

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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**The burning question of the day:** Will the "busting" of the ice trust reduce the price of ice, or will the trusts raise the price in order to make the public pay the amount of the fines?

**The Portland Oregonian truthfully says:** "We shall have less stealing at the bottom of society when we have less at the top of it. A grafter is nothing but a thief, rich or poor."

Now that Plattsmouth is to have one week's carnival in June, some of our merchants think it is too much of a good thing to have a 4th of July celebration. We cannot understand why one should conflict with other, and nearly a month apart.

The Journal wants to give Don Despain credit for one thing. He had sense enough to know when to quit. The best thing that he has done since acting wall-flour around the capital, and drawing salary for doing nothing.

A STRIKE of steam shovelers on the alleged work on the alleged Panama canal temporarily retards rough riding correspondents from carrying on the enterprise of politically digging a waterway from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans. Those shovelers demand \$150 per month instead of the \$105 they are now getting.

The Journal has been successful in securing the services of Mr. M. S. Briggs as local reporter, and we feel fortunate in thus doing, as Mr. Briggs is a very competent person for the position. He has lived in Plattsmouth many years and is well known not only in the city, but throughout the county, also. He is a hustler for the news, and when he approaches you tell him all you know.

The Beatrice Sun truthfully remarks that during the past ten years the cost of living has advanced 35 per cent. During the past five years the cost has advanced 27 per cent. Farm products have advanced 9 to 41 per cent. Food is from 2 to 18 per cent. higher. Clothing is 22 per cent. higher. Fuel has advanced 18 to 78 per cent. Lumber and building materials have advanced from 11 to 43 per cent. Labor has made a greater advance than any other commodity, and to this is largely due the advance in all other things. It costs 50 per cent more to print a newspaper now than it did ten years ago, and many of the papers throughout the country are making a corresponding advance in subscription price. It is simply lessening the value of money as compared with commodities.

ANY conspiracy on the part of the republican party to keep Oklahoma out of the union till after the next presidential election will surely react upon that party. Oklahoma is ready for and deserving of statehood. She has been admitted to the union of states by congress, and there can be no justification for any delay dictated by political expediency. The millions of capital that have been invested in the twin territories since statehood was assured, the thousands who have taken up their residence there with the understanding statehood should immediately follow the adoption of a proper constitution, will not meekly submit to such an injustice as has been proposed by politicians having the president's ear. If statehood is not proclaimed without unreasonable delay, the administration will find that it has made one of its most serious mistakes. Oklahoma cannot will not be denied her rights under the constitution of the United States.

ABE RUEF says, "I plead guilty, but I am innocent." Sounds like the stage comedian who says, "I know I did it, but I deny it."

THE reprobation filed against issuing a saloon license to William Hinrichsen, is signed by three residents whose combined taxes are less than \$70. What do you think of that?

THE late spring and the green bug have made fortunes for those who backed their convictions as to dollar wheat with their cash. "Tis an ill wind that blows nobody good."

ABEY RUEF and Abey Hummel will reach penitentiaries about the same time, though the institutions in which they will spend some long, tiresome years are as far apart as New York and California.

It was Abe Ruef who, at the last national republican convention, had more Roosevelt tags upon his manly and honest bosom than any other unbought delegate. One by one the roses fall.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT complains because the private letter in which he assumed that Moyer and Haywood were guilty, before they had been tried, was published without his consent. What difference does that make. Why should he be afraid for the public to know where he stands in regard to the laboring man?

THE German press is strongly opposed to the Kaiser's fifth son making a tour of America, saying that "only evil can come to him in that land of dollars and machines." Can it be that the prowess of our automobiles has extended to the Fatherland?

THE Chicago Record-Herald relieves what is otherwise a painful situation: "About the only crop which hasn't been damaged this spring is the crop of stories concerning other queer springs that are remembered by the oldest inhabitants."

DIAZ indignantly denies the report that he had declared a confederation of all Central American states to be the only way to bring permanent peace to those turbulent nations. Too bad. This suggestion of Diaz's—which he didn't make—was more generally approved throughout the United States than anything he ever did.

