

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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R. A. BATES, Publisher.

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Perhaps Dr. Cook made a mistake in not sending gum drops to Copenhagen with his records.

Seven thousand paragraphs arose simultaneously to remark that Dr. Cook's goose was cooked.

The New Year will soon be on deck. Only three more days in which to make up your mind to swear off.

It is because women disapprove of smoking that they buy their husband's alleged cigars for Christmas?

Make up your mind to read the Journal, the best paper in Cass county, during the year 1910. Begin with the first issue of the new year.

Make up your mind to join the commercial club and take a hand in boosting for Plattsmouth. A unity of action by the whole people of the city is what will do the work in 1910.

An advertisement is to a business man very much what sowing seed is to a farmer. It may take a little time for the results to become apparent, but they are sure to come. The wise farmer is not niggardly with his seed nor the wise business man with his advertising.

Not only are beef and pork growing scarce, with prices high, but now comes word that there is a shortage in the poultry supply. One explanation is that farmers and ranch owners in the west have found it more profitable to give up their acres to wheat growing at prevailing rates than to raise cattle and chickens.

It should certainly be a delight to Governor Shallenberger to note the way some of the Republican newspapers (pretended prohibition) go after him because he dropped the matter relative to the removal of Mayor Dahlman and the board of police commissioners at Omaha. This is a fine indication that the governor was right in his decision. They can't weaken him by such tactics.

Some people delight in sitting around the fire and if they can get anyone to listen to them, put in their time talking about what is best for the town, and in a manner, giving it a blackeye. They are kickers instead of boosters, and their room is far better than their company to the merchants, and in fact to everyone. We told a fellow the other day who was blowing his head off about "the gang who was running the town," that if he was not satisfied with the town and the people, to move out—there were no strings tied to him. The fact is he don't own a dollars worth of property in town.

President Taft has served notice on ambitious members of congress that the newly organized machinery for the taking of the coming census is not to be utilized for political ends. He addressed eighty-five supervisors of the census at the executive offices and told them plainly if they used their office or if they permitted the enumerators directly under them to follow political ends he would remove them promptly and without hesitation. While this may be true, we'll bet a coonskin, (and kill the coon and skin it ourself) that Helvey, the supervisor for the First district will not appoint a Democrat in the district. Now watch and see.

There is merit in the suggestion that Peary now submit his claims to the University of Copenhagen. The few friends left to Dr. Cook can say with some truth that the Peary records have never been examined by an impartial tribunal. The National Geographical society was strongly prejudiced in his favor, just as the University of Copenhagen was for

Dr. Cook. But the Danes have shown the moral courage to tell the truth, no matter how great the mortification to themselves. They could be depended upon to be fair to Peary, and a verdict from them sustaining his claim and discovery would wipe out the last shadow of doubt. If any exists, that Peary really did reach the pole.

Two recent appointments of President Taft are not such as to inspire or increase public confidence in his administration. Richard Kerens has been named as ambassador to Austria Hungary and Robert Bacon has been nominated for ambassador to France. Mr. Kerens is a machine politician from Missouri; a repeatedly unsuccessful aspirant for a senatorial toga, and a very heavy contributor to the Republican campaign fund last year. Mr. Bacon is a former partner of J. P. Morgan. He was made an assistant in the state department by Theodore Roosevelt, and it is apparently to get rid of him that Mr. Taft provides a place for him in Paris. The prestige of the United States abroad will not be increased by these appointments, while in the popular mind at home they represent the same political system that Cannon and Aldrich are creatures of. In their appointment President Taft has added another to the long list of blunders achieved by him since he took the reins of government.

## NICARAGUA AND J. P. MORGAN.

Ex-President Zelaya of Nicaragua, has issued a manifesto in which he declares that his surrender of the presidency was caused by a desire to save Nicaragua the humiliation of outrages threatened by this country. He charges that the United States seized upon the execution of Cannon and Groce, whom he declares were put to death lawfully, as a pretext for intervention. Without in the least degree defending Zelaya or investing him with a martyr's halo, it may be said that he has some good ground for complaint. It does not appear from anything thus far given publicity, that this government is justified in the course it has taken with regard to Nicaragua.

