The Plattsmouth Journal

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THE overwhelming majority for lights means that the people of Plattsmouth are tired of remaining longer in darkness.

THE electlon Tuesday was one of the most quiet ever held in Plattsmouth. The lid was down tight and around the saloons it had the appearance of Sunday.

PATRONS of the public schools are very cautious who they select for members of the school board. A full demonstration of this fact was made yesterday in the election of J. M. Roberts and H. M. Soennichsen.

THE President's apologists have "discovered" a $5,000,000 plot to undo him. Both his friends and enemies long since discovered the $16,000,000 plot to give him high office on two memorable occasions. Roosevelt knows this to be true, yet he has thrown no fit of simulated virtuous indignation at being exposed. He doth protest too much.

WHY not cut off the per diem of members of the legislature entirely. They seem to have been doing more work without it than they did when they were receiving $5.00 per day. But, oh, how they have hustled to get home. They are not very anxious to stay at the copital when there is no $5.00 per day in sight. They have already remained a week to pay their own expenses.

SENATOR CARMACK of Tennessee expressed a whole lot when he said: "I am weary of a condition of things where a man whose business it is to make laws must hold his office by the consent of the man whose business it is to break the laws." The great corporations of the country whose business it is to evade or break the laws are the people by whose grace the law makers are elected.

THE grafters won out in Chicago. It was a real death-grapple between decency and bossism. Faed Abe Busse was elected mayor over Mayor Dunne, who has given the city a good, clean administration and has so far thwarted the looters and bosses in their desire to turn the whole municipality over to the foreign owners of her public utilities. These latter day Abes are fateful Jonahs for republicans, as witness Abe Ruef, Abe Hammel, Abe Detwiler and Abe Busse. If Abe Lincoln were alive today he would be glad he was dead.

THE sylph-like Taft is down at Panama and the country may hear of the rapid and satisfactory work being done upon the canal site. So far the only thing about the whole matter which are not subject to change without notice are the general direction of the ditch, which is to be east and west, and the two oceans to be connected by it, the Atlantic and Pacific. All else is nebulous and characterized by the masterly inactivity in essentials which so clearly differentiates the party which "doesthings" and does the treasury.

WHY did President Roosevelt take the trouble to write all that letter to Congressman Pollard? Was it for no other purpose than to help Pollard to swell up? It is a question that naturally suggests itself. Poltard is by no means the only western republican who voted for the ship subsidy graft; he was one of the most insignificant of its commissions; he is in every waycomonplace and mediocre. Election day is not appoaching, and besides Pollard's district has already demonstrated its willingness to stand for anything. Why, then, did Roosevelt single Pollard out to congratulate him in a long and tedious letter? says the Omaha World Herld.

JEROME grabbed at the one straw in sight and it failed to float him.

THE legislature will adjourn today. The final session, however, will probably last over until tomorrow night.

PEOPLE who have worn diamonds boldly all the year have prudently laid them aside since the assessor and his books appear on the street corners.

SECRETARY TAFT, it is announced will "take his coat off" just as soon as he can reach Ohio. But as he is now in Panama it is suspected his coat is already off.

WHILE the grafters elected their ticket in Chicago, it is some satisfaction to know that St. Louis grafters failed to get in their work last Tuesday. The democrats routed the gang in that city in good shape.

GOVERNOR SHELDON has appointed Allen D. Beemer for warden at the state penitentiary for the next two years. Beemer, whose home is at West Point, was appointed by Mickey four years ago. The senate confirned the appointment.

THE Lincoln Star (rep.) says: "If Governor Sheldon tried to correct all the mistakes made by the legislature he would have a big task in hand, but he can do something along this line and the platform clause of the direct primary bill is a good place to begin."

IT has been suggested by several of the leading buisness men and tax payers that Mayor Gering call a mass meeting, to get an expression from them as to what kind of a system they prefer, before the council enters into a contract with any parties. The Journal does not think this suggestion out of order.

SENATOR ROOT probably is conscientious in his opposition to university appropriations on the ground of insufficiency of funds, but we imagine he would have a difficult time proving that he has voted for no appropriations, at this session, which have been in violation of the constitution of the state.—Lincoln Star.

SPEAKER CANNON puts on airs when he's away from home. For instance, aboard the Bluesher while in southern waters he has been entertaining the passengers by wearing a paper bonbon cap set at a jaunty angle. But when he gets back to Danville it is safe to say the old black felt chapeau will be doing service.

