

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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R. A. BATES, PUBLISHER.

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Considerable speculation is indulged in as to whether or not the legislature will pass the fifty-car limit act. There has been more or less protest against it by so-called representatives of the trainmen but nine men in ten in the freight service favor the act whether their "legislative representatives" say so or not.

From all reports those members of the legislature who are favoring a bank deposit guaranty act which will not guaranty, are finding it hard sledding. The people voted for this act and meant it to be one which would guarantee them and give them immediate payment in the event of failure and most of the democratic members know this. They must and will pass an "immediate" payment bill.

The gopher question should be taken up by some statesman in the legislature really anxious to do something for the farming community. Every day complaints come in of the destruction these pests have caused and the imposition of a bounty upon their scalps would have the effect of getting rid of them. It would be one of the wisest acts the legislature could pass and it would be money well spent.

### The Boom in Sight.

The announced determination of the Nebraska Telephone Company to rebuild their telephone plant in this city and expend a large sum of money in construction work, will be hailed by everyone as a sign of revival of business it cannot fail to have an excellent effect upon the markets of the city, as it means the employment of a large force of men throughout the summer, and every additional man employed means additional money in circulation through trade channels.

Added to this the Plattsmouth Telephone Company, a local institution, authorizes the announcement that their plant will be rebuilt and a thoroughly modern and up-to-date system installed, and this, too, means the expenditure of a large sum by this company. Their plans have not yet been published but when they are they will show the company will not be outdone by its competitor and that they will put up as good or better a plant than the Nebraska people. To do this they must spend many thousands of dollars and every dollar so spent helps toward the revival of trade in the city.

Thus the year starts with the absolute assurance that two big companies will spend many thousands here. And this is all done without the Commercial Club being called in to assist in securing it. How much more can be secured by the Club taking an active hand and interesting capital in the many advantages of the city, is apparent. The proposed interurban to Omaha is a good thing especially for owners of real estate in the city. If it can be secured it will undoubtedly mean the creation of a strong, healthy real estate market and a sharp advance in real estate prices which are manifestly far too low for a city of this size. It also means an influx of new faces and new blood which will tell in the making of a live city.

If the proposed interurban through the country to Manley, Murdock, Elmwood and possibly even to Eagle and Lincoln, can be secured and the trade of central Cass County diverted to this city, the result will be the upbuilding of the city and its advancement to the proper place among the good towns of the state.

But even if the interurban should not come this year, there are other ways of improving the city and its trade. The proposed trade excursions from Eagle over the M. F. to this city, are excellent and must result in great benefit not alone to the city but to those who are fortunate enough to patronize them. It means the giving of real bargains to

the people who seek them and it means the expenditure of large sums among our business men. This can be arranged without much trouble and at small expense compared with the immense benefits derived.

Then the construction of the park system and summer amusement resort should be pushed along. It would mean a source of attracting business to the city and give all a place to take recreation at, something badly needed here. There are any number of fine sites where shade, water and a bathing beach can be erected at small cost.

All these things can be secured if persistently gone after and they all mean a great help to the city. Let everyone put his shoulder to the wheel and give the car of progress a helping push. Make Plattsmouth the liveliest town in Nebraska and make it so at once. Then after it has been made lively keep it up. Everlastingly boom the city.

A scurrilous publication in this city takes occasion to denounce Acting Mayor Sattler. There is one redeeming feature about John Sattler—the people who know him vote for him and so much cannot be said of everyone else.

There is not the least reason in the world why Plattsmouth cannot be made the best city in Nebraska the coming year. All that is needed is a little push and energy and this city will take the place its natural advantages entitle it too. Let us light the town, encourage industries, make everything go and be the best town in the state. You can help a lot—do some boosting on your own hook.

The Journal is insistent upon the matter of passing a bounty act to encourage the extermination of the gophers. The reason for urging this is the fact that it means much to the farmers of Nebraska. Every man who has a tilled field can see where he stands to lose if the ravages of these pests are permitted. Taxes cannot be better spent than in destroying these pests. The members of the legislature should vote a bounty for each head of the rodents and every farmer constituent will raise and call them blessed.

The man who imagines Plattsmouth won't move ahead the coming year has another think coming. This little old town is going to be the best out for a year at least. The two telephone companies are going to spend at least \$50,000 here, the proposed park system is going to go through, Plattsmouth will have lights and there is every probability that an interurban will connect this city and Omaha before the year closes so it is easy to be seen this city will be in the front rank of live ones for one year, at least.

### The Oregon Plan Vindicated.

Governor George E. Chamberlain, of Oregon has just been elected United States senator from that state. He is the first senator ever elected according to the Oregon plan, and he being a democrat, elected by a republican legislature in pursuance of pledges made to the people by the candidates for the legislature, his election is a vindication of the Oregon plan, and the Oregon plan is a long step toward popular election of senators. In fact, it goes as far as the state can go without an amendment to the federal constitution.

