

The Plattsmouth Journal

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R. A. BATES, PUBLISHER.

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Citizens of Weeping Water are still trying to solve the mystery of how the murderers of Officer Ralston escaped so easily. It should be easy work.

Governor Sheldon has not yet appointed a judge of the supreme court to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Judge Sullivan. Perhaps the present governor will be considerate enough to let the new governor do this appointing. He may have to consent to the decapitation of the other three judges after Shallenger gets in.

After January 1 we can mail letters to Germany as well as Great Britain for a two cent stamp. This is the expected sequence to the arrangement with Great Britain which went into effect a few weeks ago. It is no doubt only a matter of a few months or years at most until the penny post will extend to all countries of the postal union. This is more important to this country than to others, for no country is so largely peopled with folk who have friends and relatives "in the old country."

From present appearances the western portion of the state are getting more than their share of the best appointive offices under the incoming governor. In Cass county we deserve some recognition at the hands of the new governor. We made bigger democratic gains on governor over two years ago than any county in the state. Considering that this is the home county of Governor Sheldon, and that gentleman carrying it by less than one-half of what he did two years ago, we deserve a little more attention from Governor Shallenger than we have thus far received. We don't like to kick, but we know when we are treated white.

The democratic legislature this winter is going to have a hard time to pass a bank guaranty law which the republican courts will allow to stand. According to Attorney General Bonaparte, national banks cannot observe such a law and retain their charters, which means that a guaranty law in Nebraska will work hardships on the nationals. If you will remember the personnel and conduct of the last republican state convention you will realize that the national banks have a vast influence with our republican courts. How easy, therefore, to find a constitutional flaw in a democratic law, particularly one that might interfere with the national bank graft. Our democratic friends will find that saving the country is not all smooth sailing, with such an array of capitalistic plunderers as the coming legislature will have to contend with.

County Assessors to Blame.

In framing a bill to do away with county assessors and returning to the old precinct elective system the next legislature will have some provocation. The county assessors will be largely to blame.

In this county the dominant policy of the office has been to get as much as possible out of it for the J. R. C. and D. R. C. Miller family, the law to the contrary notwithstanding. The next prominent idea has been to carefully assess every farmer and catch every adult of military age in the agricultural districts for poll tax, at the same time skipping as many as possible of the same class in town. Without doubt the same practice has been followed elsewhere.

Another abuse of the county assessors has been that they have quite generally made the office a side issue. Some of them having gone ahead with farming operations, devoting about six weeks actual work to the assessor's office. Others have operated their stores or other business places, to the neglect of the public business. All of them have, however, drawn their annual stipend to the utmost penny. The folly of these practices was pointed

out in the newspapers two years ago. The tendency under the precinct elective system will inevitably be to cut down valuations, enlarge exemptions and deliberately pass by assessable property. There will be the old contest between precincts as to which shall be the lowest and pay the least tax. As of old many assessors will be elected on this issue of low assessment.

With the state debt paid off this situation will not be so serious immediately, as it was just before the enactment of the revenue law, but the old condition will come on fast enough.

If the fusion legislature carries the plan through, the county assessors may view with sorrow the effects of their handiwork. The only compensation to the public at large will be that the bungling assessors will be legislated out of office.—Nebraska State Capital.

There should be a law passed this winter compelling those who have small grievances to report the same and report the same to the county attorney and have arrests made, to give bond for costs in such cases. Under the present law, a complainant can have an arrest made for spite, but invariably is defeated in his work and the costs thrown upon the taxpayers. A law compelling all such fellows to give security for the costs, will soon stop such work.

Mr. Speaker Cannon having promised "to be good," it seems that the president elect will have nothing to say against his re-election when the Sixty-first congress gets together for a monkey and parrot time over the tariff. Thus are Mr. Speaker's dear friends, the standpatters, soothed and everybody in the republican camp at Washington is happy—prom.

The house of representatives in Washington encourages contests for seats in it by usually allowing the contestants the full pay of a member until the case is decided, whether he makes good or not. Mr. Henry L. Eads, defeated republican candidate in the third Missouri congressional district, may get his pay by his threatened contest, and that is all he will get. Since the pay of members has been raised, the job may be worth \$15,000 to him if he can keep his contest before the house during the two years of the new congress.—Eads was defeated by over 2,000 while Pollard was defeated by less than 1,000 and he does not think of a contest.

Ex-Senator Millard, who was formerly chairman of the senate Panama Canal committee, says Roosevelt is wrong in some details. You bet. And after the great bulldozer has stepped "down and out" as president of these United States the people who are his earnest supporters now will be willing to acknowledge that he has been wrong in a great many instances.

