next Saturday evening at 7 o'clock, to select delegates to the city convention one hour later at the council chamber. Let every democrat attend these primaries.

IOWA'S two-cent passenger fare bill will go into effect July 4. Missouri's law on the same subject goes into effect a month earlier. Nebraska's law beats both several months, and is already in effect.

A BILL has passed both houses of the Missouri legislature which provides a fine of \$300 on telegraph and telephone companies for the non-delivery of messages or for divulging their contents. A similar law should be in force in every state.

COMMENCING with July 1st, the rural mail carriers will be given an increase of salary to \$900. We are pleased to see Uncle Sam take this view in behalf of our rural carriers. This will now enable them to meet necessary expense in the keeping of three or four head of horses to cover their routes properly.

THERE will be one councilman in each ward and two members of the school board to elect at the election next month. The democratic ward primaries will be held Saturday evening at 7 o'clock, and the nominating convention one hour later at the council chamber.

CREDIT is due to the G. A. R. for establishing the legal right of a state to prohibit the use of the United States flag for advertising purposes. Nebraska has a statute forbidding any such use, but in spite of that fact an Omaha liquor firm placed a picture of the national emblem on their brand of beer. The G. A. R. post caused the arrest and conviction of the firm. The case was appealed from court to court, reaching at last the supreme court of the United States, which sustained the Nebraska law. The decision will be hailed with gratification by ninety-five out of a hundred of our citizens. The use of any firm is an act of desecration, and especially so when it is used for a brewery.

EXPRESS charges are beyond all reason and we hope the day is hastening when the people will be given some relief along this line of graft. The people have been doing a great deal of howling against railroads on account of their charging extortionate rates, but have you ever stopped to give the express companies a little attention? There is greater reason for complaint against express companies than against railroads and you will find it almost an impossibility to find railroad stocks selling as high as that of express companies. To give you some idea what express company stocks are quoted at we will mention a few of the leading companies. The Adams is quoted at \$285, the American at \$225 and on this they earn immense dividends. We hope to see a reduction in freight rates brought about.

BUT few people know that Easter Sunday cannot come earlier than March 22, nor later than April 25, but between these two dates has a range of thirty-five days. At the Council of Nice, 325 A. D., it was agreed that from that time forward Easter should fall on the first Sunday after the full moon occurring on or after March 21, or, in other words, on the first Sunday after the sun crosses the line. Since this arrangement was made Easter has fallen on March 23, and on every date between that and April 25, but it is only after long intervals of time that it occurs on extreme dates. This year Easter comes on Sunday, March 31.

Republican Extravagance.

The Fifty-ninth congress, which came to an end March 4, succeeded in voting away two billion dollars of the people's money. This exceeds all records by \$400,000,000 and is twice as much as was spent by congress ten years ago.

For the past ten years the republicans have been in control of every branch of the national government, and during that time the expenditures have increased by leaps and bounds. During the years from 1887 to 1897 the increase was less than 13 per cent, from 1897 to 1907 it was 100 per cent. He is a fool who would believe that the difference has been caused by an honest increase in the cost of administration. If this wholesale extravagance goes on, and there is no hope of cessation so long as the republican party is in control, it is not difficult to predict the end. In the natural course of events there will come a year not so prosperous as the recent ones. Revenues from all sources will suffer a falling off and the willful waste of public money will force of necessity have to come to a stop. When this does come to pass, the party responsible for the spendthrift spree of a decade will be kicked unceremoniously out of power and the country given into safer hands. But the nation should not and will not wait till then. The time will be ripe for a change next year and there will be no waiting for a lean year to force the lesson home.

A MOVEMENT developed during the past week which, if it becomes a law, will establish what appears to be as nearly a perfect scheme for federal control of the railroads as is possible in this country. The origin of the plan is credited to the Interstate Commerce Commission, and is said to be directly resultant of the disclosures made recently of the various railroads investigated by that body. President Roosevelt now has the matter under consideration, and it is also said that it will form a part of the discussion which the chief executive will have with the various railroad officials within the next few weeks. Briefly put, the plan contemplates the legalization of mergers by exempting railroads from the Sherman anti-trust act and establishing federal supervision over the finances of these corporations. This will give the railroads every opportunity for expansion and development, and at the same time will give the investing public a government guarantee that mere stock-jobbing cannot be carried on in the name of expansion and development. An example of this may be found in the secretary's handling of the Japanese problem. But Mr. Root's popularity with the whole people is about of the same grade as that enjoyed by the frigid vice president.

This brings us around to Elihu Root, who is the mouthpiece of the administration in many important particulars, and as some people are rude enough to say, the balance wheel as well. Certain it is that Mr. Root has spoken well for Roosevelt on more than one important occasion; and when there have arisen moments when a little calm was needed to take the place of a cyclone of strenuousness, it was Root who came to the fore with a touch of statesmanship that suited the needs of the situation. An example of this may be found in the secretary's handling of the Japanese problem. But Mr. Root's popularity with the whole people is about of the same grade as that enjoyed by the frigid vice president. His coldly classic methods, his corporate affiliations and his formal personality are not calculated to stir voters to a frenzy of enthusiasm.

