

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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Have you seen the comet? Get up about four a. m., and if clear in the east, you will be able to see it.

A New York paper suggests that the big corporations organize a party of their own. But why? Isn't one enough?

Mr. Roosevelt, we presume, is to go to the fight as the sporting editor of the Outlook.

One day Governor Sheldon is a candidate for the nomination and the next his friends say he is not, and thus it goes.

W. F. Porter, former secretary of state, has filed for railway commissioner on the Democratic ticket. Mr. Porter is a good man, with a record as clear as crystal.

With characteristic kindness, Mr. Carnegie has arranged to send a diploma to each of the crowned heads of Europe who are unable to meet Mr. Roosevelt.

It seems that Republican state candidates are rather slow in filing. Perhaps they feel there is nothing sure in the election this year. Well they are about right.

Having walked across the country and back at the ripe old age of more than three score years and ten Pedestrian Weston is entitled to a rest and so is the rest of the country.

Governor Shallenberger is after Ludden's scalp, good and hard, and it is to be hoped he will get the old hypocrite's head. If there is a man who needs a dressing down in good shape, that man is Ludden.

Machine organs denounce the insurgents for availing themselves of Democratic aid; but if Aldrich passes the Wickersham railroad bill with the assistance of Democratic votes, why—that's different, of course.

Deputy Attorney General Grant Martin has announced his candidacy for attorney general. Mr. Martin, who hails from Dodge county was a recognized Democratic-Populist leader in that section a few years ago, but he is now a full-fledged Republican, and for four years has held office under a Republican chief.

After a test of "dry" conditions, Alabama has decided in favor of returning to "wet." That is the inevitable conclusion to be drawn from the victory in the primary elections of Emmet O'Neal for governor by a majority of 20,000. Mr. O'Neal was successful over H. D. A. Mallory on the issue of opposition to state-wide prohibition. It is presumed that in Alabama, as in many other states, it has been found that prohibition does not prohibit, and the voters have reached the sensible conclusion that legalization of the liquor traffic, with proper restrictions and regulations, is preferable to open or clandestine violations of a prohibitory law. No law can be successfully enforced without public sentiment behind it.

In pursuance of his determination to address meetings in every legislative district whose senators or representatives voted against the initiative and referendum bill at the last session, Mr. Bryan asked for the use of the Otoe county court house. It was refused in curt terms. Upon receiving the refusal Mr. Bryan declared that he "felt like an actress whose jewels had been stolen." In 1900 Mr. Bryan received an intimation that it would be dangerous for him and C. J. Smyth to try and speak in Nebraska City, because the people were aroused over their attacks on the trusts—and Nebraska City then had a branch of the starch trust—and he did. Nebraska went Republican by a good majority that

year, and a few days after election Will Hayward sent Mr. Bryan an impertinent postal card to the effect that "the shadow of the starch trust seems to stretch to the western bounds of Nebraska." In that 1900 speech Mr. Bryan warned the people of Nebraska City that Republican victory meant the destruction of their starch industry. In 1908, Mr. Bryan, again a candidate, spoke in Nebraska City, but not "in the shadow of the starch factory." There was no starch factory. The machinery has been removed and the tall chimney belched forth no clouds of smoke. The starch trust had closed the factory down and then dismantled it. When Mr. Bryan speaks in Nebraska City on the initiative and referendum he will not speak in the shadow of the starch factory, even if he fails to secure the use of the court house.

## A QUESTION OF LOYALTY.

The New York Sun, which is just as "regular" in its Republicanism as the Omaha Bee, is greatly distressed to see the way they are taking up "the Denver platform as Republican creed," and writes an editorial leader about it.

The insurgents joined with the Democrats in congress, it points out, to write a physical valuation clause into the railroad bill. The Denver platform declared for physical valuation, but the Chicago platform did not.

The insurgents likewise joined the Democrats to place telephone and telegraph companies under the control of the commerce commission. The Denver platform declared for such action, but the Chicago platform did not.

Neither, complains the Sun, did the Chicago platform declare for an income tax, or "a reform of the rights and duties of the speaker and rules of the house." But the Denver platform did, and the insurgents have joined with the Democrats to support these heresies.

And the Sun concludes that it is plain that the Chicago platform "does not set forth the whole law of life for a loyal Republican."

It depends on what you mean by "loyal." If "loyal" means loyalty to the Chicago platform, then, of course, a loyal Republican is one who stands on that platform, and the insurgents are not loyal.

