

# The Plattsmouth - Journal

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When a fellow attempts to take the world by storm, he generally gets hit by his own lightning.

The census enumerator will soon be making the rounds and then Ann will have to tell how old she is.

President Taft says he still hopes to win the applause of his fellowmen. If he had said fellowman, we presume he would have meant Aldrich.

Among the many questions to be asked by the census enumerators is this one: "Are you deaf and dumb?" Of course the deaf and dumb man will promptly answer "yes."

The insurgents are real mean. One of them sent the following message to Colonel Roosevelt: "Send us another elephant for an emblem for the Republican party; we've spoiled the one you left us."

With no hogs to sell the price has gone up to ten cents. That means prosperity to the farmer who has to pay fifty per cent more for his household necessities than he did when hogs were for five to six cents. When the hog crop again becomes normal watch the price go down.

Senator Tibbets of Adams county was at the state house last week. When asked if there were any insurgents in his district he said: "Lots of them. Insurgents are Republicans who know they ought to be fighting squarely for Democratic principles, but after making a start in that direction get 'cold feet,' fearing the discipline of the Republican machine. Democrats are original."

The woolen schedule of the Aldrich-Payne tariff law has deprived the people of an adequate supply of clothing, blankets and other articles of wool. It has compelled the use of inferior substitutes for wool and has forced manufacturers to reduce the weight of all wool clothes, so those goods fail to give proper protection against dampness and cold to the wearer.—Textile World Record, Protection.

Mayor Miles of Hastings, has been persistently boomed by admiring friends as a Republican candidate for governor acceptable to what is termed the "liberal element." This is taken as poaching upon the preserves of Representative Dan Killen of Gage, the Republican floor leader during the last session. Killen has been industriously interviewing himself with a view of becoming a gubernatorial candidate with liberal tendencies.

The usual spring "scare" about damage to the winter wheat crop is now on. Reports of damage amounting to from 25 to 50 per cent are being scattered broadcast. Last year's wheat crop was the banner crop of Nebraska's history. So far this spring the reports of damage are not nearly so bad as at the same time a year ago, according to the returns to the state bureau of labor and industrial statistics. The danger of a shortage in the wheat crop is not nearly so great as the danger of corn losses on account of the bad seed corn.

Congressman Hinshaw of the Fourth district has announced that he will not be a candidate for reelection. Some time ago it was charged that Mr. Hinshaw had promised two years ago not to seek a reelection this year, the promise being made in order to induce Charles Sloan of Geneva to pull out of the race. Sloan having developed surprising strength. A strong denial was entered by some of Mr. Hinshaw's friends. Now comes Mr. Hinshaw's announcement, and immediately following it is the announcement that Mr. Sloan will seek the nomination.

The normal school board appointed by Governor Shallenberger and later declared unconstitutional by the supreme court, issued a number of state certificates before the court passed upon its legality. The secretary of the present board, Rev. Luther P. Ludden, has now notified Principal Crabtree of the Peru normal that the certificates issued by the board ruled out of existence are not legal and that he must not recognize them. The holders of such certificates have been notified to appear before the proper authorities and take a new examination. Before the era of partisan courts it was often held that the acts of an official were legal providing they were performed while he was acting as such officer. In the Boyd-Thayer case Governor Boyd was declared illegally in office by the state supreme court and Governor Thayer re-instated. Later the United States supreme court ousted Thayer and re-installed Boyd. Yet there never was any question about the legality of the official actions of either while in possession of the office. It may be, however, that the present normal school board of which Rev. Luther P. Ludden seems to be the majority, is not amenable to the usual rules of jurisprudence.

## SWATS THE HIGH TARIFF.

Recently Congressman McKinlay, a California Republican, made a speech in Topeka, Kas., in which he defended the Aldrich-Payne tariff abomination. T. A. McNeal, editor of the Farmers' Mail and Breeze, also a Republican, went after the Californian in this fashion:

"It must also be acknowledged that one of the most disastrous panics the country ever knew occurred in 1873, under a high protective tariff and that the panic of 1907 was really no slouch of a panic, either, as it is now generally acknowledged.

"He dwelt on the fact that prices of corn and wheat and hogs were low during the operation of the Wilson bill, but possibly did not know that the only time corn ever sold in Kansas for 10 cents a bushel and was actually burned for fuel was in 1889, under a high protective tariff.