Because there are many laws in which the people find fault, it is no sign that the members of the legislature are going to Lincoln to make a set of damblocks of themselves. They will be slow and sure in their work.

A Washington dispatch states that numerous letters are being received by members of congress urging them to defeat the Carter savings bank bill which is scheduled to come up in the senate December 14. Many of the letters are said to be from Nebraska.

When you get ready to make your Christmas purchases look at the Journal columns, and you will find out merchants to patronize. The liberal advertiser is always the one that sell the best and cheapest goods.

And the report that President Castro has 60 million dollars tucked away in his own name sheds an interesting side light why Venezuela has been unable to pay its international obligations.

Mr. Cannon says he won't cross the speakership bridge until he comes to it. That's the sensible way. He may not have to cross it at all.

This is the season, too, to begin making good resolutions early.

An Outside View.

The Sioux City Journal, a stalwart republican organ of deservedly high standing, voices the views of republicans of character outside of Nebraska on Governor Sheldon's recent disgraceful supreme court performance when it says:

"It is not edifying to see the political motive cutting such a prominent figure in the expansion of the Nebraska supreme court. On the whole it is perhaps unfortunate that Governor Sheldon did not accept the compromise by which it was proposed he should appoint two democratic and two republican judges. Nebraska this year gave its electoral vote to the democratic national ticket and elected a democratic governor and legislature. Ethically, if the political consideration is to be raised at all, it is rather illogical that the republicans should be given either three-fourths or all of the new judges. Incidentally a political fight in the courts for control of the supreme court will not make desirable advertising for Nebraska."

Yet it is precisely such a fight which Sheldon and his advisers, by their usurpation of power and the intensest partisanship, have tried to force upon the state. The World-Herald does not believe, however, there will be such a fight. Governor-elect Shallenger is a better Nebraskan, a broader and more patriotic man, than is George Sheldon. He will not surround himself with pinheaded two-by-four advisers. He will have a higher regard for the good name of Nebraska than Sheldon has shown himself to have by his recent action.

While the injustice is apparent and the provocation is great, the new governor and the new legislature, this newspaper is encouraged to believe, will not seek to plunge the supreme bench of this state still deeper into the political mire. Sheldon and the republican administration have made up the record. Democrats can afford to let them stand upon it. Let the democrats of Nebraska show themselves Nebraskans and good citizens before they are partisans, and then make their fight in the campaign next fall by appealing to the fairness and decency of the people of Nebraska.—World-Herald.

The Kearney Democrat speaks our sentiments exactly on the matter of supreme judges: "The legislature should enact a feature in the new law to be passed governing the new judicial conditions, brought about by the enlargement of the supreme court members, by making it a part thereof that there shall be minority representation upon the supreme court bench of the state. This is done in some other states in the election of non-political offices, and it ought to be made the law in Nebraska regarding the election of the judges of the supreme court. Minorities, whether republican or democratic, should be represented on the judicial bench of the court of last resort in this state."

One of the best attorneys in the state says that the supreme bench cannot be enlarged until the legislature convenes and enacts a statute providing for the appointment of the additional judges, fixing their terms of office, salary and so forth. The constitutional amendment simply paves the way and authorizes the legislature to make such enactment. Governor Sheldon was simply too eager to pay political debts and jumped too far.

Judge Sullivan has the distinction among lawyers of both republican and democratic faith of being the best supreme judge Nebraska ever had, and everybody feels like complimenting the judge for refusing to accept the insult offered him by Sheldon in giving him a one year appointment and bestowing upon a republican politician with no judicial experience a three year appointment.—Kearney Democrat.

If the republican papers had been half so eager to give advice to previous legislatures as they are the incoming legislature, perhaps the people of Nebraska would not be calling for the repeal of several obnoxious measures upon the statute books by republican legislatures.

Governor Sheldon's Appointments.

The following is clipped from the Nebraska State Capital, edited by that staunch republican, Frank Harrison, who believes that Governor Sheldon has been entirely too sectional in his appointments of supreme judges:

"With the remarkable foresight that might have been expected from his surroundings, Sheldon named Root and Rose for the three year term and Sullivan and Faucett for one year. Rose is related to the Sheldon-Pollard family. Root is from Cass county, but it is not understood that he is a relation. It will be three years before the state can repudiate the selection of Rose.

"Good politics would have suggested the naming of Sullivan for the three year term. He will inevitably be one of the nominees of the Democrats next year, and will be a tower of strength in the democratic campaign.

"Of the seven members of the court, four are residents of the First district. Not one of the seven lies seventy-five miles west of the Missouri river. In the chagrin of his defeat Sheldon has recently said much of the western counties being the "only ones that stood by the ticket." Yet he has spurned the west in his appointments, the four new judges coming from four counties that gave a net majority of 3,479 against Judge Taft in the election."