And that seems to be the plain and bitter truth. The insurgents have gone Democratic on the tariff, on the income tax, on railroad regulation, on popular election of senators, on campaign fund publicity, on conservation, and they even have strong Democratic leanings on the trust question. Plank for plank, every square-toed candid, up-and-down insurgent is much more at home on the Democratic Denver platform than on the Republican Chicago platform. So are a considerable majority of the people.

## IMPERSONAL JOURNALISM.

Dr. Woodrow Wilson, president of Princeton university, tells us that the influence of editorial writers nowadays depends on their standing and integrity. Theodore Roosevelt is generally believed to be intellectually as well as morally honest; and Roosevelt is an "editorial contributor" to the Outlook, a publication which does not begin to have as wide a following as the newspaper for which

Arthur Brisbane writes. This is because Mr. Brisbane is a more engaging writer than Mr. Roosevelt.

There are abler editorial writers than either of these men. Only in the profession of journalism itself are they known. Their influence is more lasting and more beneficial than Roosevelt's or Brisbane's. Their combined influence shapes the policy of government to a vast extent, even if it does not accomplish its object in a manner so spectacular.

George Ade humorously regrets the passing of the old-time editor who called an opponent not a malefactor or an insurgent or an undesirable, but "a poltroon, a hellhound, a pusillanimous liar, an unmitigated horse thief, a jackal, a marplot, a catfish, a reptile, a viper, a cur and a whelp."

The most picturesque editorial writer in this country is Henry Waterson, but he does not begin to have the influence Arthur Brisbane. The editorials in the Springfield Republican are widely quoted, but few people know who writes them. One of the most brilliant newspaper paragraphs we know is J. C. Murphy, who the last time we heard of him was printing a little newspaper out in Butte, Mont.; the next best one we ever knew of died in New York a few days ago—Lee Fairchild. Personal journalism does not count so much as it did when Greeley and Storey thrived.

The newspapers of the United States number among their staffs men who write with the fecundity of Dumas and the wisdom of Solomon without ever being known to more than a few hundred persons. It is simply astonishing how by tacit consent these men band together, with more effective concert than an oath-bound conspiracy or a society of Jesus, to accomplish something for the public good. Many of these men may be, in their private lives, of doubtful morals—but they cannot keep out of a tacit compact to compel a wise and salutary action through the force of their opinion uttered in the impersonal printed word. It is the very impersonality of the effort that produces the most striking results.

American government really does not come from our officials. It comes from our newspapers. And it is not because of any individual leadership in journalism that the newspapers give the American people the fine service that they yield. There are very few names of editors and publishers known to the multitude. The influence exerted by people who do not advertise themselves in vastly more than that of all the Water-sons, Brisbanes and Parkhursts put together.—New York Press.

President Taft admits he does not know much about the "administration" railroad bill, but he agrees that it simply must be passed.

Perhaps, if it is found, the battleship Maine was blown up from the inside, Spain can be induced to take the Philippines back again.

This week's Washington story about Colonel Roosevelt's "attitude" appears to have been based upon letters which the reactionary leaders wish they had received, but haven't.

Do Democratic senators imagine they can rush to the relief of Senator Aldrich on the Wickersham bill, and then make a winning issue of "Aldrichism" next November and in 1912?

"We must stand together," says Senator Aldrich to the other congressional reactionaries. Which suggests Benjamin Franklin's historic epigram: "We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately."

Immunity baths in connection with the senatorial election frauds in Illinois may save some of the guilty legislators from prison, but they will have an enlightening effect on the public and will effectually discredit Lorimer, the beneficiary of them.

The fellows who refuse to meet Mr. Bryan half way on a proposition that is calculated to unite the Democrats of Nebraska on the proposition to take the liquor question out of

politics, are the ones who will be to blame if the party goes down in defeat next fall.

Vic Rosewater is in the height of his glory when he thinks the Democrats of Nebraska are in a muddle. Don't get too excited Viekey, the Democrats will be in shape by the time election day rolls round to give the Republicans the hardest tussle they ever experienced in the state.

Taft has changed his mind and does not want a central bank as much as he thought he did. We look for him now to discard both Cannonism and Aldrichism. He has evidently received "the handwriting on the wall." In other words he has heard from the masses of the common people.

There are many things which the members of the legislature should take under consideration before refusing to acquiesce in the suggestion of Mr. Bryan for a special session to take action upon the initiative and referendum. If it will take the liquor question out of politics, for goodness sake let's have it.

