

The - Plattsmouth - Journal

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The Democratic hosts of Nebraska will gather in Lincoln on Monday, February 14, to enjoy a banquet and listen to Democratic orators expound Democratic doctrine, pure and simple. It should be remembered that every Democrat is invited to come and enjoy the lovefeast.

The Democrats of Nebraska should get themselves in readiness to enter the battle next fall, and it behooves every voter who believes in the Declaration of Independence and the constitution to get in line to save the country from the clutches of the money power.

STATE GENERAL FUND.

More Than \$100,000 in the Long Depleted Fund.

Immediately under the above headline on February 3, the Lincoln State Journal, page 1, second news section, appeared the following:

"For the first time in the history of the state, so far as known, the state treasurer has \$100,000 in the general fund and the state is out of debt."

There is an interesting story connected with this. After many years of Republican mismanagement, the state of Nebraska found itself burdened by a debt of over \$2,500,000, all in interest bearing warrants issued by Republican treasurers. The Holcomb-Poynter administration reduced this debt approximately half a million dollars, the Demo-Pop. administration being the first to reduce instead of increase the state's outstanding indebtedness. Later a Republican legislature introduced and passed what is known as the "Sheldon law," which provided for a heavy tax for the especial purpose of wiping out the debt. The law was unsuccessful but the people paid a direct tax in order to wipe out a heavy indebtedness incurred under Republican mismanagement.

The Democratic legislature of 1909 amended the Sheldon law, thus reducing the tax burden upon the people. But that same legislature enacted the corporation tax law, which has already, within twelve months, brought \$70,000 in fees into the state treasurer. The oil inspection bureau has also added something like \$10,000 more than ever before turned over to the state in any one year. Thus, under Democratic administration, within twelve months, a burdensome tax is removed from the shoulders of the people, and a surplus of \$100,000 piled up in the general fund.

The more you study the record of the present Democratic administration, the more certain it becomes that the Democratic legislature of 1909 was the best in the history of the state.

BENEFIT TO THE PEOPLE.

There was enacted by the late legislature a law regulating sale of oils and gasoline in Nebraska, which took effect April 1, 1909, has resulted thus far in a saving to the consumers of oils and gasoline in this state, for a period of nine months covering its operation to January 1, of the present years of \$158,320.72.

The new law in effect reduced the specific gravity test on gasoline from 68 to 62 degrees, which permitted the sale of Kansas and Oklahoma oils and gasoline in Nebraska, which were formerly excluded by the provisions of the old law from our markets. On the very day the new oil bill took effect, the wholesale price of gasoline in Nebraska was reduced 2-3 cents per gallon. Under the old law the railroads refused to pay inspection fees to the state for the reason that they contended they were exempted from the provisions of

the act, by reason of the fact that they were users of oil and not dealers. The new act specifically includes oils used by the railroads and by reason of this provision the several railroads of Nebraska during the period of nine months covered by the report of State Oil Inspector Mullen, paid to the state of Nebraska in inspection fees \$1,271.15.

This is only another piece of legislation enacted by the late Democratic legislature that has resulted in a great benefit to the people and will, during the present bi-annum, make a direct saving to the consumers of all in Nebraska of a nettsetaointa oil in Nebraska of at least a quarter million dollars.

THE TRUE SPIRIT.

Our old friend, Judge William Peebler of Nelson, who was postmaster of the house of representatives at the recent session of the legislature, and who was elected county judge of Nuckells county last fall, writes the following to the Omaha World-Herald. There is considerable sound logic in this article, and suits our views exactly. The judge is a rock-ribbed Democrat, and what he says comes direct from the heart, and makes good reading for Democrats. That is one reason for giving the letter space in our columns. Judge Peebler says:

"As a Democrat I have been following with interest the discussion pro and con of the Democratic party's interest and duty in and to the Republican insurgents. It was pleasing and instructive to read Mr. Metcalf's strong and sure enough Democratic letter in the 'Public Pulse.' No false note there. It is usually safe to trust Mr. Metcalf on fundamental principles of common sense. But, Mr. Editor, does it not seem as though some of our party friends are growing a little hysterical about the so-called 'Insurgents'?"

"For the sake of the argument, let it be granted that all the house and senate insurgents are actuated by honest convictions in opposing Canonism and Aldrichism, and not because they have seen the trend of the western voter and for political safety's sake have joined the procession; then, that granted, in its sum total what does it amount to? I have yet to read of a single insurgent admitting that he is less a Republican, less a protectionist for protection's sake, or any less dominated by the Hamiltonian idea of government.