JUDGE EVANS, chairman of the democratic state committee, announces that so soon as the legislature adjourns a systematic effort will be made to boom Governor Folk for president. It's no use, Judge, the state democracy, in convention, has already spoken the sentiment of the rank and file of the Missouri democracy, and the democracy of the nation have already tentatively nominated Mr. Bryan—and that's the whole story.—Kahoka (Mo.) Gazette-Herald.

THE Beatrice Sun thus very timely remarks, which hits all towns alike: "Give us the name of one boy in this town who has been injured on account of overwork, and we will point out ten who have been ruined by idleness and the vices that can be traced directly to it. If you want to have a fine criminal in the family, teach your boy that his daddy can earn a living for him until such time as he, the boy, can find some easy lucrative snap. Tell him that you want him to fill some dignified position, and while he is waiting for someone to come along and hang a medal on him he must strictly refrain from work and its degrading influences. Tell him it's his parents' duty to provide for him until he has reached his majority, and that trades are for the sons of poor people who can hope for no career in the world. If you fail to make a bum out of the ordinary boy with this kind of teaching, it will be because he has inherited some good qualities from some remote ancestors of the time before the tribe degenerated."

PRESIDENT DIAZ proposes one republic to be formed by the amalgamation of all the Central American countries into one government under a man with enough strength of character and honest, common sense to govern them. Yes, but where to find such a man? In Mexico?

THEY are having a hard time getting a jury in the Haywood trial at Boise, Idaho. Evidently the men drawn on the panel think they found a verdict of guilty and they prefer to use every possible means to escape jury service than run the risk of being "removed" by Haywood's friends.

THE stand now taken by Foraker, the activity of the Fairbanks boomers, the ominous silence of Cannon and the open resentment of Hughes, all indicate the brewing of a storm which will tax all the strength of the president to weather. The differences between the two factions of the republican party are as wide as the nation, and they are irreconcilable.

ONE consignment of game from Nebraska received in Chicago a few years ago contained 18 barrels of prairie chickens—from a locality where they are now very scarce. A rough estimate of the number of these birds killed in Nebraska that year was placed at 5,000,000, of which all but 1,000,000 were for shipment out of the state. It will be several years before any more shipments, large or small, are made from this state.

HAS Roosevelt become ashamed of the antics and mouthings of his fool friends who committed him to the rejection of the Oklahoma constitution? The reports today are that he will obey the law and proclaim the adoption of that instrument in case the election so decides. Even his enemies thought that he was exceeding the limit of freakish audacity and contempt for law by a determination to save that coming state to the republicans by outrageous usurpation.

AN experienced teacher says that pupils who have access to newspapers at home, when compared with those who do not, are better readers, better spellers, better grammarians, better punctuators, and read more understandingly and obtain a practical knowledge of geography in almost half the time it requires others. The newspaper is decidedly an important factor in modern life. This will not be disputed by any one who has taken the trouble to investigate the matter for himself. Now is the time to subscribe for the Journal.

ONE of the questions asked each juror called into the box in the Haywood trial is: "What are your politics?" Another is: "Did you read the president's 'undesirable citizen speech'?" From this we are to conclude that the president is to be made part of the prosecution. It is assumed that if a witness is a republican admirer of the president and read his speech condemning the men on trial as "undesirable citizens," that they will be influenced thereby. It is unfortunate that the president made himself the target of criticism.

IN the council proceedings published elsewhere in this issue of the Journal, the three parties who signed the remonstrance against issuing saloon license to Wm. Hinrichsen, is given. If the temperance people are conscientious in the work of persecution, why do they not secure the names of a few of the largest taxpayers of the city to such documents. The combined taxes of these three signers does not amount to ten dollars even. Two of them have resided here but three years, and the third is an employe of the Burlington shops. As we understand it, the Burlington people are not paying their employes to sign papers that keep out a business that lessens their city taxes. If you will remonstrate, get responsible citizens to do the work, and don't hide from doing it yourself! Show your hand.

