

# The Plattsmouth Journal.

SEMI-WEEKLY EDITION—EIGHT PAGES

VOLUME XXVIII

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, MONDAY, MARCH 22, 1909

NO. 190

## THAT "CITIZENS" CONVENTION

### "But Avoid Foolish Questions and Contentions--For They are Unprofitable and Vain"--Titus 3-9

From Friday's Daily.  
After several long weeks of travail and pain the child has been born. Into a cold and unfeeling world last night was ushered the Citizens ticket of the city of Plattsmouth. That its course through life will be one of tumult and trouble is predicted by all the political doctors of the city.

The weekling seemed to be almost entirely in the hands of republican doctors, the democrats present seeming to be merely there in the capacity of wet nurses to the infant. Among the republican doctors present all the remedies in existence calculated to relieve the condition of the infant were applied. It represented all shades and degrees of finical ideas some of the prominent members being those pilloried not long since as spies of the county attorney's office while others had equally notorious records as "reformers." It was not strange that a ticket born of such a combination should be a weird and strange one. To blend all the various nostrums for good government into one ticket seems almost beyond the power of man and it remains to be seen whether it has been successfully done.

There was an active participation in the convention of probably one hundred men. In addition to those there was present an equal number of idly curious spectators who seemed much amused at the proceedings and robbed the meeting of much of the dignity which should have gone with it. Of those in the convention ninety per cent at least were republicans. The remaining ten per cent were prohibitionists and off-color democrats. The latter were however very active considering their numbers and dictated things to their republican brethren in lively fashion.

It was about eight thirty o'clock before the crowd was large enough to warrant J. P. Falter calling it to order. Presumably he was chairman of the of the self-constituted and mysterious "committee" which called this strange and unique gathering together as he rapped for order and stated the first business before the meeting was the election of a chairman. The hall was full of confusion and considerable delay was experienced in herding the participants into seats. A. W. Atwood nominated C. A. Rawls for chairman and J. M. Roberts was also named for the same position. Another delay occurred while the candidates waited for someone to second the nominations and this became painful until Mr. Rawls withdrew his name and Mr. Roberts was elected by acclamation although the acclaim was rather feeble. Mr. Roberts on taking the chair thanked the meeting for the privilege of presiding over the deliberations and promised to do the best he could. E. H. Wescott was then chosen secretary.

This cleared the decks for action and business was commenced with a rush. The reading of the call was dispensed with and nominations for mayor were called for. Jacob P. Falter took the floor or rather held it as he had from the start, and in a speech which bristled with eloquence, nominated Dr. Edgar D. Cummins, elongizing him as a man everyone knew, born and raised in the city and a good clean citizen with many other verbal pyrotechnics which in a proper, well regulated convention would have set the crowd wild but which seemed to fall like one of the pancakes a newly wed wife bakes, on the crowd. Hon. R. B. Windom in a speech occupying several minutes seconded Dr. Cummins' nomination. Mr. Windham paid special attention to the fact that the meeting doubtless reflected the sentiment of a great many, perhaps a large portion of the citizens. Dr. Cummins would give the city an efficient administration. Not everyone was satisfied with the ticket already in the field and perhaps even a third one might be necessary. This meeting was non-partisan (and the speaker did not smile). The large number present seemed to signify that things were not satisfactory. There

seemed to be a feeling that this ticket would give a better government. Whether the people wanted this ticket or not could be told at the polls and there was much more along the same lines. Mr. Windham's speech got scattering applause at the finish but there was no enthusiasm.

A pause for further nominations resulted in none and Dr. Cummins was named by acclamation. The doctor was not present and did not say how he liked the prospects. J. N. Wise then took the floor and nominated R. W. Clements for city treasurer. Mr. Wise spoke of Mr. Clements as a man known in this city since his childhood. He had known his parents 50 years ago. The young man had a reputation above reproach and had been faithful to every trust reposed in him. He had served the city as city treasurer for several years with eminent satisfaction. Mr. Clements was nominated by acclamation. He was called for but was not present so his actions in regard to the nomination are not known.

