

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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The poet who asked if crime must be "punished but by other crime and greater criminals" had not been in Idaho, but he seemed to have a fairly comprehensive idea of how crime works when it becomes a method of choosing statesmen.

The Missouri railroads report that they have lost a million and one-half, because of the 2-cent fare law, and they will resist its enforcement in the future. The railroads probably figure that without the law they would have made that much more, hence the loss.

The demand from Nebraska to make it a penal offense to use a corporation's funds for controlling elections does not frighten the Harriman contributors, says the St. Louis Republic. They are already in possession of the postponement they paid for.

JNO. L. SUNDEAN, of Wahoo, who, with Mr. Millard, of Hartington, is running for regent of the university on the democratic ticket, will be remembered as the speaker who divided time in this city with Senator Stone, of Missouri, at a big rally a number of years ago. He made a good impression here, and will be heartily supported by his many Plattsmouth friends.

H. D. TRAVIS, democratic candidate for judge of 2nd district was in town Syracuse Day. We had seen newswitemen stating that he was riding on passes, as well as individuals had told us the same. We put the question squarely to Mr. Travis, and he said there was not the least truth in the statement. So the first campaign misstatement is nailed.—Syracuse Democrat

The democratic county ticket is all that the voters who want good, competent officials, could possibly desire. Every one of the candidates are of that character, and the Journal is proud to say that there never was a better nor more competent set of candidates placed before the people of Cass county for their suffrages. Let every voter investigate the qualifications and standing of every candidate, and he will see that our ticket is far superior to that of the republican ticket in many respects. We court such an investigation.

The Journal is pleased to hear of the many kind words of praise in behalf of Miss Mary E. Foster, the democratic candidate for county superintendent of schools. From every section come most encouraging reports for her success at the election. Why should not this be the case? She is a first-class lady, is an experienced teacher right out of the school room, and one of the most efficient in Cass county, or any other county, for that matter. Unlike her opponent, she has been directly identified with the public schools, while for twelve or fourteen years he never thought of becoming so until a vacancy occurred in the county superintendent's office, and he saw an opportunity to draw the salary of the office for a few months through a political pull, while there were two or three practical and efficient teachers applicants for the appointment. The democrats nominated Miss Foster for the position because they know she is abundantly well fitted for county superintendent, and in the belief that voters, and especially those who are interested in the public schools, would see the necessity of electing such a person to this most responsible position.

SOME of the most ardent supporters of Judge Sedgwick are still holding post mortems and trying to find why it was that Reese was elected in the republican primary and their favorite defeated. The best reason that the Journal is able to give for this result is that the friends of Reese made it appear that he was an anti-corporation candidate, while Sedgwick was presented as the representative of the railroads. We don't pretend to say that this presentation of the candidates was just, because we do not believe that Judge Sedgwick is any more of a railroad man than is he whom the State House Ring put forward to defeat him, but they worked their scheme very effectively against the eminent jurist. It is well understood that the people of Nebraska are very sore—very sore upon the corporations, which has been brought about by the railroads themselves. They have resisted the laws which private individuals have had to obey. The people have been "stung," and they are ready to take a whack at any head that appears to wear a corporation hat. The hat itself does not necessarily need to be in evidence. If the howling demagogues can make the people believe that what they say is true, the result is just the same. It was because of the activity of the "reform element" in behalf of Reese and the apparent interest which the corporations took in Sedgwick, that the latter was turned down. Certainly no person would contend that Reese was nominated upon his merits.

## The Democratic Platform.

Judge Loomis is highly delighted with the platform adopted by the democrats of Nebraska, and says that "every plank has the true ring." Mr. Bryan happily describes it as "a platform that brings democratic principles down to date." The Omaha World-Herald says it "not only represents the advanced position of the Nebraska democracy but, in so far as it deals with national issues, may be taken as closely foreshadowing the declaration of principles on which the national democracy will go before the country in the next presidential campaign." Here is what the democratic platform contains:

- Approves prohibiting the pass and rebates.
- Denounces campaign contributions by corporations.
- Opposes centralization and insists on federal remedies added to and not substituted for state remedies.
- Favors direct vote for United States senators.
- Declares against trusts and monopolies and specifies remedies.
- Insists on state jurisdiction over foreign corporations.
- Favors immediate tariff revision.
- Favors income tax.
- Demands enlargement of railway commission powers.
- Favors state and national boards of arbitration.
- Favors an eight-hour day.
- Favors protection for foreigners.
- Favors separate statehood for Arizona and New Mexico and home rule for Porto Rico.
- Declares against government by injunction.
- Favors speedy completion of Panama canal.
- Urges irrigation.
- Favors generous pension policy.
- Condemns imperialism.
- Favors more supreme court judges.
- Demands extra session of legislature for rate-making purposes.
- Commends democratic and populist members of the present legislature.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT has given his sanction to ladies riding clothes-pin fashion. That settles it, and the old spinners who have always objected to that style of riding might as well fall in with Teddy's idea. He has tried to regulate everything except the sun, moon and stars, and there are some fools who believe he can do the Joshua stunt with them.