It would not be hard for the writer to put his finger on every senator who is opposed to a special session of the legislature. Everyone of whom wanted to accept the pension fund for the benefit of the retired professors of the state university, and they are mad at Mr. Bryan because he opposed the move. 'Tis simply this, and nothing more.

The report that Roosevelt has written letters to President Taft, Son-in-law Longworth and others, indorsing the Taft administration has been given wide publicity by the Republican press. Careful inquiry brings out the fact that all of the persons mentioned in the story emphatically deny having received such a letter. And Roosevelt denies having written anything which could have been so construed.

After twelve years the proposition to raise the battered hulk of the battleship Maine passes the house and senate and now awaits only the signature of the president to become a law. It has been a disgrace to the country that the work was not undertaken long ago. It is not probable that the raising of the wreck will add anything to the public knowledge or lack of knowledge of the cause of the explosion which sent the vessel to the bottom of Havana harbor and cost the lives of 260 American sailors. But the bones of the sacrificed crew deserved a better sepulture than the mud and slime of the sea bottom, which they will now have in Arlington cemetery at the national capitol.

American high tariff advocates never point to Italy as an example of the beneficent results of the protection system. Yet Italy is a high tariff country and by all the processes of protectionist logic its inhabitants ought to be contented and prosperous. The emigration statistics, though, prove the contrary and one who has traveled in Italy knows that the great mass of the population is in a condition of degrading, grinding poverty. A study of Italy under protection is commended to any American who is still gullible enough to believe that high tariff and prosperity are synonymous and who is too blind to see the evidence to the contrary in present conditions in his own country.

Representative Charles E. Littlefield, of Maine, now admits that the plank in the last Republican national platform regarding injunctions was put there to placate the labor leaders and with no intention of its being carried out. He carries his frankness to an even greater extreme and says the plank is "perfectly non-committal" and means nothing, being simply a dishonest trick to lure the unwary workman and delude him with the belief that the Republican party was his friend. Mr. Littlefield might carry his frankness a step further and admit that the tariff revision plank was another dishonest plank, never intended of fulfillment, and that the whole platform was a tissue of falsehood and false pretense. But

perhaps he feels that such a confession is unnecessary as the whole country now knows it.

Steps Down and Out. From Wednesday's Daily.

P. A. Barrows departed this morning for Lincoln where he expects to take up a business proposition in the future. Mr. Barrows has been the editor of the News for a number of months past and has done as well toward propagating Republican doctrine of the standpat brand as any man could have done. He has invariably been a courteous and obliging gentleman with the brothers of the craft and is a gentleman of kindness and courtesy. The Journal wishes him well wherever he may locate and can assure the people of any locality where he may go, that they have a very excellent citizen among them. During his residence here he made a great many friends who will learn of his departure with the deepest regret. Mr. Barrows is certainly a good Republican of the most approved brand and it is difficult to understand how Mr. Pollard will make much improvement on him as an editor. He will be succeeded by A. E. Quinn, at present business manager of the News, as editor and business manager.

## In District Court.

In the office of Clerk of the Court Robertson this morning a case was filed on appeal from the county commissioners. W. H. Jones, sheriff of Nemaha county, asked the commissioners to award him \$100 as reward for the capture of Arthur Brann who stole the teams of Fred Creamer and Fred Lake near Elmwood. The only team recovered by the capture was that of Creamer and the commissioners held that Jones was only entitled to the one reward of \$50 for his capture. He believes he should have two rewards, one in each case as the commissioners had ordered the posting of separate rewards for the two cases and hence his appeal. There is small likelihood that he can recover more than the one reward but the legal question involved warranted the commissioners in fighting the matter. The case will be heard next September when the first jury cases will be heard.

## Death at Auburn.

From the Omaha Bee the Journal learns of the death at Auburn, Neb., of Miss Pearl Mathews, a sister of Miss Pattie Mathews, who formerly was a teacher in the public school in this city. Miss Mathews died in Auburn yesterday morning, and is to be buried this morning. The services will be conducted by Rev. G. A. Chapman, pastor of the Christian church, and Rev. James H. Salisbury, formerly of this city, but now of Auburn. Miss Pattie Mathews who has been spending some time abroad sailed last Saturday from Rotterdam for her home. Besides Miss Pattie Mathews, the deceased left surviving her one other sister and a brother. The many friends of Miss Mathews in this city will extend to her their most heartfelt sympathy in her bereavement.