The naming of Clements produced more enthusiasm than any other move of the convention but it still lacked much of the nature of a popular uprising.

Emmons Richey was then named for city clerk by I. W. Glenn and nominated by acclamation and when called for briefly thanked the convention.

Judge M. Archer was then named for police judge by acclamation and when called for briefly thanked the convention for the nomination which had come to him unsolicited. If elected he would do the best he could and would uphold the constitution and the statutes of the state of Nebraska as well as the ordinances of the city of Plattsmouth and would make it \$5 and costs.

A motion to nominate H. N. Dovey and Dr. C. A. Marshall for members of the school board prevailed unanimously. Mr. Dovey rose up and endeavored to get his name taken off the ticket but without success.

He spoke of having held the position for nine years and thought it was time to step aside and let someone else in. He also thought it due to himself that he be permitted to retire.

For the welfare of the cause, however, it was thought best to keep him hitched to the ticket and Chairman Roberts insisted that he would rule out of order *soifwypainfwpw* rule him out of order and that his excuse was not good.

The convention then on the suggestion of ex-County Attorney Rawls proceeded to take a recess and the several wards got together and selected their candidates for councilmen. The various corners of the room were pre-empted by the several wards and soon the noise and tumult of the caucuses were heard on every hand. The sixth ward held its caucus in the gallery.

On the floor the caucus of the third, fourth and fifth wards were the active ones. In the third where the candidacy of L. G. Larson was proposed, some disorder prevailed and after it was accomplished several delegates abruptly left the caucus. The fourth ward was animated and at times seemed rather warm in argument. In the fifth there was considerable head shaking and three or four times pointed fingers were in evidence.

After a recess of several minutes the convention reassembled and named the following candidates for the council:

- First ward—to fill vacancy—J. P. Falter.
  - First ward—for long term, Geo. E. Dovey.
  - Second ward—Fred Range.
  - Third ward—L. G. Larson.
  - Fourth ward—C. M. Parker.
  - Fifth ward—Aug. Gorder.
- These nominations were on motion ratified by the convention.
- A call of the wards for committee-men was then made and the following gentlemen were chosen:
- First ward, Chas. Guthman; sec-

ond ward, W. G. Straight; third ward O. C. Hudson and August Johnson; fourth ward, Harry Barthold, fifth ward

On motion of Rev. Salsbury the committee and candidates were empowered to select a chairman of the committee. He also moved that the committee be empowered to fill any vacancy which might exist on the ticket and several other motions all relative to empowering the committee to do many things, all of which prevailed.

The convention then adjourned or rather dissembled the members dragging themselves dispiritedly out of the hall. Indeed, it was much such a scene as the poet depicts when he speaks of the "funeral train passing through the vale."

### Testify in Tennessee.

From Friday's Daily.  
The nature of the case in which Dr. Golding was recently subpoenaed to act as a witness in a Tennessee court is explained in the following item which appeared in the Omaha Bee last evening:

Dr. D. G. Golding of Fremont, who was summoned as a witness before the United States district court of the eastern Tennessee district in the case of the United States against H. C. Jett, will be called upon to testify in a pension case in which Jett is defendant. It was first thought Dr. Golding's evidence was wanted in some of the night rider cases, or possibly in some of the feud cases so common to that district.

Dr. Golding was wholly ignorant as to the cause of the summons and certainly knew nothing about any night rider or feud cases in which the Jett or anybody else was concerned.

It later developed that Dr. Golding was called to Tennessee to testify in a pension case. H. C. Jett had been a soldier in the Spanish-American war. It appears that Dr. Golding had some time previous to that war treated Jett for a similar ailment.—Fremont Herald.