It is said, with the developments thus far corroborating the statement, that the real motive behind the new Latin-American policy of the Taft administration is to "carry the flag clear to the big ditch." It will be remembered that in his message to congress the president intimated that the Monroe doctrine is passe.

American financiers see in Central America great opportunities for aggrandizement if their interests are backed up by American bayonets. The banking house of J. P. Morgan & Co., has taken over the national debt of Honduras. The same firm is now fiscal agent for the republic of Santo Domingo by virtue of an authority which Theodore Roosevelt did not possess but chose to exert.

J. P. Morgan is no less a "guide, counsellor and friend" of the Taft administration than of the previous one. And it is apparent that this great financier, to whose beck and nod presidents and cabinets respond with alacrity, has a greedy eye set upon the Central American republics. The people of the United States may well restrain any jingolistic tendencies that may possess them at the present moment and watch J. P. Morgan.

## INVESTIGATE FOOD PRICES.

There is talk in Washington of a federal investigation into the cause of the prevailing high prices of food-stuffs.

The proposition should not end in talk.

The high cost of housekeeping is the principal topic of conversation in

household, shop and street.

Every day there are inundations of talk on this subject flooding the land.

The breadwinner and the house-keeper are bewildered with many theories. And no news would be so welcome to their ears as the knowledge of just how it comes to pass that so many things go up in the air—and never come down.

It is a mystery. But it is not impenetrable.

Congress could find out all about it—if it would try.

It should discover why it is that most of the advantage that flows from the high organization of industry has accrued to somebody else besides the consumer.

For there is no other subject of legislation half so interesting or half so important.

A congressional investigation into the reasons for the mounting prices of foodstuffs would easily disclose among other pertinent facts, the existence of widespread interstate conspiracies whereby wholesalers and retailers are compelled to maintain high prices on penalty of crushing them or the still more crushing boycott of manufacturers and producers.

This whole system of price-boosting should be laid bare.

And after it has been exposed, and after the bearings of the existing federal anti-trust laws upon the whole situation have been made plain, congress will be in a position to undertake such further legislation as may be necessary.

The business of abolishing the arbitrary taxing power of illicit combinations should be the principal pre-occupation of congress during the present session.—Chicago Examiner.

## TAFT AND LA FOLLETTE.

The coolness between President Taft and Senator La Follette must have been intensified by the senator's disposition to fan the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy by his strong anti-Ballinger editorials in La Follette's Weekly. These acid comments have undoubtedly eaten into the president's skin and aroused his anger. The senator, in fact, appears to have little concern as to his relations with the white house, and he must be fully prepared for an open break. How far the administration can safely go in attempting to expel him from the Republican party is a delicate question that should not be settled offhand, since the Republicans of Wisconsin as a mass cannot be safely ignored. At present the senator seems likely to be returned for another term, regardless of the intense dislike felt for him by the Republican leaders of the senate and by Mr. Taft himself.

## COMING LABOR TROUBLES.

With the serious strike of the switchmen in the Twin cities, and with the formal declaration of war on the steel trust wherever it has factories over the United States, there is every indication of unsettled conditions in the labor market during the next year. Our readers are deeply interested in this, because their main business is to supply laboring people with food. Where the laborer has no money he can not buy.

During the last year, as for several years past, there have been gradually advancing prices, due to causes which we have pointed out frequently during the last two or three years, and which are now being recognized by financiers the world over. Our dollar is decreasing in value through overproduction. This enhances the price of all products the world over. As fast as the price of human necessities and particularly of food increases, the real wages decreases, even if the price per day, per month, per year, remain unchanged. The steel trust laborers complain that they have had no advance in wages. In fact, the claim has been made that there has been an actual decrease. If the cost of living advances through causes beyond the control of any man or set of men, these men and their families must necessarily sink to a lower level of living or fight for a higher wage. The railroads are making a determined effort to advance

passenger and freight rates, alleging an increase in the cost of labor and of every product that enters into the construction or the conduct of the railroad.