"To be perfectly fair it should be said that at least half of the year that the Wilson tariff was in operation were the years perhaps of the greatest prosperity the country ever saw prior to the civil war."

## ON MOVING THE CAPITAL.

Mayor Dahlman is out with another statement that he is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor. He outlines the things he stands for and has the distinction of being the first candidate for a state office expressing approval of the proposition to remove the capital to some point nearer to the center of the state, in justice to the rapidly increasing population of central and western Nebraska. He would retain all of the present state institutions now located there in the present capital city and would devote the present state house building to the use of the state university. He favors greater facilities for the teaching of agriculture in the public schools and university, a more active good road movement, better support for the state militia, the arbitration of differences between employers and employees in industrial disputes, and advocates not a few modern and elected, declares he will use all of his influence to defeat such a measure, pledging himself to vote it, if passed by the legislature. Mayor Dahlman's severest political opponents in his own and other parties are forced to admit that he attempts no evasion, but seems to want the people

to know just where he stands.

The Lincoln newspapers have met every suggestion as to the removal of the state capital to a more central location with derision. It has been a great joke with them. And it is possible, of course, that there will be no change, and that, in the course of a few years, a new capitol building will be erected at Lincoln. The amusing feature, however, is the quick cry for "help" that is found in the esteemed State Journal. No sooner is the proposition given recognition as a live question by an avowed candidate for governor, than it calls for assistance—for protection of the joke! "Da...manism" it declares, "represents the people of the metropolis who would like to have Lincoln discredited because it is the headquarters of temperance sentiment." And it quickly pleads: "His attitude, therefore, will be a challenge to the temperance people of the state to come to the assistance of Lincoln, not only in the matter of the capitol, but in ordinary business as well." Sounds almost like an effort to organize a temperance boycott over the state against Omaha and in favor of Lincoln! The Lincoln press is doing fairly well to make the removal proposition as popular as possible in the eastern part of the state—just where a little help is going to be appreciated.—Grand Island Independent.

The Democrats of Cass county will soon have an opportunity to attend a banquet soon in Plattsmouth. It will be either a banquet now, or, a little later a barbecue.

Secretary Wilson rules that only real Rocky Ford cantaloupes can be so labeled. No such ruling as this is needed to protect the Ben Davis apples from infringement.

Jefferson Day banquets will be held in every state and territory on April 13th. Washington, D. C. and Indianapolis are to have great big affairs at which several of the party's noted men will be present.

Barney Oldfield went at the rate of ninety-two miles an hour in his motor car, breaking three records, and the wonder is that he did not break several other things, including his neck.

On Oteo county farmer was fined \$750 for mixing oleomargarine with his "fresh country butter." Serves him right. The farmers are getting about all the money there is in circulation nowadays and he ought to be willing to sell his butter just as it comes from the churn.

After duly considering the matter, Edgar Howard has definitely announced that he will not be a candidate for the Democratic congressional nomination in the Third district. This means that Congressman Latta will have no opposition for re-nomination and very little for re-election.

It isn't too early for the health committee of the city council to make an investigation of the alleys in the rear of the business blocks and see to it that debris collected during the winter be removed. This will mean less liability to fires starting. It is also in line with sanitation. Do it now.

A county option plank should not be placed in the Democratic state platform, and we do not believe it will be if the Democratic masses elect the delegates. Let the candidates for the legislature go before the people on that proposition. Now, watch the Republican party steer clear of any such proposition in their platform.

It has been difficult to determine on just what ground President Taft will justify his letter to the Republican editors of Illinois, pleading for an endorsement of the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill. The meeting was entirely apart from any government function; its members a portion of the press of one state. Indeed, the administration must be sorely pressed.

Food Commissioner Mains has made it clear to creamery managers that any cream tester who has been found guilty of making false tests and reports cannot work at that business.

A creamery manager who employed a tester discharged by Mains has found to his sorrow that his license is being held up pending the crooked tester's discharge.

Ralph Clark, of Richardson county, member of the legislature, says he is not a candidate for congress in opposition to Hon. John A. Maguire. He says Mr. Maguire has made a good record, and should be re-elected. Mr. Clark is a very able young man, and probably will be a candidate for congress some time in the future. Whenever that time comes count the Journal for Ralph Clark.