The republican papers over the state in putting up their defense for the nepotism record of Judge Reese, say that the case is barred by the statute of limitation. That kind of excuses in behalf of the republicans and the republican party of Nebraska has cost the state in years past hundreds of thousand of dollars. You remember the Bartleys and Moores, don't you?

GEORGE L. LOOMIS "is a splendid man of excellent character," says the editor of the Schuyler Free Lance, who then proceeds to declare that this splendid man is railroad attorney and unworthy of the office of supreme judge. What is the Free Lance's particular grievance?—Lincoln Star. Yes, let the editor of the Free Lance prove what he says, or forever hold his peace. If Mr. Loomis is a railroad attorney, the people want to know.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT announced Thursday that he would approve the Oklahoma constitution. He said he had examined the document with the attorney general and he felt that the question of his approval ought not be based on his personal opinion of the document, but upon whether it came within the terms of the enabling act. His personal opinion of the document, the president laughingly said, was "not fit for publication." The promulgation of his approval will be made later.

SAYS the Lincoln Star: "Chairman Knott, of the Missouri railway commission, proposes to inspect the Missouri Pacific tracks on foot. It will be readily seen that Mr. Knott has laid out a great task for himself, one of which he probably will grow wery before he has half finished it." The editor of the Star don't know Mr. Knott as well as we do. John is an old printer, and is now editor of the Hannibal Daily Journal which paper he has been connected with for many years. Previous to his connection with the Journal, like all old printers in that age he became used to "counting ties." Consequently it will be no great task for our old friend to do so.

THE Rev. W. P. Ferguson surprised the Methodists in state conference last Friday by withdrawing from the conference and thus bringing the church trial to an end. He was accused of unbecoming conduct with Mrs. E. A. Cross of University Place. These church scandals are worse than others only for the reason that the people are educated up to believe that gentlemen of the cloth are a little less human than the common herd. It is this that gives prominence to social eccentricities of this nature. Plattsmouth came very near enjoying a scandal of this nature a few years ago, and a change of climate became a necessity on the part of the pastor, and consequently evaded a church trial.

THE office of the clerk of the supreme court is the "fattest" position in the state of Nebraska and is a fee office. The fees amount to about \$15,000 per year, which is several times that paid any other state official. This is the office Chairman Rose is after through Reese in case of his election. He could not get it with Sedgwick on the bench, so he proceeded as chairman and leader of the republican party in this state to oust Sedgwick. This is reform methods in republican graft circles at Lincoln. The election of Judge Loomis to the supreme judgeship will make Chairman Rose's game of nine-pins a difficult proposition.

## Is No Pity?

"Capital has always claimed, and still claims, the right to combine. Manufacturers meet and determine prices, even in spite of the great law of supply and demand. Have the laborers the same right to consult and combine? The rich meet in the bank, club house or parlor. Workingmen, when they combine, gather in the street. All the organized forces of society are against them. Capital has the army and navy, the judicial and executive departments. When the rich combine it is for the purpose of 'exchanging ideas.' When the poor combine it is a 'conspiracy.' If they act in concert—if they really do something—it is a 'mob.' If they defend themselves it is treason. How is it the rich can control the departments of the government? In this country the political power is equally divided among men. They are certainly more poor than rich. Why should the rich control? Why should not the laborers combine for the purpose of controlling the executive, the legislative and judicial departments? Will they ever find how powerful they are? A cry comes from the oppressed, from the hungry, from the downtrodden, from the unfortunate, from the despised, from men who despair and from women who weep. There are times when mendicants become revolutionists—when a rag becomes a banner, under which the noblest and the bravest battle for right."—Robert G. Ingersoll.

## To Increase Pensions

A movement is on foot all over the country to have congress pass a law making each and every Union soldier in the United States, who attains the age of 65 years eligible to a pension of \$20 per month. Since death has decimated the ranks of late years this is meeting with general favor. It is stated the law is so regulated that there will be practically no increase in the pensions as a whole to the government. The following communication is sent out to commander of posts all over the country. The movement originated in Iowa, and is a just one:

TO MY COMRADES OF THE CIVIL WAR:  
I request every veteran to carefully read the Iowa resolutions in order that he may fully understand the movement in which the G. A. R. is now engaged, and his own interest on the numerical strength of the G. A. R. as an organization and the furtherment of this movement. One important fact which every veteran should understand is that the success of this movement depends to a large extent on the fact that every veteran who is interested in the movement, though not a member of the G. A. R., is permitting his comrades to bear all the burden, which he himself should help to bear. This attitude in any of the various relations or duties of life never recommends itself to our sense of civic righteousness. The organization needs you, now perhaps more than ever, for we have reached a time in the history of the organization, when it becomes the duty of every veteran to break loose from the lethargy he has permitted to settle around him, give his application for membership to the first comrade of the G. A. R. he meets and thus help to make the organization a tower of strength, capable of looking after the interest of the veterans as fully and completely as possible.