In the last issue of the Commoner attention was called to this plan as it is embodied in the bill presented in the Nebraska house of representatives by Hon. Fred B. Murphy. It is commended to the attention of the Democratic legislatures now in session in the various states. The Nebraska legislature will undoubtedly enact a law substantially like the one in Oregon and thus bring to the people of the state the benefits of the popular election of senators. In the close states, where such a plan is most effective, it is quite certain that enough candidates will agree to abide by the result of the popular vote to assure the election of the people's choice.

This plan is especially commended to the legislatures of Colorado, Nevada and Indiana, where democratic governors occupy the executive office and can act in harmony with the democratic members in securing the

adoption of the Oregon plan. In Ohio, Minnesota and North Dakota, the democratic governors may have influence enough with the republican legislatures to secure the adoption of the plan, and in other states like South Dakota, Iowa and Kansas, the reform element in the republican party may be strong enough, when its vote is added to the democratic vote, to secure this measure of reform. In Missouri there ought to be sufficient co-operation between the democrats and the reform republicans to secure the passage of a law submitting the Oregon pledge to candidates for the legislature.

These states are mentioned especially because they are contested states. In the states that are considered sure one way or the other, the adoption of the Oregon plan might not materially effect the result, but the principle is right and ought to be adopted everywhere. It will not only help to coerce the senate into consent to the selection of United States senators by the people, but it will give the people of the states which adopt it the nearest approach that can be made, as the federal constitution now stands, to popular election.—The Commoner.

Why wouldn't it be a good idea to use a wireless telegraph to warn people that winter storms are coming. The storm of yesterday and the day before ought to show where this great invention could be used with good effect.

### Endorses His Stand.

Col. M. A. Bates, editor of the Plattsmouth Journal and a member of the present legislature, shares the Star's views regarding the anti-lobby law. "Such a law," he declares, should never have been permitted to disgrace the statutes of Nebraska. It simply permits lobbying. What does a professional lobbyist care for this little piece of red tape when he desires to perform the work for which he is paid by the corporations?"—Lincoln Star.

The center of the universe seems to be the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. First it was Messina and Reggio, then followed the great storms and earthquakes in Northern Africa and now comes the news that Barcelona, one of the largest cities in Spain is submerged by a tidal wave. In the tremendous losses which Italy, Morocco and Spain have sustained the whole world joins in sympathy. As is always the case the United States will do its share toward helping the victims of this latest disaster and show the world that the unfortunate and stricken have a willing friend in need.

The Journal has been making a fight to eradicate the gopher from the farms of the state and to this effect it has advocated the passage of a bounty act. From authorities who claim to have investigated the question, it learns that these rodents can be easily driven from the country by the use of poison. If this can be done it might be well to require all farmers to clean out these pests or pay a penalty for failing to do so. In any event whether the farmer be required to rid the land of the pests or whether a bounty be paid something should end their ravages. A bounty wouldn't cost so much as many imagine and it might have a salutary effect.

### Whiskey for the Ladies.

From Collier's Weekly.

What is here reproduced from a newspaper is one of the most marvelous exhibit ions which has recently met the watchful editorial eye:

"We are taking care of the ladies through the Drug Department (the far corner from Commerce street), where we show samples of everything on sale in the whiskey department. This is probably more convenient for the ladies; certain it is that it will obviate the necessity for them to come in contact with the regular whiskey trade. We cordially invite the ladies down \* \* \*

"Anything you want at about the price you want to pay. See us at once. The above prices are simply samples, as we carry all lines and have nearly every well known brand in stock.

"We can't shop anywhere in Alabama (account of the Alabama anti-

shipping bill), but you can take it home with you. We have neat satchels, which we sell you at cost and will give you a rebate if you want to return the satchels to us. Whiskey Department, Blank Bros. Co., Corner Lee and Tallapoosa streets, Telephone 136."

### Senators by the People.

When the republicans of Nebraska declare that they believed the people should be allowed to choose United States senators did they mean what they said, or were they indulging in buncombe?

If they meant it why do the republican members of the legislature stand up, almost to a man, and vote and fight against a bill which carries this principle into effect?

If they meant it why are the republican bosses and leaders and editors patting these republican legislators on the back for having voted AGAINST the popular election of senators?

The Humphrey bill, which applies the Oregon plan in Nebraska, is the essence of simplicity. It allows candidates for senator to submit their names to the voters at the polls. And then it requires candidates for the legislature to say whether they will, or will not, pledge themselves to vote for that candidate for senator whom the people have said they want.

What is the objection to this? What man, or party, honestly believing that senators should be elected by the people, can possibly object?

The republicans in the legislature, by their votes and by the amendments they have presented, have declared they are OPPOSED to the election of United States senators by the people, except under certain conditions.

They favor popular election of senators—provided the senator thus elected is to be a republican!

They favor popular election of senators—provided Mr. Bryan is not to be elected!

This is the stand they take, like

the man who didn't give a continental what color his barn was painted so long as it was red.

If the majority of the people of Nebraska wanted to elect a democratic senator and a republican legislature, or a republican senator and a democratic legislature, why shouldn't they have a right to do so?