### Sues for \$5,000 Damages.

From Friday's Daily.  
Fred Thrall, jr., who is in jail in default of a \$1,000 bond for assault with intent to wound upon Ross Delaney of Union, has commenced action in district court against Delaney asking \$5,000 damages. The grounds for the case is the fight which Thrall and Delaney had in the village of Union and which was the cause of the arrest of Thrall. Thrall it will be recalled, was badly worsted in the fight, Delaney giving him a severe beating which caused him to go to his store and arm himself with a rifle and start after Delaney. Sheriff Quinton was in the town at the time and he promptly placed Thrall under arrest after a struggle with him and his aged father. It is for the beating which Delaney gave him that Thrall now wants damages. The case should be for trial in the district court at the May term, at which time the criminal case against Thrall will be heard.

### Pollard to Take Charge.

From Friday's Daily.  
The news comes from the morning papers that Congressman E. M. Pollard intends to move to this city at once and take charge of the News-Herald plant which he bought sometime since and which has been appearing since his purchase under a temporary management. Mr. Pollard will be welcomed to the city with open arms if the report proves true and the Journal will be glad to welcome the ex-congressman as a brother journalist. That his presence upon the News-Herald would put some life into that paper and introduce some modern ideas goes without saying and that he could make it a weapon for good in the community is the opinion of all. As an addition to the intelligence and good citizenship of the city Mr. Pollard would prove valuable. The Journal hopes that the report is true and that he will at once assume charge and move himself and his esteemed family to the city.

### Off the Track.

The Missouri Pacific had another wreck this forenoon in their yards in this city. The freight train from the south blocks the way and the tracks will have to be cleared before the main line trains can pass. The engine, tended and two cars jumped the track at the B & M. crossing just as they were taking the switch and it will take some time to get the track cleared.—Nebraska City News.

Thomas and Charles Gradielle were passengers this noon on the fast mail for Omaha where they will visit with friends.

### DEFENSE EXAMINES NUMBER OF WITNESSES.

#### Banner Murder Trial in Omaha Creates Great Interest.

Omaha, March 17.—By the testimony of relatives the defense Wednesday morning entered upon its endeavor to show that the life history of Mrs. Alta Banner had been such as to substantiate the theory that she was not mentally responsible at the moment she shot Fred Banner in South Omaha last July.

The most important witness toward this end was Mrs. Harriett Hudspeth, mother of the defense. Alta, her youngest daughter, was born in Iowa. When she was fourteen the family moved to Newport, Neb. Frederick King, who lived on a ranch near there was the first sweetheart, and the marriage occurred when Alta was eighteen.

They soon removed to South Omaha, and their daughter Marjorie was born there. Four years after a son was born. His death at the age of four affected Mrs. King visibly. She did not seem like herself. All her devotion centered upon Marjorie who was nine years old when Mr. and Mrs. King separated.

She sent her daughter to a Catholic academy and gave her all the advantages her means permitted. Mrs. Hudspeth said she knew but little about Frank Banner, not having seen him until the day before her daughter and he were married.

The witness said that after her daughter's marriage to Frank Banner she was still discontented. She said that when Marjorie was taken ill she spent four days with an aunt and was then taken to South Omaha, where Mrs. Banner attended her. The conduct of Mrs. Banner toward her father, which has always been that of marked devotion, changed strangely at this time. She seemed weak and exhausted, her face drawn and pale.

Under cross-examination Mrs. Hudspeth said that all mothers show more love for living children after the death of another, the purpose of the state in this line of questioning being to show there was nothing unusual in Mrs. Banner's conduct in this regard. She said that Mrs. Banner was never robust except when about 17 years old.

As the examination of Mrs. Hudspeth was being finished, Royal Hudspeth the father of Mrs. Banner, came into the court room, walked over to his daughter and kissed her. Mr. Hudspeth was then placed on the witness stand. He said he noticed a remarkable change in his daughter's conduct after birth and death of her second child.

"I have never seen her once when she appeared like the same woman since the death of her child until today," he said.

Witness said he never saw Frank Banner until after his marriage, when he and Mrs. Banner came to visit them overnight.

