

The Plattsmouth - Journal

Published Semi-Weekly at Plattsmouth, Nebraska

R. A. BATES, Publisher.

Entered at the Postoffice at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, as second-class matter.

\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

Did you have a Merry Christmas? The Journal hopes so.

The days now begin to get longer. Tuesday was the shortest day of the year.

Reactionists are those upon whom the sins of the present congress are going to react.

You'll have to hurry. If you don't buy 'em tomorrow we don't believe you intend to.

It seems to be a race between the pigs and the airplanes as to which can soar the highest.

Christmas comes but once a year, and we all should feel good until the next day, at least.

Good resolutions for 1910 are now in order. Resolve to do better next years than you have this.

Now that the sugar trust's scales have been rectified, why not give some heed to those of the coal trust?

The first real White Christmas the Plattsmouth people have enjoyed in several years. The deepest snow in many years.

There is some curiosity to know what the United States government contemplates doing with the Hon. Zelaya after it catches him.

The revolution in Nicaragua still goes on and the insurgents seem to have everything their own way. They won't have the new president.

Christmas joys were active and not passive. Every man enjoyed as much of Christmas good cheer as the Aldrich Robber Taffy would allow him.

By saying it yourself first and beating the other man to it you avoid the necessity today of replying: "Thanks. The same to you, and many of them."

If the United States lets Zelaya escape without just punishment who will be to blame? The despot should be caught and hanged the same as other murderers.

Anyhow, Doctor Cook salted away \$80,000 or \$100,000 before the big crash came, which may entitle him to associate with the malefactors of great wealth.

Many of our exchanges report that ice dealers have commenced to cut ice. We know plenty of men who never cut a bit of ice, yet they are cool propositions.

To friend and foe alike the Journal wishes all a Merry Christmas. Life is too short and eternity too long everlasting to harbor envy, hate and spite.

Secretary Ballinger's present vindication is becoming rather shopworn. He ought to arrange to get a new vindication not less frequently than every two weeks.

The suggestion that the tariff "should not be tinkered with at this time" meets with prompt and hearty response. What the tariff needs is not tinkering, but fixing.

Peary should be compelled to "show up" the same as suggested by Commander Schley. If he fails to comply the country will look upon him as an imposter of the first water. He must prove up to satisfy the public.

The governor of Connecticut refuses to pardon John Warren, who has already served fifty years in the penitentiary for a murder committed in his boyhood. The grim New England conscience is still inflexible—in some directions.

In the death of ex-Senator Harris of Kansas, the country loses one

of the noblest men in the land. Born in the south, and serving in the confederate army, he is perhaps the only man in the United States who represented a northern state, after having served in the southern army.

"What is a Republican?" the New York World is asking. A Republican, dear World, is one who believes that a large number of other Republicans are not Republicans.

South Dakota Republicans voted—yes forty-eight, no sixty-six, not voting fifty-one. South Dakota Democrats voted—yes one, no seventeen, not voting eight.

This paper thinks that Governor Shallenberger displayed considerable wisdom in letting the complaint against Mayor Dahlman and the board of fire and police commissioners of Omaha go by default. Spite work don't gain anything well regulated city and especially in a city like the Nebraska metropolis.

Some fellows up about Lincoln intimate that Pollard's special mission to Honolulu was to see how his family liked the country and that, in case he failed in the nomination for congress, Joe Cannon would see that he got a lucrative appointment in that country. Old Joe, as he says himself, "never goes back on his friends."

There are, perhaps, many little ones in our city who were not remembered this Christmas because of the fact that the Aldrich high tariff, which keeps the father's nose to the grindstone in order that these little ones may have enough to eat and wear. It is a shame that these little innocents are compelled to suffer for the misdeeds of the tariff barons of the east.

HOW DO YOU LIKE IT?

Here's something for our Republican friends to chew upon, while they also masticate the cud of reflection, as they note the necessities of life going higher, higher, higher:

Success Magazine's poll of its 22,000 life subscribers, all over the country, announced today, shows remarkable results.

On the question, "Are you satisfied with the first nine months of the Taft administration," 3,092 Republicans say yes, and 2,490 Republicans no; 500 Democrats say yes, and 2,093 Democrats no.