"Read the interviews, read the speeches in or out of congress of the insurgents. Do any of them criticize Taft or the Taft administration?"

"Have you, Mr. Editor, read anywhere of one of these so-called insurgents criticising Taft's cabinet, made up as it is of trust and corporation mouthpieces?"

"What does the Taft administration stand for? In Mr. Taft's own words, 'It stands (referring to the present iniquitous tariff law) for the best revenue law ever passed by the Republican party or any other party.' Do our hysterical Democrat friends believe and approve that? The insurgents do, for while in a way they fought some of the schedules of that law, they voted for it at last and on the whole they are supporting Mr. Taft and his administration.

"Let us see what else Mr. Taft stands for. Mr. Taft is urging congress to amend the interstate commerce law by taking the teeth out of it. Mr. Taft stands for a central bank of issue. Mr. Taft stands for a ship subsidy. Mr. Taft stands for national incorporation, taking it out of the power of the states to control the great trusts and corporations, notwithstanding the fact that practically all the trust prosecutions that have

proved, in result, something more than a sham, have been had under state laws, yet the insurgents are standing for all these measures, for they say they are for Taft and his administration. Now I would like to ask Mr. Fiehart and Mr. Porter if they subscribe to those measures. Do they believe them to be such laws as this country stands in need? If you do, you can consistently support the insurgents.

"The insurgents practically say they believe it, so Mr. Fiehart and Mr. Porter, if the Democratic rank and file take your advice, will we not as Democrats, be standing for and indorsing the Taft administration?"

"Mr. Editor, it is so obviously absurd for Democrats to be asked for a moment to listen to such advice that one can hardly take it seriously or believe it was so meant. Myself and thousands of other Democrats in Nebraska worked and voted for each of the above-named gentlemen for positions in this state of honor and trust and it is with regret that we have to acknowledge that if Mr. Fiehart and Mr. Porter ever stood for fundamental Democratic principles they are far off the reservation at this time.

"One other matter, Mr. Editor, and I am done. I have generally enjoyed and agreed with the World-Herald's editorials, but you in this matter, Mr. Editor, have, in trying to build up insurgency in the Republican party, built up the individual insurgent, who say they are standing for Taft and his administration. Pray tell us of the rank and file now, when these insurgent congressmen and senators have been nominated and go before the people on the records largely of Democratic dailies and weeklies making; I ask how are you going to be able to consistently support the regular Democratic candidates and tear down the fellow that has been boosted and built up? Finally let us say to our overzealous friends in the insurgent cause that they will be fooled once and for all if they entertain the idea that any insurgent of the Brown-Burkett-Norris stripe, if re-elected, will ever stand for or vote for a real Democratic principle.

"Democrats of Nebraska, let us keep our Democracy on straight and not be found following off after strange gods."

BIG REVENUE TO THE STATE.

Among the important laws passed by the last legislature is the so-called corporation tax law. This law imposes an occupation tax on all corporations, both foreign and domestic, doing business in the state. The tax is based on the capital stock of the corporation and runs from \$5 to \$200. Under the provisions of this law, the state collected this year more than \$70,000.00 from the various corporations in the state. The right of the state to levy this tax has been tested and sustained by the supreme court of the state. As the principle has now been established in our law, the legislature can modify the law and change the rates to be paid by the various corporations. In the so-called reform legislature of 1907, a law very similar to this was introduced and defeated.

The corporations were strong enough to defeat this proposed law in 1907, but thanks to the Democratic legislature, this law was passed and the state has been the beneficiary.

In another way this law has been valuable to the state. By reason of its provisions, the secretary of state has been able to get a check on the corporations doing business in the state. More than 4,500 different corporations failed to pay this tax. Nearly all of these are defunct and have gone out of business. In the future, it will not be necessary to include these defunct corporations in the list of corporations doing business in the state.

The "Taft smile" is no longer one that won't come off.

We don't know whether Uncle Joe Cannon saw his shadow on groundhog day, but we see his finish.

It is a matter of regret that the late Russell Sage is not here to help

Hetty Green enjoy the meat boycott.

A breakfast food trust is the latest. Now look out for a rise in the price of excelsior, shavings, peanut shells and sawdust.