The New York Independent in a recent issue devotes a column and a half editorial to new evidence about Noah's flood. The Independent says: "We know perfectly well that there never has been any such flood as that which Genesis describes as having taken place at a little over 2000 B. C. It is a good Biblical story, with a good, religious drift to it, and it is well worth being in our Bible, but confirmation is impossible."

The Democrats won the charter elections throughout New York state on March 15th, making a clean sweep. In the fall elections twenty-two cities, including the two great cities of New York and Buffalo, returned Democratic mayors. With the villages showing extensive Democratic gains at the early elections the prospect of a Democratic governor for the Empire state grows extremely bright.

The state reading circle board, which selects the books that are recommended to the teachers of the state for reading during the year, met in Lincoln last week and selected the books. The meeting was attended by the representatives of three or four big book concerns. It now develops that the book concerns agreed to pay the expenses of the members of the reading board circle and for the 12,000 circulars necessary to notify teachers of the selections made. The book concerns will divide the cost among themselves.

Victor Wilson, the member from Polk county, had himself interviewed one day this week in Lincoln. While he was one of the prime movers in adopting the 8 o'clock closing law, he is not in favor of a county option plank in the Democratic state platform. He thinks the matter of county option should be left to the legislative districts, and then acted upon by the legislature. Victor is a queer fellow, and his frequent visits to the state capital leads one to believe that he is an aspirant for something higher than simply a representative in the legislature.

## THE POLITICAL OUTLOOK.

The political impression made upon the country by the Democratic success in our congressional by-election in Massachusetts cannot be due entirely to the event itself, striking as it undoubtedly is. The election of Mr. Foss comes as the culmination of a series of political developments whose tendency has been steadily and even overwhelmingly adverse to the Republican party. Last winter many political observers were freely conceding the next house to the Democrats on account of the country's manifest dissatisfaction with the tariff revision, and as well the cleavage in the Republican party produced by dissension over the tariff bill, by the conservation feud in the administration itself, and by the insurgent warfare in the house upon Speaker Cannon. Since then, things have happened to confirm very strongly what were merely tentative views.

The rank and file of a party are close observers of what develops in high places, and they are exceedingly sensitive to political atmosphere. It is, of course, known to all men that the masses of the Republican voters have been left stone cold by the turn of events. Such developments as the tariff fiasco, the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy, and the wrecking of the regular Republican organization of the house by a coalition of Democrats and Republicans have chilled the party all the more because the administration has had no spectacular

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successes in any direction to turn to account. The Republican situation, meanwhile, in New York State has become such a morass of party degradation, on account of the bribery investigation at Albany, that when Republican leaders speak of it in public at all it is to follow the example of President Taft and say sadly that the Republican party is in "a bad way." Now that in a few scattered elections, congressional, legislative and municipal, the Republicans are seen to be dispirited, inert and even paralyzed—as they were most conspicuously in the congressional by-elections in Missouri and Massachusetts—the fact is driven home that if a general congressional election could be promptly held, the dominant party would be overwhelmed as it was just twenty years ago.

The outlook for November is the gloomiest for the Republicans that can be recalled in a generation. Even in 1890, the prospect prior to the election was not discouraging to the Republican leaders. Under Speaker Reed, the party in the house had been solidly united and had made an extraordinary record for efficiency in transacting legislative business. Mr. Reed himself was apparently a very popular figure as he toured the country appealing for a vindication. The McKinley tariff had aroused as yet no

such protest in the Republican party as the Payne-Aldrich schedules have in the past year. The tidal wave that finally overwhelmed Reed and McKinley, and left the Harrison administration to buffet with a hostile congress during the rest of its life, came as a surprise to the country, which had anticipated a political deluge of no such proportions.

Today, the forecasters are almost invariably extremists in their pessimism concerning the fate of the Republican party, and it must be conceded that the conditions seem to justify their views. Something must happen very soon to alter the face of things if a disaster of great proportions is to be escaped by the "party of government" in the autumn appeal to the people.—Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

Anton Peterson while at his work at the Burlington shops, this morning sustained a severely bruised left hand from a hammer blow. He was engaged in laying a floor and in striking a nail, the hammer glanced and struck him upon the left hand. The injury is not a serious one but is rather painful and caused the hand to swell up considerably. The skin was slightly lacerated and abraded and the hand bruised. He will be able to continue at work at the shops and no serious damage is expected from the blow.

**Nebraska's 1908 Champion**

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