On this same question, eighty nine Iowa Republicans said yes, 185 no, and 110 declined to vote; 3 Iowa Democrats said yes, 59 no, and 22 didn't vote. On the same question, Nebraska Republicans voted—yes fifty-six, no seventy-eight, not voting 165. Nebraska Democrats' votes—yes six, no fifty-two, not voting twenty-one.

The territorial summary of the situation in the whole country, according to this poll, declares that the misgiving about the administration is shown from all sections. The questions which were asked, about whether the attitude of Aldrich and Cannon on the tariff were endorsed or condemned, brought condemnation of them almost unanimous from Republicans and Democrats alike the country over. Even in Rhode Island eight Republicans voted that they approved Aldrich's course, while twenty-four disapproved and eight did not vote at all.

On the question, "Do you approve Speaker Cannon's course in the tariff legislation," Illinois voted—twenty-seven Republicans yes, 38 no and eighty-four not voting.

The value of the poll in reflecting public opinion is indicated by the facts that fifteen months ago Success forecasted almost absolutely the result of the national election from a poll of the same subscribers.

This is the season of the year when the matrimonial market takes a boom, and from the present outlook there will be many weddings in Cass county before the holidays close.

If congress has done any work since they convened, we would like to know where it is. The members might have just as well remained at home until after the holidays, for all the good they have done since convening.

When Walt Mason lived in Nebraska a few years ago and lost his newspaper job he tried horse trading. At the end of the first week he had made twelve trades, had the same horse he started with and \$30 boot money in his pocket.

W. R. Hearst's purpose, because of the austerity of his convictions, to hold aloft from the Democratic and the Republican parties, reminds the New York Evening Post of a railroad timetable "subject to change without notice."

Having been permitted to rob the people with high prices under the tariff tax the Sugar Trust had reason to feel that the national guardians would look with the same approval on its methods of stealing the tax.

Who wants a Central Bank? What do they want it for? A Central Bank would loosen or squeeze money at its own sweet will. Why then if you are not in the money squeezing business, do you want a Central Bank? Or do you want your money squeezed when you want your money?

It is the Journal's opinion, publicly expressed, that ex-Senator Patrick is going considerably out of his way to engender discord in the ranks of the democratic party. Such fanatics as Patrick can do a party more harm than good in his way and are better outside the ranks than trying to create mutiny inside.

Now we are to have a bread trust and it is coming close upon the heels of the flour trust. It begins to look like the old German was right when he hung up this sign as a warning to his customers:

"To trust is bust
To bust is—well,
No trust, no bust,
No bust, no h—"

The merchants have been very liberal in their holiday advertising, and deserve a far better trade this year than they have had for many years. The snow last night and this morning have greatly improved the roads, thus giving the farmers and their wives and daughters an opportunity to get to town the last day before Christmas. All our merchants are doing a good business today.

An exchange gives these reasonable and sensible remarks upon the subject: The farmer who is too poor to buy a pair of warm blankets for his team, with hogs at \$8 and milk at \$1.50 a hundred, ought to try doing the chores in a union suit and see how he likes it. The man who will allow a faithful team to stand for hours in the teeth of a bitter wind, while he hugs the grocery store stove and settles the tariff question, has a disposition which would make a hyena turn green with envy. We have seen men who had plenty of time to gabble about Joe Cannon and the steel schedule, but who were too busy to slip a couple of blankets on a shivering team. If there is a hell, the man who allows his team to freeze to the pavement on a winter's night will be called to do the jig at the tail of a toasting fork that will last 150,000 years.

Annual Meeting.
The annual meeting of the Farmers Mutual Insurance company of Cass county, Neb., will be held at the Hell school house in district No. 88 in Eight Mile Grove precinct, on Saturday, January 8, 1910, at 1:30 p. m., for the election of officers for the coming year and transaction of such other business as may regularly come before the meeting.

J. P. Fritsch, Pres.
J. P. Falter, Sec.

County Superintendent Mary E. Foster spent Christmas and Sunday with her parents near Union.

PEOPLE'S PULPIT...



Sermon by
CHARLES T.
RUSSELL,
Pastor Brooklyn
Tabernacle.

CHRISTMAS JOYS.

"The Angel Said Unto Them, Fear Not; For, Behold, I Bring You Good Tidings of Great Joy, Which Shall Be to All People; For Unto You is Born This Day, in the City of David, a Savior, Which is Christ the Lord" (Luke ii, 10, 11).