At the rate all foodstuffs are advancing in price it will soon be necessary for man to develop a cud and chew that.

When all else fails a man can derive some publicity at this season of the year by announcing that he saw the first robin.

Ex-Senator Foraker deserves credit for declaring that he will never hold office again. Some politicians have to be kicked down stairs a second or third time.

Walter Wellman, who announces he will fly across the Atlantic ocean next July, should have said a year from next July. By that time the people would have forgotten about it.

Republicans are scrambling for the nomination for congress in both the Fifth and Sixth districts of Nebraska. Norris and Kinkaid, it would seem, are both hung up forevermore. Like Old Joe Cannon they see their finish.

When a Republican congress becomes possessed suddenly of an irresistible desire to investigate the high cost of living there is good ground for suspicion that its real aim is to prove an alibi for the tariff.

One mine disaster with appalling loss of life may be regarded in a measure as unavoidable, but eight or ten such shocking disasters in quick succession prove conclusively that the mine owners hold human life cheaper than safety devices.

Burkett's program is to organize clubs in his name where it can be done. In several sections of the state a signal failure has been the result. The Burkett henchmen throughout the state are alert, nevertheless.

This paper would like to see Mr. Bryan come out for United States senator. His candidacy would shove out many aspirants, and do wonders in the way of bringing great harmony in the party. Bryan's name is yet dear to every Democrat in Nebraska, and he would make the ablest representative in the upper house of congress, the state ever produced.

Private advice from Washington brings the news that there is not the last probability of a postal savings bank bill passing the present congress. Hon. J. Pierpont Morgan has intimated that it would be just as well not to have any postal savings bank legislation at this session of congress, the recommendation of President Taft to the contrary notwithstanding. When J. Pierpont says anything, his word is law.

Some of the metropolitan press of the east are agitating the question of a new party. When one finds the Philadelphia Ledger, one of the oldest papers in the land, seriously discussing such a proposition, we are lead to believe that this subject is breaking out in spots all over the country. The Taft administration is causing uneasiness all over the country and the people have come to the conclusion that something must be done to check the recklessness of Taft-Cannon-Aldrich & Co., and that if it is not checked very soon, the country is gone to the bow-wows.

If the Democratic party expects victory in Nebraska next fall they must "get together" on the issues before the people, and the leaders must cease their bickerings over the positions to be filled. The party owes no man an office unless he is abundantly well qualified and is popular with the people. Men are talked of for United States senator, that should not allow their names to be used. The great trouble with the party in Nebraska is that we have too many men who are after office, and if they fail in their efforts to secure a nomination, they sulk, and in doing so, injure those who are nominated.

James T. Lloyd of Missouri, representative and chairman of the National Democratic Congressional committee, keeps in closest touch with sentiment over the country of any man in Washington today, and his reputation for conservative political statements makes his prognostication one of unusual importance, and certainly his Democratic friends bank with great reliance on his most recent statement which tersely put is: "The next house of representatives will be Democratic by 25 majority." It is quite the rule for the enthusiasts to let figures run high, but when Lloyd's statement comes so conservatively, there is good reason for Democrats to have full faith in his prophecy.

There are many reasons why the Democratic banquet next Monday at Lincoln should be largely attended, the chief reason seems to be to know "where we are at" on state issues. Nationally speaking we know right where we are. All that the Democrats fear in Nebraska is a disagreement on issues and the platform upon which the Democrats expect to present to the voters for their support. The temperance question will be a matter upon which we must tread very lightly. It is a foregone conclusion that the Republicans will not favor prohibition, and it is a question as to whether or not they will have anything to say on the liquor question in the platform. They will try to deceive the voters going and coming.

THE FULL DINNER PAIL.

"Revolutions have been started by less than the American people are suffering now," says Senator Joseph L. Bristow of Kansas. "Meat foots up to a quarter of the average household expenses, and it ought to be cheaper today instead of dearer than it was twenty-five years ago, because of the greater economy in its preparation and sale. When I was a boy twenty-five cents of the carcass went to waste. Now nothing goes to waste—not even the blood."

Senator Bristow's words crystalize the sentiment of protest in all parts of the country against the higher cost of living. Thus far the movement, which first took form in an actual boycott at Cleveland, has met with most success in the west. The east has been slower to follow, influenced perhaps by a widespread feeling among small dealers and in the labor unions, that a universal boycott, though effective as a protest, would actually play into the hands of the packers, who, with their control of cold storage houses and refrigerator lines could carry their product through a prolonged boycott, though a thirty day's cessation of trade would put the small independents out of business.—Denver News.