There is therefore danger that our present apparent prosperity may receive a sudden check, for the reason that it is prosperity only to men in whose business prices will rise as fast as money depreciates, and is not real prosperity to people who are living on fixed incomes, whether from interests, dividends, salaries, or wages.

Notwithstanding the boasted reduction of the tariff, prices have been advancing right along. This is certainly not due to tariff advances. Its main causes are the depreciation in the value of the dollar, the existence of combinations in almost every business and in every city in almost all lines to advance prices, or if not, to maintain them. Any arrest of the present apparent prosperity in the United States would be felt all over the world, as was the panic of the fall of 1907, from which we are just recovering. The world is not so very bad nowadays, and a conflict between labor and capital in any of our big monopolies must be seriously felt even by the children who have never heard about trusts.—Wallace's Farmer.

## A RADICAL "CONSERVATION"

Judge Horace H. Lurton, whom President Taft has named to succeed the late Justice Peckham on the bench of the United States supreme court, is a Democrat of the "old" and presumably conservative school. Yet a decision rendered by him in the circuit court of appeals a couple of days before his name was sent to the senate bears no evidence of reactionary tendencies. The case in question was that of the United States Wallpaper company against the Lewis Voght company of Cincinnati. The defendant was sued to recover an account of several thousand dollars contracted under one of those agreements that ties the purchaser body and soul to the combination. Judge Lurton in his decision of the case holds that a debt contracted under an agreement in violation of the anti-trust act cannot be collected by legal force.

It may be imagined that, in the light of this decision, the trusts will view with uneasiness Judge Lurton's elevation to the supreme court. Combinations may easily evade laws for their regulation, but a notification that the legality of their operations works a legal nullification of their bills receivable will perforce cause them to sit up and take notice. It may be that, unwittingly or otherwise, the amiable and conservative Mr. Taft has been instrumental in providing the trusts with future sleepless nights and anxious days by the innocent process of elevating the "conservative" Judge Lurton to the supreme court.

## CANNON TO QUIT.

A notable attempt to add to the Christmas cheer of the nation was made by the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Tribune in wiring out that Joe Cannon was preparing to abdicate his position as czar of the lower house. This gentleman assures us that he has it upon the very best of authority that Cannon will resign at the close of the next session, and announce his intention never to again ask for the position. Believing as we do that Cannon belongs to the old guard that dies but never surrenders, we beg leave to express our doubts while at the same time we find it impossible to conceal our joy.

If the speaker has arrived at this decision, it is not entirely of his own volition. The interests that he has so long served have doubtless made it plain to him that his further continuance in that office imperils their plans and their power, and they want him to step down and out before they lose their grip and find themselves unable to name his successor. As we write, a dispatch comes over the wires that Cannon pronounces the story of his retirement as "hot air." This need not be taken as a complete refutation of the story. May be the folks who made him speaker

## Weak Throat—Weak Lungs

Cold after cold; cough after cough! Troubled with this taking-cold habit? Better break it up. We have great confidence in Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for this work. No medicine like it for weak throats and weak lungs. Ask your doctor for his opinion. He knows all about it. His approval is valuable. Follow his advice at all times. No alcohol in this cough medicine. J.C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

Always keep a good laxative in the house. Take a dose when your cold first comes on. What is the best laxative for this? Ayer's Pills. Ask your doctor his opinion. Let him decide.

Do you want an AUCTIONEER? If you do, get one who has Experience, Ability, Judgement. Telegraph or write ROBERT WILKINSON, Dunbar, Neb.

Dates made at this office or the Murray State Bank. Good Service, Reasonable Rate.

Alone in Saw Mill at Night storms or cold, W. J. Atkins worked as Night Watchman, at Banner Springs, Tenn. Such exposure gave him a severe cold that settled on his lungs. At last he had to give up work. He tried many remedies but all failed till he used Dr. King's New Discovery. "After using one bottle" he writes, "I went back to work as well as ever." Severe Colds, stubborn Coughs, inflamed throats and sore lungs, Hemorrhages, Croup and Whooping Cough get quick relief and prompt cure from this glorious medicine. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free, guaranteed by F. G. Fricke & Co.