W. H. HITTLE, Commander.  
A. B. Kearney Post, No. 15, G. A. R.

- BEFORE BE IT RESOLVED:
- 1st. That the commander of this Post appoint a committee of three who shall, as early as possible, confer with the member of congress from this district as to the advisability of congress making such an amendment and report to this post the attitude of said member as to whether he will or will not favor an amendment of this character.
  - 2nd. That each and every Post of the Grand Army of the Republic throughout the whole nation be requested to take a similar action.
  - 3rd. That the Commander of this, and every Post which shall adopt these resolutions, appoint a comrade to collect 10 cents each from all veterans, whether members of the Post or not, who shall report and pay the amount collected to the Adjutant, who shall, after making a record of the amount, remit same to Lee Daken, Logan, Iowa.
  - 4th. That all money so collected shall constitute a fund to pay the necessary expenses involved in prosecuting this movement to a successful issue.
  - 5th. That the foregoing resolutions shall be known as the Iowa resolutions.
- J. C. MILLMAN,  
LEE DAKEN,  
W. N. PALMER,  
Committee.

THE man with a new and marvelous stove polish is abroad in the land demonstrating from one bottle and selling others which look the same but are so different. Look out for him.

THE prospects for a good Fall trade are opening up nicely, and there is lots of ready money in the land. There is no reason why Plattsmouth merchants should not be busy, if they will just go after a slice of the waiting business. The recent exposures of the fake mail order business will make the people more cautious about giving up their hard cash to the little skin games of the mail order men.

WILLIE HAYWARD succeeded in his efforts of becoming chairman of the republican state committee. The democrats should be well pleased; because if he cannot run the state campaign with any better success than he did Judge Jessen's campaign against Pollard for congress, the republican party of Nebraska will be in poor row of stumps. He managed to carry his and Jessen's own county for the Judge, but then only "by the skin of the teeth."

THE Lincoln Herald says: "Byron Clark, the Burlington lawyer at Plattsmouth, needs a district judge in his business and for that reason he is especially enthusiastic for Senator Root, the republican nominee for that place. There is a little ring of lawyers at Nebraska City that is in the same position and hence their enthusiasm for Root. But that is not the kind of a judge the people want, and Judge Travis is going to receive a vote that will land him in the district judgeship."

GEORGE L. LOOMIS is the nominee of both the democrats and populist parties for supreme judge. This is the official canvass after a belated correction of the vote of Lincoln county in time to change the figures that had erroneously been sent prior to the official canvass. The first report of this county gave Albert four hundred populist votes where he received but four. The correction gave Loomis the nomination of the populists by seven votes.

GOVERNOR SHELDON has come to the conclusion that there should be a constitutional amendment adopted to prevent federal courts from holding up state laws by injunctions. That would be only one step in the right direction. The thing to do is to kick out of existence every federal court except the U. S. supreme court. These constant "interventions" between the people and soulless corporations—all the time in the interest of the latter—should never have had an existence, as thousands of instances have clearly demonstrated, and this is the time to repeal every law permitting them to exist.

## Sanctifying a Mistake.

Standpat organs which denounce attacks upon the Dingley tariff as slurs upon the memory of the martyred president who signed it make poor defense of a man whose memory deserves better championship. President McKinley's administration of the country's affairs was, in the main, wise and patriotic. His friends and admirers will find much in his record to praise and to be proud of. But a man who has risen to the high office of president of the United States stands for all time in history as a subject for examination and of criticism. The lessons of American history would be valueless if only eulogy were to be the portion of every man who has filled that office, or of all who have died as martyrs in it.

Because the martyred president was misled by his advisers and associates into giving his executive sanction to an execrably bad economic measure is no reason why that measure should be sacredly exempt from criticism and protest. All men make mistakes. The mistakes of men occupying posts of great power are often harmful to millions of people. The wisdom of the world prompts and the welfare of mankind demands that the mistakes of such men be not sanctified but corrected.

It is advisedly said that President McKinley was misled into approving the Dingley tariff act. Though a consistent protectionist, it was never in his mind that the act should receive the application which has been given it. He was an advocate of reciprocity as well as protection, and unless he has been greatly misunderstood he proposed that the Dingley schedules should, in the main, form the maximum rates to stand against countries commercially unfriendly, while lower rates were to be given by reciprocity treaties to countries that would admit our commerce on favorable terms.

It is altogether probable that if he had lived, McKinley would have disowned the Dingley tariff as it has been applied. But this has nothing to do with the false contention that the memory of a worthy man is insulted by criticism of his mistakes. Such a claim is seldom made except by fanatics or visionaries.

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