A BILL has just passed both branches of the legislature for a constitutional amendment increasing supreme judges from three to seven and increasing salaries from $2,500 to $4,500, and the salaries of the district judges to $3,000. One good lawyer is no better than another and the salary in each instance should be the same.

THE legislature has passed the Gibson anti-brewers' bill, prohibiting them from having an interest in more than one saloon license. The following senate bills were among those passed: Cutting express rates 25 percent: regulating the procedure for securing pardons, reprieves and commutations; fixing salaries of sheriffs and specifying the cost of boarding prisoners in county jails. The report of the conference committee on the pure food bill was adopted.

IN every state in the union democrats are taking on new life and hope. The Roosevelt administration is creating among the rank and file of the democracy renewed enthusiasm everywhere. Victory is the promised reward in the coming democratic national campaign. Democratic leaders, state and national, have only to remain sane and democratic to secure control of the national government. There does not appear in any section of the country to be any division or want of harmony among the democratic masses. Nothing but jealousy and differences among democratic leaders now can stop the onward march to democratic victory.

THE assessors are getting in their work. There is no escape from them.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT has not yet claimed the credit for presenting the strike of the trainmen. This is a serious oversight on the part of his press bureau.

RAILROADS do more than 95 per cent of their business on credit, it is said, but the man who has been accustomed to riding on a pass will find this hard to believe.

FORAKER will be handicapped in his race with Secretary Taft until he gets a press agent brother such as the one which the rotuned Cabinet officer has the good fortune to possess.

IT will be found that Jerome is neither a good nor game loser. He is cocky and debonair when in luck and favor, but when the tide runs against him he sulks and pouts like a spoiled child.

ANDREW CARNEGIE says at least 100,000 people are now using the simplified spelling. Andy is to modest in hisstatement. Any man who cannot spell baker on a dead level is a "simplified" speller and the woods are full of them.

THE democrats will control the city council of Chicago. The republicans elected the mayor and most of the ticket, but the democrats had enough hold-over members of the council to give them a majority of two.

WHILE "General Prosperity" is gazetted to take the saddle upon the mainland in these United States and command the cavalry, it is strongly suspected that "General Graft" is in entire charge of the infantry upon the isthmus of Panama.

NOBODY now believes that Judge Alton B. Parker did not tell the truth about Roosevelt in the campaign of 1904. But the fact of the latter's becoming President and the hesitancy of the people to think that any President would try to deceive the whole people upon a matter so vital made them accept his word. But they ascertained upon the sworn testimony of other influential Republicans in the insurance investigations that it was not Parker who lied, as the President so excitedly asserted in the very closing hours of that campaign.

THE irrepressible Major General Leonard Wood, he of the rapid promotions for services unperformed and dualifications wholly lacking, is at it again. This time he quarrels with a civil officer over in the Philippines for using disrespectful language to him. Without knowing the facts in the case and without knowlege of the character of the civil office. The Journal hazards the assertion that the civil officer is in the right and that if the case ever reaches offiicial investigation that Wood will, as usual, be found in the wrong. As an accident and misfit Wood easily holds the army record.

"WHEN rogues fall out honest men get their dues," is an old saying. And now that Harriman, who in partnership with President Roosevelt's cabinet officers, Mr. Cortelyou and Paul Morton, helped to buy the electoral vote of New York in 1904 with a corruption fund raised at the request of the president of the United States, has broken with his confederates, the public will learn the extent of the bribery adopted by the republican national committee to secure the election of a represetative of the trusts to the White House. No wonder the people of this country are turning to W. J. Bryan; no wonder the gold democrats are returning to the fold; no wonder that the people are calling aloud for the unification of democracy under the leadership of an honest man to take the government out of the hands of a body of men who have debauched, and are now debauching the American voters; and no wonder the honest republicans are predicting the downfall of the republicans in 1908.

THE question "Who wrote the Shakespeare plays?" is likely to be overshadowed by "Who wrote the Harriman letter?"

THE Arizona Kicker's private graveyard isn't a circumstance compared to President Roosevelt's Anti-truth club.

IS it not time the strenuous was bunching his hits? Eight singles is a record, but a wholesome bunch of calling everybody liars, who think him wrong and indefensible, would mark his stormy and questionable career and probably take in more than half of the male population of the United States.

The county high school bill was passed with the emergency clause and immediately became a law and we believe it one of the best bills that has been passed during the session of the legislature.

SEVERAL school children have been suspended from a West Virginia school for refusing to repeat the Lord's Prayer. Some communities have not yet learned that the schools are the places for education and the churches and the homes for religious training.