## The Pass Question.

The railway commissioners on Tuesday issued the following order in reference to passes, the first of importance since the department was created by constitutional amendment and clothed with power by the legislature:

"It is hereby ordered and directed that all common carriers doing business in the state of Nebraska shall file in the office of the Nebraska state railroad commission, at Lincoln, Nebraska, on or before May 23, 1907, a statement showing the following facts:

"1. The names and addresses, and the relation they bear to the common carrier, of all employes to whom they have issued, or contracted to issue, passes, mileage, or other transportation for the passage of persons, good within the state of Nebraska, now in force, for which the full published rates have not been paid in cash, or agreed to be paid in cash.

"2. If issued under a written contract, a copy of the contract. If issued under a verbal agreement, a statement of the terms.

"3. The names, addresses, and the relation the recipient may bear to the common carrier, of all persons other than employes to whom the common carrier has issued, or contracted to issue, passes, mileage, or other transportation for passage of persons, good within the state of Nebraska, now in force, for which the full published rates have not been paid in cash or agreed to be paid in cash.

"4. If issued under a written contract, a copy of the contract. If issued under a verbal agreement, a statement of the terms.

"It is further directed that a copy of this order be served upon each and every steam railroad company doing business within the state of Nebraska."

WHILE for the present the probability of a pitched battle between the Taft and the Foraker-Dick factions in Ohio has been avoided by the action of the chairman of the State Republican Executive Committee in withdrawing the call for a meeting of the leading men of the party in that state, the fight is by no means at an end. Secretary Taft is more than ever determined to smoke out the leading officeholders of the state and compel them to plainly show on which side of the fence they are. Secretary Taft has openly intimated that the fight between himself and the senior Senator from the Buckeye state is one to the finish, and that he will not stop until either he or Foraker is eliminated from politics. Meanwhile, the democrats of the state are carefully preparing their way for victory at the coming state election, and, because of the defection in the ranks of the enemy, hope to elect one of their own men to the seat now held by Foraker.

THE very latest political news item to be flashed across the country is that Mr. Bryan will decline the democratic nomination next year and throw his powerful influence to Governor Hoke Smith of Georgia. The item says that Smith would be strong with the 6,500,000 democrats who voted for Bryan. That may be true, but the people demand that the great Nebaskan shall make the race, and while he may not desire to run for president again, the voice of the people is growing louder and louder each day for "the noblest Roman of them all," that by next year no other candidate will be dreamed of.

ACCORDING to figures compiled by the census bureau at Washington a divorce suit is filed every two minutes during working hours of court officials, and a divorce granted every three minutes in the United States. This has been the average for the last twenty years. These figures are very startling. Again the question arises: "Is marriage a failure?"

SECRETARY TAFT says: "Woman must not think that to benefit mankind she must necessarily become a wife and mother." A little more talk like that and Roosevelt won't be for him.

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**On With the Fight.**  
While republican editors are hanging out storm signal warnings against feuds within their party they might as well extend the line of danger stations far beyond the limits of Ohio and Tennessee. It is true that in these two states the hope of reconciliation between the factions in most desperate, but there are others in which it seems already, in the words of Falstaff, "past paying for." With ex-Congressman Wadsworth calling Roosevelt a "faker" in New York, and Governor Hughes reminding the president that men have been known to make fortunes by attending to their own business, there seems to be a lack of the Damon and Pythias feeling among the republicans of the president's own state which is not suggestive of love feasts. In Missouri the simultaneous mention of leaders of opposing factions is suggestive of the knife, while in Pennsylvania Penrose is still in an ugly temper, though he has promised to be good. And all is not exactly serene among the faithful in our state of Nebraska. In Illinois Uncle Joseph G. Cannon has done nothing besides saw wood; but it is rumored that he has been heard to mutter in his sleep about the nasty taste of "crow" that lingers in his mouth ever since he was forced by the Big Stick to reverse his record of years by giving right of way in the House to the president's pet scheme for ship subsidy. If there is any possibility for harmony between the Rooseveltian standpaters on the tariff and the Iowa Idea on which Governor A. B. Cummins won his famous victory last year, nothing short of a miracle can materialize it, while in Massachusetts one-half of the republican party is as cold to Dingelism as Cummins himself is. If there be danger in division, the republican party is surely in a perilous state. If the third-termers will only keep busy, the danger will be turned into disaster.

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