## Stroke of Paralysis.

From Tuesday's Daily. Morgan Waybright, who came in last evening from Los Angeles, Cal., reports that W. C. Snyder, well known in this locality and now living at Edison, Neb., several days ago suffered a paralytic stroke from the effects of which he is seriously ill. Mr. Snyder is related to George W. and A. J. Snyder, of this city, and is a most estimable gentleman. Mr. Waybright was much distressed over his friend's condition which he states is quite bad. The many other friends of Mr. Snyder in this city will hear of his condition with the deepest sympathy and trust that he will soon recover from the attack.

## Depart for Their New Home.

Jos. Kahoutek and family expect to depart tomorrow for Denver, where they will make their future home. Mr. Kahoutek has accepted the position of foreman of the Burlington blacksmith shop at that point and he will make a mighty good man. He is an excellent man in every respect, a good workman and a man who has the happy faculty of making friends wherever he goes. He has a great many good friends in this city who will miss him when he leaves but who extend their best wishes for his future prosperity.

Mrs. W. J. Philpot and Miss Irma Peters are making a visit in the city with Mrs. William Hunter and family. Mrs. Philpot is a resident of Weeping Water and Miss Peters a resident of Murray. The ladies in company with Miss Clara Hunter are spending today in Omaha, having gone to that city this morning on the Burlington train.

John Lambert, formerly of this city but now located at Grand Island with the Union Pacific railroad, came in yesterday for a visit of several weeks with relatives and friends. It is some years since Mr. Lambert was in the city and he was glad to get back and meet his old friends again.

Back From Texas. D. Hawksworth and wife are spending today in Omaha, having gone to that city on the morning train. Mr. and Mrs. Hawksworth yesterday had the pleasure of a visit from their son Frank, of Lincoln, who has recently returned from Texas. Mr. Hawksworth came back with the highest opinion of the Lone Star state, having found it to be just what it was represented. He does not get so enthusiastic over the gulf coast country as over the northern part of the state, finding the damp atmosphere of the lower part of the state rather disagreeable but the northern part is dry and salubrious. One feature which he found urged on him by northern settlers was the relief from the hard, cold winters. His general opinion of the state was that it was a very fertile one and a land of great promise.

## Card of Thanks.

The undersigned desire to extend their most sincere thanks to the many kind friends who so tenderly remembered us in our hour of sorrow when our beloved husband, father and son, William E. Renner, was called hence, and especially do we thank the members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, the Burlington shopmen in this city, the members of the Degree of Honor, and the schoolmates of the little son Carl, and the great many unknown friends who all sent their many floral tributes to our beloved dead, and we assure them that we feel deeply their kind sympathy and their love.

Mrs. Emma Renner.  
Carl Renner.  
Harold Renner.  
C. L. Heger and wife.

## An Old Friend Very Ill.

Word was received this morning by William Smith of the serious illness of his father, J. C. Smith near Nehawka, and he left at once for the bedside of the aged man. Mr. Smith is 83 years of age and has been very agile for his age. His son was much disturbed over his illness and is somewhat apprehensive of the outcome. Mr. Smith is one of the leading citizens of his neighborhood and is a man very well known throughout this community. His many good friends trust that the illness will prove nothing serious and that he soon will be himself again and able to be out and about.

## Limb Improving.

From Tuesday's Daily. L. H. Young of Nehawka was a passenger this morning for Omaha, where he will consult the specialist regarding his injured leg. Mr. Young, it will be recalled was operated on several months since for a broken leg and has been having a serious time with the member. He is glad to state that he is getting along very nicely now and believes that he has every prospect of soon entirely recovering. He states that since his taking treatment with the specialist in Omaha the leg has given him little trouble and that he is firmly of the belief that it will be all right again very soon.

## Andy Sends the Money.

From Tuesday's Daily. County Clerk Morgan today received a check from Andrew Thomsen for \$800, the usual fee required for a license to sell liquor in the county. Mr. Thomsen was recently granted a license by the county commissioners to sell liquor at Cedar Creek and will continue to run his place there as in the past. Mr. Thomsen is one of the few men who has run a place there without much trouble and his record is such that there was no opposition to his having a license this year. He understands his business and is a good man.

## More Trouble.

L. B. Brown, mayor of Kenosha, and his sister, Mrs. Gustina Nix, came up from their home south of the city this morning to spend the day in the city and do some trading. Mr. Brown paid the Journal man his customary visit and related some more of his troubles in handling that municipality including trouble with ex-chief of police, A. J. McNatt whom Mr. Brown threatens with excommunication and relegation to Rock Bluffs for his recalcitrancy which ought to help a whole lot.

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