ROOSEVELT'S superlative desire for notoriety seems to have been gratified in a manner and to a degree beyond his hope, his approbation and his power to curb or check. Chickens come home to roost, and as undesirable a flock as can be conceived are now upon the president's headboard and they have come to stay.

HAD Mr. Bryan been president the Panama scandals, now mountain high and mounting higher, would have been impossible and his word would never have been questioned by his intimates and party associates. But he is not president and the lies and scandals are rife and humiliating.

THE legislature has "cut out" Don Despain's salary because they could find no law providing for the same. There may be a fellow in the court house, who draws a salary where there is no provision for the same. If such be the case, the county guardians should investigate and pattern after the Nebraska solons.

SAYS the Beatrice Sun (Ind.): "The custom that has grown up of stopping the clock for three days, when necessary, in order that a legislative body may falsify the records and according to the journal adjourn Thursday, when as a matter of fact it doesn't close until late Saturday, is immoral and is not justified by any argument. The constitution gives ample time for all the legislation that is needed. If the members should get down to business and introduce only such measures as have merit and that there is a demand for, the calander could be easily cleared. Under the present arrangement a thousand bills are introduced, read, considered, and printed at a great expense of time and money in order that two hundred may be passed. The next legislature should begin at the other end and appoint its sifting committee the first week in the session.

ONE of the tenets of democracy which we have always admired, but which seems to be ignored by many in these latter days, is that principles not men should govern in all things. No man is infallible and the time has not yet come for the test of democracy to be a man's fealty to this or that leader—when it does come then good-bye to democracy. With the republicans it is "The King can do no wrong" but it has not yet been cause of party treason for democrats to criticise those who have been selected to office. An office-holder is only the hired servant of the people, though once in office some of them assume to be the "whole people" and attempt the role of dictator and guardian ad litem of the conscience of the people. Let us get back to the faith of the fathers as taught by Jefferson that there shall be "no proscription of opinion, no unnecessary interference with individual conduct, property or speech."

OLDEN martyrs dreaded persecution, but accepted it. Mr. Roosevelt, the present-day "martyr," seems to run after punishment.

ROOSEVELT is apparently willing to let the republican party have its own way—so far as the nominee for the vice presidency is concerned.

IT now remains to be seen whether the woman who was elected a Justice of the Peace in Chicago can sentence a culprit without shedding tears.

A CHOCTAW Indian maiden, in announcing that she prefers to devote her life to charity rather than to matrimony, lets it slip out that she has $100,000 in her own name. The wedding may be expected soon.

THE Nebraska legislature adjourned Saturday afternoon, but the records of the house and senate will show that adjournment took place at noon Thursday, April 4. What is that but a legalized lie?—Lincoln Star. (Rep.)

THE alleged $5,000,000 dinner at which Roosevelt's downfall and discomfiture was planned and determined, and the man, Senator Penrose of Pennsylvania, who grew too confidential over the wine at another smaller dinner, both have turned out to be myths and the story a troublesome boomerang. Penrose denies with Rooseveltian emphasis any knowledge of the "plot" so loudly proclaimed from the White House.

IT is very likely that Congressman Ramey has plenty of evidence of an embalmed beef scandal in the Panama canal zone, but nothing will come of the investigation under the present administration. There was abundant proof of such a scandal in the Spanish-American war, but at that time the republican administration had enough kalsomine to go around.

AN Ohio woman is suing for a divorce because her husband will not let her read the newspapers. What an inhuman brute he must be—and the Thaw trial going on, too!

A contemporary says that Speaker Cannon is cautious. Any man who can accumulate a fortune of a million dollars in an interior Illinois town must necessarily have some caution in his makeup, also some other qualities.

Gov Sheldon has signed the Aldrich maximum freight rate bill. This bill provides for a 15 per cent. reduction on grain, live stock, vegetables, coal and lumber. The law is effective July 1, and the reduced rates will then be in force unless set aside by the railroad commission.

ROOT is contemplating resigning again from the cabinet. His real friends and relatives are greatly puzzled at his lack of respect as evidenced by his continuing to hold a portfolio in a body where he is minimized, overlooked and obscured by the president in his strenuous zeal to boom the impossible Taft. Root is too big to be errand boy for Roosevelt. How his gorge must rise at such treatment!

AND the Nebraska hen comes in for this handsome compliment from the Denver Field and Farm: "Why not put a picture of the hen on the twenty dollar gold piece and silver dollars? A good fat hen is worth 75 cents on any wholsale market. A hen will pay for herself three or four times every year. The eagle is a worthless bird and is always looking for a fight or an opportunity to steal something."