Richmond, Va., Dec. 26.—Pastor Russell of the Brooklyn Tabernacle preached here today to a large and attentive audience from the above text. He said:

There is an appropriateness in the general joy of the Christmas season, even though some of it is not wisely expressed. The happy custom of giving tokens of love and friendship prevails everywhere the story of Jesus has gone. Even the almshouses and prisons make special provision that the day which celebrates the Savior's birth may, so far as possible, be a happy one, a joyous one, to all mankind. The poorer of our citizens and the unfortunate of slender means are often kindly remembered by their more highly favored relatives and neighbors. Surely this is as it ought to be. Some may have been injured by receiving bounties, but few, if any, have ever been other than blessed in the giving of them. Herein we see corroborated the Savior's own words, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." It is godlike to give.

Our text tells us of God's great Gift, and although it is evident that our Lord Jesus was born about October 1st, instead of December 25th, this makes no material difference, for it is the great fact that we commemorate, and not the particular day of its occurrence. Let us consider today, the great gift of God's love which the Apostle refers to as "the unspendable gift" (II Corinthians ix, 15). As we discern something of its length and breadth and height and depth, our amazement is the more, our joy increases, and we have the more desire to be likewise generous with all with whom we have to do, especially with all who are less fortunately situated than ourselves, either in temporal or spiritual matters.

All men realize, to some extent at least, their imperfection—that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Men's thoughts toward God seem to run along the lines of fear; unworthy of Divine favor, they fear Divine wrath. So it was with the shepherds as related in our context. When the angel of the Lord appeared to them to announce Messiah's birth, they feared. For what purpose would an angel or messenger come to them, except to render some denunciation or to foretell some catastrophe? It was, therefore, that the first words of the messenger were, "Fear not." So in approaching mankind in general with God's message to sinners it is appropriate that we begin by saying, Fear not! The God we preach unto you is not a demon seeking your injury and your torment. He is a God of Wisdom and Justice and Love with all Power to carry to successful conclusion his Wise, Just and Loving Program respecting our race, "which he purposed in himself from before the foundation of the world" (Ephesians i, 9, 4).

Satan has used this human tendency of fear as a lash wherewith to drive man away from God, and from the Bible, his Revelation. We are not, therefore, to discredit to our forefathers the viciousness of character which seems to be implied in the creeds of the "dark ages" handed down to us; rather we are to credit those vicious misrepresentations of our Heavenly Father to the great "Father of Lies." He it is who in the dark of the past planted the seeds of what the Apostle terms "doctrines of devils" (I Timothy iv, 1). We thank the Lord that gradually we are getting our eyes of understanding opened to recognize the true character of God and Jesus Christ whom he hath sent, and who is his express image.

Hark to the Lord's message through the prophet Isaiah. Foreseeing our estrangement from himself and our enslavement by the Adversary, he tells us in so many words, Their fear toward me is not of me, but is taught by the precepts of men—as inspired by our adversary, the devil (Isaiah xxix, 13).

God's Christmas Gift.

Intending from the first not to abandon his fallen human creatures to utter destruction, the Father purposed in himself, in advance, the great Plan of Salvation now in progress. From before the foundation of the world he purposed that Jesus should be the Lamb of God to take away the sin of the world and eventually to bring all the willing and obedient back to harmony with himself, so that only the wilfully wicked would experience the wages of sin, death—"Second Death." But God has a due time for every feature of his great Plan. Four thousand years sped by before it became "due time" to send the Only Begotten Son into the world to redeem it. "In the fulness of time God sent forth his Son, born of a woman" (Galatians iv, 4). "In due time Christ died for the ungodly"—forty-one hundred and sixty years after sin had entered (Romans v, 6). At first we are amazed at such a delay. Nor can the matter be satisfactorily understood until we learn two things:—

(1) That man's experience with sin

Christ's merit. In order to get under the merit of Christ's sacrifice they must believe, renounce sin and make a consecration of themselves to walk in the Redeemer's footsteps as living sacrifices. Under this provision the Gospel call has been going forth for now eighteen centuries. The object of this, the Scriptures tell us, is to select primarily the Church of Christ, a "little flock," "the Bride, the Lamb's wife" and joint-heir with him in his Millennial Kingdom, which is to bless the world.