Don't Forget It.

The people of Plattsmouth want and demand light. It is a duty the council owe them to see that their wants are respected and this duty means that an immediate contract should be entered into. For their own sakes the council should recognize the fact that delays are dangerous and do not look right. The local company stands ready to do the right thing for the city and a contract with them is what the public demands. The demand for power can be met by making the Plattsmouth light plant large enough and sustaining enough to warrant the improvements wanted. Do this and you have done your duty. Protect the city with a bond so that the company must make the improvement demanded and must carry out the contract they make. The people want light, they voted for it and they will have it. If the present council fails to do its duty there will be another council and if that fails there will be another. The people will have what they want. The plain duty of the council is to build up this city and build it regardless of any personal considerations. Don't let this be forgotten.

The Omaha Bee calls attention to the fact that fees amounting to more than three hundred thousand dollars have been collected by officials of the state of Nebraska during the past two years and turned into the state treasury to be applied to the expenses of the state government, under laws passed by a republican legislature, and adds that "it is probably not asking too much to ask that credit be given the republican party for this at least."

What did the people elect these officials for? Was it to sit in their offices and do nothing? Have they done any more than their sworn duty? The Bee would like to make it appear that these officials have done wonders when they have done no more than other officials would have done. Scat!

The one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln will be observed February 12, 1909, and will doubtless be made much of throughout the country. It has been suggested that at 12 o'clock, noon, of that day, there shall be a simultaneous cessation of all the wheels of industry in the country, in shops, mills, factories, on street car and railroad lines, and wherever a wheel may be turning. An event of this character would leave a strong impression upon the minds of all of the people and especially upon the younger generation.

The banquet intended for Governor Sheldon upon his stepping down and out of the executive office, has been declared off for some reason.

There is no question as to Congressman Pollard's intention of running again two years hence. He told Secretary Taft of his intention of doing so, as well as many other of his colleagues in congress. But the republicans of the district will "fix his clock" free of charge when the date for nomination rolls around. It is evidently a fact that the people of the district have had their sufficiency filled of Ernest Pollard.

Reform republicans are so particular about non-discrimination by railroads when the strict enforcement of the law is likely to decrease the attendance of the militiamen at the Taft inaugural, and they are going to ask congress to modify the law so the railroads can carry uniformed militiamen for a less rate than other citizens are permitted on the trains. Great is the reform business.

It will not be many more days till it will be Governor Shallenger and ex-Governor Sheldon.

Get After Them.

The last snow has demonstrated one thing very clearly and that is that the city officials should get after the owners of property who allow the snow and ice to remain on their walks for an unreasonable time. About half the merchants on Central avenue evidently expect to wait until the sun melts the ice, and in the meantime let the people slip and fall until the ice is gone. A merchant should have enough regard for his trade to clean off his walks so that a person would not have to fall down to get into his place of business.—Nebraska City Press.

The same here. One of the crying needs of the city is for a vigorous enforcement of an ordinance to clean the walks.

BRINGS HOME A BRIDE.

George Ritter, Sr., Goes to Illinois On Visit and Returns Saturday With a Bride.

George Ritter, sr., went back to Illinois on a visit and surprised his many friends by returning Saturday evening with a bride.

On November 22, he was united in marriage with Miss Anna Schiff, of Clay City, Ill., at the home of her cousin in Shannon county, and after visiting a few days returned to this city where they will make their home on the fine farm of the groom. Mr. Ritter is one of the oldest settlers in this county, coming here in his infancy and putting up with all the hardships that comes with a new country. He has been a hard working man, and now has one of the finest improved farms in the state. He is also one of the main stockholders of the Bank of Eagle, being president of that institution.

Mr. Ritter is a man that is a help to any community and has won many life long friends in this county which he has done his best to make one of the best in the state.

We have not had the pleasure of knowing Mrs. Ritter, but we are sure that she is one of the best of women and will make a good wife for the man who has chosen her for his companion. We are sure the people of Eagle will welcome her gladly and do all in their power to make her home a pleasant one.

They were charivari'd by a crowd of Mrs. Ritter's friends every place they visited while in Illinois. On Sunday evening the friends of Grandpa Ritter, headed by his son, George Jr. and wife went to their home and gave them an old fashioned charivari and were invited in to spend the evening.

The Beacon joins Mr. Ritter's many friends in extending congratulations and wishing he and his wife many long and happy years of married life. Especially do we extend our hand to Mrs. Ritter, who comes among strangers, but we know the people of Eagle will not be long in making her feel as though this had always been her home.—Eagle Beacon.

Manicure sets—Gering & Co.
Toilet sets—Gering & Co.