They would have that right absolutely if a constitutional amendment for the direct election of senators were to be adopted. This the republicans have repeatedly declared themselves in favor of. Why then, do they oppose granting identically the same right under the Oregon plan?

The republican leaders of Nebraska the republican editors, the republican legislators, by the attitude they have taken stand convicted of insincerity, of cowardice, of the cheapest and pettiest partisanship. They have proved that their progressive pretensions were humbug and cant. They have declared that they are afraid to trust the people with the right to elect their own senators.

So far as Mr. Bryan is concerned, he declared in a speech delivered in Pennsylvania last month, that he hoped it would never be necessary for him again to be a candidate for any public office. Even his republican enemies will admit that Mr. Bryan is in the habit of meaning what he says and saying what he means. Why, then, this transparent attempt to use him as a bogey man?—World Herald.

With trade excursions, two new interurbans and a fine park this city ought to make 1909 a record-breaker. And everyone of these industries can be secured just by dint of a little hustling and push by our people. Let us take a hand and send Plattsmouth to the top this year with a rush.

The Journal renews its suggestion to the members of the legislature to turn their attention to ridding the state of the gophers. Pass

a bounty act and encourage the boys to kill these pests and relieve the fields of the state from their devastation. The bounty would not have to be high but it should be enough to cause the destruction of these pests.

In the meantime there should be steps taken to push the matter of a free excursion from Eagle to this city. The matter if properly handled could be made to pay the merchants and business men of the city generously. The cost when divided among several of the merchants would not be great upon anyone of them while the income would easily repay the running besides the splendid advertisement it would be for the live men of the city. Let the project be pushed to an early consummation and let Plattsmouth show the rest of the county that it wants to treat it right.

Addition to the Omaha-Plattsmouth interurban steps should be taken to build a line from this city to Manley, Murdock and Elmwood. If this line is built, there would be no doubt but an interurban from Omaha would connect with it here and both lines could be made highly profitable. It would be a great thing for the farmers throughout the county as well as for this city. Anyone who has ever been through Illinois, Indiana and Ohio and seen the workings of the interurbans which gridiron that country will realize that they have done much toward upbuilding not alone the cities, but the country. In fact, they make life in the country almost as pleasant or even more so, than life in town. The modern farmer with the rural delivery, the telephone and the electric cars at his door enjoys life far better than the inhabitant of the cities cooped up with the smoke and grime and noise of business. As the proposed route would run through the best portion of the best country in the state, it would prove a success from the start and all that is needed is to start it along.

## LAND! LAND! LAND! To the Cass County Farmer

Who wants to buy a fine farm for less money and which will pay bigger rate of interest than your Cass County farms, and produce four tons of alfalfa each season, and sells for \$8 per ton, \$32 per acre. Read the descriptions in this advertisement.

Central City has one of the largest alfalfa mills in the state, furnishes a fine market for all the alfalfa in the county.

640 acres, 2 miles north of Chapman, Neb., 300 acres in cultivation, balance in hay and pasture. Two story frame house, 7 or 10 room house. Practically new barn, 32x40 with mow, painted red; two wells, 2 mills, other out buildings, fenced and cross-fenced, four wires, round cedar posts. Every acre level land, no wet or low land on the entire section. Soil black loam, 18 inches to 2 feet deep, clay subsoil. No better land in the state. Corn husking out 50 bushel to the acre, paying 8 percent on \$100 an acre. Cash price for 30 days, \$75 per acre. Can make loan 5 years \$26,000 at 6 per cent, optional payments.

400 acres, 4 miles from town, 100 acres in cultivation, 150 acres more can be cultivated, balance too low, but is fine hay land, 1 1/2 story house, good barn for ten horses, cattle shed and all necessary out buildings, 2 wells and 1 mill. All fenced and cross fenced. Price for short time \$52.50 per acre. Can loan 50 percent of the above price. This is a snap.

160 acres, 5 miles from Central City, 120 acres in cultivation, 40 acres in pasture, but all smooth land except 4 acres, which is a little too low. Six room house, stable for 8 horses and other out buildings; 2 wells, 1 mill; 60 acres fall wheat, nice little grove. On R. F. D. and phone in house. Price \$62.50 per acre.

240 acres, 1 1/2 miles from Central City, 100 acres in cultivation, balance in hay and pasture, good buildings, grove, A1 land, 40 rods to college and finest location and neighborhood in the county. Price \$87.50, good terms. Hay land will cut 2 tons per acre.

160 acres, 3 miles from town, 120 acres in cultivation, 20 acres in hay, 20 acres pasture, 36 acres fall wheat, small house, barn and grove. Every acre fine, farm land, but buildings very poor. Will sell for cash at \$50 per acre. This farm is located in a fine neighborhood. Mortgage \$3,300 at 6 percent.

For further particulars write

## The Platte Valley Land and Loan Company, Central City, Nebraska

OR CALL ON LOCAL AGENT

## Geo. Ballance, Plattsmouth, Neb.