Throughout this Gospel Age a faithful "little flock" has gradually been gathered. Their test is their willingness to lay down their lives in the Lord's service—in the service of the Truth and in the service of the brethren. In doing this they are sacrificing with Jesus; as the Apostle suggests, "I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service" (Romans xii, 1). This sacrifice of Christ's "members" is counted in as part and parcel of the sacrifice of Christ. When this sacrificing shall be finished it will mean that the merit of Christ's sacrifice at Calvary appropriated to the Church will have been laid down again—returned to the credit of the Redeemer. Then, at the conclusion of this Age, when the last "member of the Body" has suffered with him, and been glorified, the great High Priest will apply the blood afresh—not again for his members and the household of faith, however, but for the world, as the type clearly shows.

"The Riches of His Grace."

Glance backward now, and see the unfoldings of the Divine Plan: The Babe of Bethlehem; the Man of Sorrows; the Risen Lord; the Ascended High Priest and Advocate; the appropriation of his merit to the Church; the joy of forgiveness of sins and reconciliation to God experienced by all believers; their instruction in the School of Christ; their testing and proving by trials and difficulties; and finally, their glorification with their Lord in the Millennial Kingdom. In turn, the glorious Prophet, Priest, Mediator, King, Head and "members" complete, will institute the Millennial Kingdom reign of righteousness for the blessing of the world. Applying his merit for the world and using it also to seal the New Covenant, he opens up the way whereby all then living may become reconciled to God—may be blessed with restitution to full perfection of mind and morals and physique—and have back again the Paradise, lost by sin but redeemed at Calvary.

The Savior purposes, in harmony with the Divine Program, that not merely the members of the race living at the time of his Second Coming and the establishment of his Kingdom shall be blessed by God's great Christmas Gift, but additionally, every member of Adam's race. Hence the arrangement is, as the Master tells us, "All that are in their graves shall hear the voice of the Son of man and come forth."

The "overcomers" of this time of evil, having passed their trial, will come forth perfected in life—the Church on the Spirit plane, being the "first fruits." The remainder of mankind, unapproved of God, shall come forth unto a resurrection of *criminal, judgment, testing*. They will come forth that it may be testified to them—in that, their due time—that Christ died for their sins and that redemption through his blood has been provided for them and for all of Adam's race. During that thousand years of trial they must either accept God's grace and co-operate in their advance to perfection or be destroyed in the Second Death as unworthy of any further Divine favor and blessing.

"Great Joy Unto All People."

Truly, dear friends, we are beginning to understand the message sent us through the angel when our Savior was born. The message is not, Fear greatly; I bring you bad tidings of eternal torment and misery for all people. It is the very reverse of this, namely, "Fear not; I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be unto all people." The joy has not been to all people as yet. Even the knowledge of the Lord has reached only about one in ten of earth's population thus far. And what did reach them was generally a very unsatisfactory, unreasonable message of damnation and great misery. As we have just seen, however, the great Plan of the Ages is rolling onward towards completion, and its progress at every stage makes for fresh blessings and fresh revelations of the glorious things which God purposed in himself from before the foundation of the world. Truly the Scriptures say, As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are God's ways higher than man's ways and his thoughts higher than man's thoughts (Isaiah lv, 9).

Thankful and faithful we should be, for the further knowledge of God's great Plan, which now is streaming forth from his Word for the blessing of all whose eyes of understanding and ears of faith are open. We are truly thankful that our friends and neighbors are not in everlasting torture, but, on the contrary, waiting for the glorious Millennial morning and its blood-bought opportunity of restitution (Acts iii, 19-21). We are thankful, too, that in God's providence we have been called to be "members" of the Body of Christ, to share in his sufferings and in his glorious reign and work of the future. It is possible for those who thus see the real value of Christmas Day to be a thousand fold more happy and more grateful to God than others could be. In turn they should seek to distribute the blessing and to glorify our Father in heaven, who has called us out of darkness into his marvellous light.

"The Body of Christ."

Notice how God's gift expands, carrying blessings with each change. The glorified Jesus, when he ascended up on high, had to his credit, so to speak, the human, earthly rights which he had sacrificed. Those rights were sufficient for the whole world. Because all had been condemned through one man, all could be justified, atoned for, by the sacrifice of one perfect man—"the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all" (I Timothy ii, 5, 6).

But the ascended Savior, although he came into the world to be the Savior of the world, did not apply the merit of his sacrifice for the world, but, as the Scriptures show, he applied it for his Church and the entire household of faith. Unbelievers are not covered by that application of