THE convention at the council chamber Saturday night did well in nominating J. M. Roberts and H. M. Soennichsen for members of the school board. They are equal to the emergency, and will prove that beyond doubt they are the right men to serve in a position where every parent is interested.

WITH President Roosevelt advising large families and Professor Ross of the University of Wisconsin, declaring that race suicide is a blessing, the babies are having a hard time of it making up their minds as to the advisability of being born at all.

THE latest theory in regard to the \$173,000 shortage in the Chicago treasury is that it was abstracted and hidden by a clerk who has spells of mental aberration and remembers nothing of them afterwards. The authorities are waiting for another brain storm with the hope of getting a clew.

The Republican Puzzle.

Over in Ohio, the people rightly regard Taft a fine man, a good republican and a popular possibility for the republican presidential nomination. But still over in Ohio, the machine with Foraker and Dick as its head has not even a remote notion that Taft will do. The wish is, of course, father to the thought, and the wish will work overtime to make the thought come out, says the St. Louis Republic.

Moving into Indiana, there is a strong machine movement for Fairbanks. Correspondents who have recently looked into conditions in that state say that the vice president has been building a solid fence around the "boys." Occasionally a few rails get out of place, but Mr. Fairbanks forthwith gives another reception and matters are straightened out again. But with the plain people in Indiana the situation is different. They don't exactly "see" the distinguished vice president. There is no more enthusiasm for him in the average crowd of ordinary voters than the vice president might find in a similar crowd here in Nebraska.

Over in Iowa, the split republican party is looking two ways. The old crowd thinks with Shaw that he might become presidential timber. The reformers are sure that Shaw is out of the running, but they are not so sure that their man Cummins is in it. Up in Wisconsin the resignation of Senator Spooner has raised the stock of La Follette, whose name they insist on pronouncing with an accent on the second syllable. In other parts of the country, too, there is some whispering of the Wisconsin senator's name, always with the intimation that he is as much a democrat as he is a republican, an admission that is made with the air that it adds to the senator's strength.

Going into the east, there arises the boom of Philander Knox, of Pennsylvania, who has a cabinet record. The Knox boom will grow among the politicians, since it was in that fruitful quarter of booms that it had its start.

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Thus we find the republican program a complicated one. The next convention of the grand old party will find most everybody guessing. It may be that the party guesses will reach out even to Uncle Joe, the sage of Danville.

THE north would teach the south how to treat the negroes. In Massachusetts there are thousands of white children in factories and sweatshops. This is not permitted in the south, where young negro children are compelled to go to schools built and maintained by the taxes of white people. Why not reverse this form of missionary work and start the teachers of humanitarianism in the opposite direction?

A SPECIAL from Lincoln says that the direct primary bill passed the house Monday by a vote of 74 to 14, twelve members being absent. It has now passed to the senate. Some of the most bitter opponents of the state-wide primary, those who attacked it most fiercely in committee, got in the band wagon and voted for the measure upon its final passage.

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THE Omaha News, after a fashion adopted by the leading city papers of the country, is eager to find the prettiest lady in the world, and expects to find her in Omaha. Now, if the News is honest in its efforts it will have to extend its proposition beyond the limits of the metropolis. The beauties of this great country of ours do not reside in the large cities, by any means, but are to be found in the rural homes, where a daughter is fully competent, if need be, to prepare a good meal, or get out in the early morn and milk a half dozen cows long before the city belles even think of arising from their beds of down. Then she gathers the eggs, while her mother churns the butter. Then she harnesses and hitches Old Dobbins to the buggy and is off to the village store with her butter and eggs to exchange for some articles desired by her mother. Soon she is back home, for she "has to help mother get dinner for a half dozen farm hands." You will see girls with rosy cheeks and bright eyes from the effects of the fresh morning air, healthy and full of life, and as pretty as a picture. Let the News extend its object to the rural districts of Nebraska, and it will soon have the satisfaction of presenting to its readers the prettiest lady in the state, and her residence won't be in Omaha, either.

THE city convention at the council chamber was a success in every particular. Every ward was fully represented, and harmony prevailed throughout.

Your money refunded if after using three-fourths (4) of a tube of Manzan, you are dissatisfied. Return the balance of the tube to your druggist, and your money will be cheerfully returned. Take advantage of this offer Sold by Gering & Co's drug store.

THE Omaha Bee insists that a constitutional amendment should be submitted permitting the governor or to occupy the executive mansion without question of right. It will cost several thousand dollars to submit an amendment and have it voted upon. The result is not known as several amendments have been permitted to go by default. Would it not be easier for the commissioner of public lands and buildings to fix a rental of a dollar a month, or a year? The state owns the building, and the governor should use it, but the adoption of constitutional amendments is a very expensive method of bringing about the result.



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