Attention of every member of the club, and every citizen of Plattsmouth, is herewith called to the meeting tonight. One year ago the organization was formed, and it should celebrate its first birthday right. Officers for the next year will be elected—and other very important business is to be brought before the meeting. If we make any progress during the next year it will be the result of everybody taking hold and "pushing." Opportunities are coming our way every day, and all we need to handle them is a compact organization of our enthusiasm and energy. Besides the business of the evening, an informal discussion of the "postal saving's bank" will be M. Roberts. Tonight—Coates Hall—8 o'clock. E. H. Wescott, Sec.

## UNION. (Ledger.)

Fred Young departed Wednesday evening for Plano, Ill., to inspect the Independent Harvester Co. plant.

Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Shoemaker departed yesterday for Fort Scott, Kansas, to spend the holidays with A. H. Shoemaker and family, expecting to be gone about two weeks.

A. L. Branson and wife came in from Chase county last week and are visiting with their many friends in this vicinity. "Abe" resided in this village about ten years ago and his many friends are glad to see him again.

Louis Anderson went to Lincoln on the early morning train Wednesday to complete some arrangements preparatory to entering school there soon. Louis is going to take a course in the Wesleyan University and his friends wish him abundance of success.

L. R. Upton has been having a serious time the past few days on account of a visit from his old enemy—rheumatism, and found it necessary to spend most of his time at his home fireside, but he is coming out winner and will no doubt be able to masticate his share of the Christmas rations.

James Pittman arrived home Monday from Brush, Col., where he spent several days visiting with Jake Elkembury and Charles McNamee, and Mrs. Pittman remained for a longer visit. Jim brought back good reports from all the ex-Unionites, but says that the weather is awful cold out there.

## Rich Men's Gifts are Poor

Besides this: "I want to go on record as saying that I regard Electric Bitters as one of the greatest gifts that God has made to woman, writes Mrs. O. Rhinevault, of Vestal Center, N. Y., "I can never forget what it has done for me." This glorious medicine gives a woman buoyant spirit, vigor of body and judicious health. It quickly cures Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Melancholy, Headache, Backache, Fainting and Dizzy Spells; soon builds up the weak, ailing and sickly. Try them. 50c. at F. G. Fricke & Co.

Miss Bess Horne of Wahoo came in this morning for a visit with the family of W. L. Austin.

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## 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. Tritsch, Pres. J. P. Falter, Sec.

## Preventives, the new Candy Cold Cure Tablets, are sold by druggists to have four special advantages over all other remedies for a cold. First—They contain no Quinine, nothing harsh or sickening. Second—They give almost instant relief. Third—Pleasant to the taste, like candy. Fourth—A large box—48 Preventives—at 25 cents. Also fine for feverish children. Sold by all dealers.

## LEGAL NOTICE.

Pursuant to an order of service by publication made by the judge of the district court of Cass county, Nebraska, at chambers of the 14th day of December 1909, Frederick Conn, defendant, will take notice that on the 4th day of September, 1909, Mabel Conn, plaintiff, herein, filed her petition in the district court of Cass county, Nebraska, against said defendant, the object and prayer of which is to obtain a decree of divorce from the defendant upon the ground of cruelty, habitual drunkenness and non-support, and for the custody of two infant children, the issue of said marriage as appears from the petition filed in said cause.

You are required to answer said petition on or before the 7th day of February, 1910. Dated this 16th day of December, 1909.

Mabel Conn, plaintiff, by MATTHEW GRUBING, Her Attorney.

## PROBATE NOTICE.

State of Nebraska, ss. County court, County of Cass

In the matter of the estate of J. Glen Royal, deceased. To all persons interested:— You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in this court praying that letters of administration be issued to Harry Royal upon the estate of J. Glen Royal, deceased, and that a hearing will be had upon said petition on the 13th day of January, A. D., 1910, at 1 o'clock a. m., in my office in the City of Plattsmouth, State of Nebraska, before which hour all objections thereto must be filed.

Witness my hand and official seal this 20th day of December, A. D., 1909. ALLEN J. BEESON, County Judge. WILLIAM C. RAMSEY, Attorney.