Mr. Hudspeth testified that during the illness of Marjorie Mrs. Banner acted strangely, did not talk sensibly, gesticulated much and sometimes refused to talk at all.

The first clash occurred between counsel when the defense asked questions along what Judge Sears had earlier characterized as the lines of the Thaw case. Objection was made to the defense asking Mr. Hudspeth to answer the question of whether he had heard rumors about Marjorie's chastity. The court ruled that he could answer yes or no.

Winifred Hudspeth, mother of the defendant, testified that when a girl Alta had been cheerful and sunny, though inclined to be over sensitive, he said he noticed a change in her after her marriage to King and more particularly after the death of their son. He said that she then broke down and impressed him as a nervous wreck, was morose and not communicative. Her devotion to Marjorie was emphasized.

Mr. Hudspeth said that during the illness of Marjorie, his sister was greatly affected. She seemed more slender than ever, suffering from lack of sleep and nearly worn out. She told him she had not slept for five or six nights because of her anxiety concerning Marjorie.

him Mrs. Banner inquired for Frank Banner, Fernland, who had been subpoenaed as a witness for the prosecution, said that he was out of the city when the state rested its case Tuesday afternoon and that he had not been trying to avoid coming into court.

### The St. Patrick Social.

From Friday's Daily.  
The St. Patrick social given by the young ladies of the Christian church at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Godwin Wednesday evening was an unqualified success. There was a large number in attendance and all seemed to enjoy the entertainment very much.

A musical and elocutionary program of rare merit was rendered. Piano solos by Miss Virgie McDanel and Mr. E. H. Wescott; vocal solos by Miss Howard, W. G. Brooks and reading by Miss Josephine Hall and Mildred Cummins. The program was brought to a close by several Irish jokes by Rev. Luther Moore.

At the close of this pleasing feature the guests were led by installments to the dining room where delicious coffee, cakes and pickles were served. Owing to the fact that it was St. Patrick's day the young ladies of the class were attired in green and white. A neat sum was realized which will be used for the benefit of the young men's class who are planning to build a room in connection with the church.

### Moving to Town.

From Friday's Daily.  
Conrad Meisinger, one of the county's foremost citizens and farmers, yesterday completed the task of moving his household goods into the city from his palatial home in the country. Mr. Meisinger will occupy the Trillity property on North Fourth street and have a nice comfortable residence there. He is gladly welcomed to the city by all as he and his family are quite justly considered among the very best in the county. The Journal extends its best wishes to him and hopes that he will find his new residence and his new friends as congenial as the place and those whom he leaves behind him in the country.

### Remove to Omaha.

From Friday's Daily.  
W. S. Soper and wife departed this morning on the early train for their future home at Omaha. There was a large number of friends at the depot to see them depart. These excellent people have made themselves deservedly popular during their stay in the city and have built up a large circle of friends and acquaintances who are very sorry to have them change their headquarters. In a business sense they have developed quite a large business here and were considered one of the best and most reliable firms in the city. No matter where they may eventually locate the Journal has no hesitancy in thoroughly endorsing them as excellent people and good and reliable in their business dealings.

### Reaches Ripe Age.

From Friday's Daily.  
At the home of J. W. Edward yesterday, Grandpa Edwards celebrated his 88th birthday, he having been born on March 18, 1821, in Orange County, Ind. near Half Moon Springs. The occasion was celebrated by a little dinner at which were present some 14 of his descendants. This venerable and aged man was a soldier during the civil war serving with distinction. He was a member of the third Iowa Cavalry. This distinguished citizen had two wives, and seven children living with five children dead. He has twenty-four grand children living and three dead. He also has one grand child. The day was most pleasantly spent and the venerable citizen thoroughly enjoyed himself as did his aged wife.

### Entertains Social Workers.

From Friday's Daily.  
The Social Workers of the M. E. church were entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Wescott yesterday afternoon. When invited to Sunnyside and the social workers always expect a delightful time and their expectations were fully realized in the entertainment of yesterday.