HARD JOB WHITEWASHING.

When President Taft and other high Republican leaders barred Representative Rainey of Illinois, from the Ballinger investigation committee, it became pretty clearly evident that the intent to whitewash the secretary of the Interior. That impression has been given added weight by the attitude of certain members of the committee, who have consistently sought to belittle, discredit or belcloud every damaging bit of evidence thus far elicited and to spread the idea that nothing really important as reflecting upon Ballinger has been brought out. The services of the newspapers that are owned or subsidized by the "interests" and of a newsgathering agency that is notoriously amenable to corporation influence have been enlisted in the cause. And yet notwithstanding all the efforts to minimize the damaging facts, enough has already been brought out to sustain the charges against Ballinger, proving him absolutely unfit for any place in the government service.

And furthermore, other men in high circles of official Washington have been shown to have had a finger in the land-grafting pie. Richard Achilles Ballinger, now secretary of the interior, it is brought out, as an attorney advised his clients to de-

fraud the government and defraud it through perjury. And Senator Heyburn of Idaho, Representative McLachlan of California, and Representative Kinkaid, of Nebraska, are revealed as being secretly in the race to gobble up valuable government lands.

With all these representatives of the grand old party mixed up in the nasty mess it is no wonder President Taft did not want Mr. Rainey on the investigating committee. That gentleman has a reputation for probing sores on the body politic with little regard for the sensitiveness of the wound. The committee is going to have a hard enough time whitewashing Ballinger as it is.

Public Sale.

The undersigned will sell at public auction, at his home two miles east and one mile south of Cedar Creek, and nine miles west of Plattsmouth, on

Friday, Feb. 11, 1910

the following property, to-wit:

—HORSES and MULES—

One black mare, ten years old, weight 1300, one gray mare, eleven years old, weight 1350, one black horse, nine years old, weight 1400, one bay horse, thirteen years old, weight 1300, one bay mule, four years old, one black mule, three years old, one bay mare, one year old, six head of shoats, 10 cows, one heifer.

—FARM IMPLEMENTS—

One 12-inch brush plow, one 14-inch stirring plow, one Solid Comfort riding plow, one Hummer riding plow, two Avery cultivators, one John Deere two-row machine, one McCormick binder, one Deering mower, one McCormick mower, one Sterling hay rake, one Farmer Friend corn planter, one Western Belle lister, one Sattley lister, one Sterling force feed seeder, three good farm wagons, one wagon and hay rake, two spring wagons, 28 foot corn elevator, one top buggy, one carriage, nearly new, one bob sled, one 3-section harrow, one 2-row Pekin curler, one Center Belle disc, one Superior Press drill, one roller, one Dain feed grinder, one Advance fanning mill, one lard press, one meat grinder, three sets 1 1/2 inch work harness, one set 1 1/4 inch work harness, one set 1 1/2 inch harness, one set buggy harness, and many other articles too numerous to mention. Sale to commence at 11 o'clock a. m., sharp.

Free Lunch at Noon.

—TERMS OF SALE.—

All sums of \$10 and under, cash in hand, and all over \$10, a credit of twelve months will be given, purchaser giving good bankable paper, bearing eight per cent from date. All property must be settled for before being removed.

G. P. MEISINGER.
William Dunn, Auctioneer.

President Helps Orphans.

Hundreds of orphans have been helped by the President of the Industrial and Orphan's Home at Macon, Ga., who writes: "We have used Electric Bitters in this institution for nine years. It has proved a most excellent medicine for Stomach, Liver and Kidney troubles. We regard it as one of the best family medicines on earth." It invigorates all vital organs, purifies the blood, aids digestion, creates appetite. To strengthen and build up pale, thin, weak children or rundown people it has no equal. Best for female complaints. Only 50c. at F. G. Fricke & Co.

Hope For Speedy Recovery.

G. L. Rhoden of Murray came in this morning from his home and was a passenger for Omaha where he will visit his wife in the hospital in that city. He regrets to state that she is not so well as for several days past and that her advance toward recovery is not nearly so rapid as he had hoped for. However, no cause exists for immediate alarm according to the physicians and she will doubtless rally and make a speedy recovery.

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