WHEN THE KETTLE SINGS

It's a sign of coal satisfaction. Want to hear the music in your kitchen? Easy—order coal from this office and yard. The output of the Trenton mine—the fuel we handle—has no superior anywhere, its equal in few places.

J. V. EGENBERGER,

PHONE—Plattsmouth No. 22.
Bell No. 351.
PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA.

NOTICE.
The State of Nebraska, in Justice Court before M. Archer, Justice of the Peace for the City of Plattsmouth, County of Cass.

Charles H. Wilkins, Plaintiff, vs. Frank C. Benfer, Defendant.
Frank C. Benfer will take notice that on the 20th day of November, 1908, M. Archer, a Justice of the Peace for the City of Plattsmouth, County of Cass, Nebraska, issued an order of attachment for the sum of Sixty-eight and 70-100 (\$68.70) Dollars in an action pending before him, where in Charles H. Wilkins is plaintiff and Frank C. Benfer is defendant. That personal property of said defendant has been attached under said order. Said cause was continued to the 6th day of January, 1909, at 9 o'clock a. m.

NOTICE.
The State of Nebraska, in Justice Court before M. Archer, Justice of the Peace for the City of Plattsmouth, County of Cass.

Ed Egenberger, Plaintiff, vs. Frank C. Benfer, Defendant.
Frank C. Benfer will take notice that on the 21st day of November, 1908, M. Archer, a Justice of the Peace for the City of Plattsmouth, County of Cass, Nebraska, issued an order of attachment for the sum One Hundred Seventy-eight and 40-100 (\$178.40) Dollars in an action pending before him, where in Ed Egenberger is plaintiff and Frank C. Benfer is defendant; that personal property of said defendant has been attached under said order. Said cause was continued to the 6th day of January 1909, at 9 o'clock a. m.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT.
IN THE COUNTY COURT OF CASS COUNTY, NEBRASKA.
In the matter of the estate of Catherine Stadelmann, deceased.
All persons interested in said estate will take notice that Catherine White executrix of said estate has filed her final account and report of her administration in said estate, and a petition for final settlement of said account and allowance thereof, and the discharge of such executrix. A hearing upon such account and petition has been set by the Court at the County Court Room in Plattsmouth, Nebraska, on the 19th day of December, 1908, at the hour of ten o'clock a. m. when any and all persons interested in said estate may appear and contest the same.

Dated this 28th day of November, 1908.
Allen J. Beeson, Plaintiff.
D. O. Dwyer, Attorney.

Notice of Sale of Note and Mortgage Security.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that by virtue of an order of the Hon. Allen J. Beeson, County Judge of Cass County, Nebraska, made and entered in the estate of Catherine Stadelmann, deceased, the undersigned executrix of said estate will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, a certain promissory note in the principal sum of \$200.00 with interest thereon at the rate of eight percent (8%) from the first day of May, 1908, together with a certain mortgage deed on the West Half of Lot Nine (9) in Block Twenty-Nine (29) of the City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska, which is security for the payment of said note. That said note and mortgage matures on May First, 1909, and are a part of the assets of the estate of said deceased. Such sale will take place at the south door of the Court House in said City of Plattsmouth on the 21st day of November, 1908, at the hour of one o'clock P. M.

Dated this 31st day of October, 1908.
D-3
CATHARINE WHITE, EXECUTRIX.
D. O. DWYER, Attorney.

EXCURSION

...TO THE GULF COAST COUNTRY...

Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday in Each Month

Over the Missouri Pacific Railway
\$23.65 Round Trip. Tickets Good 25 Days

Can stop off anywhere going or coming. Train leaves Plattsmouth, Neb., 12.03 a. m.; arrives Kansas City Tuesday morning 6 o'clock—making connections with the fast train going south to the Gulf. We will have a private Pullman Dining Car (Julia). 50 cents for births and 35 cents for meals. We are closing out a ranch near El Campo, Texas, of 16,000 acres, at 22.50 to \$30.00 per acre, on easy terms. We have sold over one-half of this land to farmers who will at once commence to improve their lands, build good houses and barns. Also lands near Edna and Victoria.

If you want to make this trip with us, let us know in time to get you a ticket. Buy your ticket over the Missouri Pacific to Kansas City; Santa Fe Railway to Houston, Texas, and from Houston to San Antonio over the G. H. & S. A. Railway.

JOHN MURRAY, Jr.,
TEXAS LAAD AGENT.
P. O. Box 605—Plattsmouth Neb.

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into the rich and resourceful farming regions of the Southwest. It is a splendid chance for the Northern and Eastern farmer, after his wheat is gathered, to combine a pleasure and prospecting trip.

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