Social conversation interspersed with vocal and instrumental music were thoroughly enjoyed and the delicious luncheon served was not the least appreciated of the many delightful things provided by the thoughtful hostess for the entertainment of her guests.

### Offer a Better Rail.

Railroads of the United States and other countries can have a steel rail which will be guaranteed not to break, providing they are willing to pay the price. This statement is made by officials of the Pennsylvania Steel company, an independent manufacturer of steel rails.

In the exhibit made by this company for the benefit of American railroad engineering experts now in session at Chicago, an "eighty pound" steel rail twenty feet long made of manganese steel and which has been twisted until six complete turns of the rail have been made. It is guaranteed that a "100-pound" rail will withstand a dynamic force of 150,000-foot pounds, that test bars forged from the head of the rail will show an tensile strength of 150,000 to 159,000 pounds to the square inch and that Bessemer and open hearth process rails will break at from about one-sixth to one-eighth of the dynamic force which the new rails will withstand.

The association has decided to compel the steel rail manufacturers to use a certain kind of drop forge in testing rails, it being claimed that their tests in this respect are not uniform and are frequently of no value. In this connection the Pennsylvania Steel company is exhibiting a new testing machine, which will show, it is claimed, in a short time just exactly what a rail will do under any given conditions of traffic. For example the number of wheels over the Horse Shoe curve of the Pennsylvania road is 10,400 each day. Just what a rail would do under this strain can be shown by this machine in three hours.

### A Pleasant Surprise.

From Saturday's Daily.  
Miss Gladys Marshall last evening was the recipient of a more than pleasant surprise party given by a number of her young lady friends. The occasion was in honor of her birthday anniversary. She was very much surprised when the guests arrived but soon recovered and proceeded to entertain them.

The principal amusement was derived from social conversation and other diversions which were entered into with much interest and enthusiasm and occasioned much merriment.

The pleasure of the evening were further augmented when delicious refreshments were served. At a late hour the guests dispersed wishing Miss Marshall many more returns of the day.

Those who enjoyed this occasion were Misses Ruth Johnson, Helen Chapman, Frances and Ida Weidman.

### Episcopal Directory Out.

From Saturday's Daily.  
Chicago, March 20.—(Special.)—The official Protestant Episcopal directory just issued gives the following statistics on the number of communicants in the churches mentioned in Nebraska.

- Harvard, St. John's, 21; Lincoln, Holy Trinity, 280; St. Luke's, 64; St. Simon's (colored), 2; Nebraska City, St. Mary's, 95; Norfolk, Trinity, 92; Omaha, Trinity cathedral, 422; All Saints, 343; Good Shepherd, 224; St. Andrew's, 182; St. Barnabas', 223; St. John's, 247; St. Mathias, 172; St. Paul's, 92; St. Philip's (colored), 130; Plattsmouth, St. Luke's, 89; Schuyler, Holy Trinity, 69; South Omaha, St. Clement, 48; St. Edward, 25; St. Martin, 215; Tecumseh, Grace, 44; Wymore, St. Luke's, 71.

### J.V. Egenberger Withdraws.

From Saturday's Daily.  
J. V. Egenberger who was nominated by the democrats for a member of the school board desires the Journal to announce that he cannot possibly accept the nomination. He has made it a settled part of his business policy to refuse to mix in politics and hold office of any kind and for this reason will not accept. It is to be regretted that so excellent and capable a man as Mr. Egenberger cannot be induced to serve as his splendid administrative qualities are needed in any public office.

### Missouri Will Fight Back.

Jefferson City, Mo., March 20.—Governor Hadley, in a statement issued tonight, declared if the railroads insist on the restoration of the 3-cent passenger fare rate the entire machinery of the state government will be employed to retaliate on the railroads.

"If the special dispensation is granted Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma and other neighboring states in the matter of 2-cent fares, the state of Missouri will strike back at the railroads through various methods of litigation and legislation," tholds the governor.