

The Plattsmouth Journal

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In the list of foodstuffs, the price of which is subsiding, the name of the toothsome and seasonable turkey does not appear.

Utah also rejected prohibition last week, probably on the theory that a man who has a whole flock of wives is entitled to take to strong drink.

The reduction in meat prices is to be gradual, not abrupt, the packers explain. Such reductions are never what would be called precipitate or rash.

Now that my enemies are subdued, I will lay aside the sword, and endeavor solemnly by my good offices, to gain over those who continue to hate me.—Caesar.

King George finds himself with an uncomfortable cabinet crisis on his hands, although there are no Ballingers, no Wickershams and no Hitchcocks among his ministers.

Plattsmouth has increased 20 per cent or more in population. We can now boast of 5,975 population, and ere the winter passes away we can easily gain the other 25, making an even 6,000.

An old soldier remarked the other day, that the only condolence Burckett received after his defeat for the senate was from the postmasters throughout Nebraska. We guess the old veteran is about right.

W. H. Smith, editor of the Seward Independent-Democrat is a candidate for re-election to the secretaryship of the state senate. Mr. Smith filled this very responsible position at the last session and there was no kicking on the efficient manner in which he held down the position. Mr. Smith is a good, clever gentleman, and we trust he will be re-elected.

Leo Mathews, chief clerk of the governor's office until he was promoted to the private secretaryship, is a candidate for chief clerk of the house. Mr. Mathews is competent for the position, and that is just what is needed. The chief clerk's office is a very difficult position to occupy, and the legislature should be very careful in selecting the right man. We believe Mr. Mathews would fill the bill to the letter.

The opponents, as well as the caposers of county option, are still at sea as to how Bartling, the senator-elect from Otoe county, will vote on the matter. He "carried water on both shoulders" during the campaign, and now refuses to tell where he stands. The anti-optionists are counting on his vote to a dead moral certainty, and if he fools them, woe be to Bartling. It is always a safe plan to vote for candidates who are out and out for just what they advocate. Such men can be depended upon.

For a time at least we shall be compelled to find other topics for editorial comment than the vagaries of Dahlman, the virtues of Aldrich, the popularity of Hitchcock, or the selfishness of Burckett, but there always remains the great and glorious state of Nebraska, with her hills and valleys, fertile farms and broad ranges; mighty rivers; her flocks and herds; her grass and grain, her mighty productions and big bank deposits; her men and women, her growing towns, her schools and universities and first and last we shall probably find more things to talk about than our patrons care to read.

BEARING FRUIT.

(New York World.)

It is morally certain that when rep-

resentatives of the Meat Trust "feel it in their bones" that food prices are to come down they will come down. The packers do not dream dreams and see visions to no purpose.

Simultaneously with this revelation the officers of the Sleeping-Car Trust announce that they entertain a strong suspicion that their company is properly subject to regulation by the interstate commerce commission, and it has just occurred to them that there should be a reduction in prices. We have an abiding faith, therefore, that resistance to regulation will soon cease and that presently an upper berth at least can be had for less money.

In view of these declarations, it is not rash to expect that in some providential way it will be suggested to the Rubber Trust, the Cotton Goods Trust, the Woolen Goods Trust, the Sugar Trust, the Steel Trust and a few others that the necessity for extortion has passed. To sin against the light is a grievous thing, and there is no mistaking the fact that the privileged plutocrats have seen an exceedingly great light during the last few days.

The new congress is to be controlled by democrats and insurgent republicans. Its out-and-out stand-patters will not be numerous enough to dictate a single tariff schedule or to attach a solitary joker to a bill supposed to be in the interest of the public. What has happened to the Beef Trust and the Sleeping Car Trust has had its effect also upon the existing congress. It is suspected in Washington that even the men responsible for the Payne-Aldrich tariff may conclude to do something for the people at the short session this winter.

Those who occasionally doubt the efficiency of self-government should find in these signs and tokens a good deal of encouragement. Last week's demonstration at the polls by republicans as well as democrats, was a notice to every monopolist, forestaller and extortioner in the land that the wide-open season for public plunder has ended. There is to be investigation. There is to be reform. There is to be an approach to justice. The cost-of-living issue is marching on.

Crockett's coon is reported to have said that he would come down if the hunter would not shoot. The men who have taken refuge in extortionate laws or under cover of favoring public officers are doing well to follow his example. The guns of this reformatory movement are aimed at nobody else.

LIQUOR LEGISLATION.

(Indianapolis Star.)

It seems to be the hope of Governor Marshall and of every good citizen to take the saloon question out of politics, and this is both a wise and a patriotic wish, for nothing could be more unjust than the attempt to make all republicans "dry" and all democrats "wet." In two campaigns now it has prevented many good republicans from voting their convictions on national issues, and has put many temperance democrats in the attitude of alliance with the liquor traffic.

County option as it now exists is so obviously doomed, from the democratic pledges, that any demand for its retention in its present shape would be ineffective. The governor has promised to veto any repeal of county option that does not carry with it the enactment of township option. Now, it may develop on investigation that township option in itself is a clumsy and undesirable arrangement that might be even more unpopular than county option has been. A medium course might be adopted.

County option has caused no trouble in Indiana in two classes of coun-

ties—those that are hopelessly "wet" and those that are practically all "dry." The trouble arises in those intermediate counties where cities that are "wet" are surrounded by the rest of the county that is "dry." In these the irrepressible conflict between city and county has proved a source of constant irritation and sometimes of opprobrious and distressful scandal. In what way might these counties be provided for, so as to settle the question and remove it from party politics?

They have a law in the state of Washington under which, if the county goes "dry" and the city goes "wet," the city remains "wet." The rural districts get rid of their saloons, but they escape the odium of having forced their standards upon the city where those standards are unpopular. The city itself can go "wet" or "dry," as it likes, and if the choice is regretted it can be changed at the next election. They have a law something like this in the state of Massachusetts, where cities go "wet" one year and "dry" the next, or vice versa, with untrammelled freedom. The law itself stands as it is, for the city has home rule and can do as it likes.

It seems clear to the Star that in some moderate course like this all hope of permanent settlement for this question must lie. We cannot make our laws for the extremists of either side and expect them to stand. We have seen how unrestricted county option creates dissensions and provokes its own repeal. Nothing is more certain than that unqualified repeal of county option will put the saloon back in unrestrained dominion and precipitate another battle. The only law that can hope to stand is one that the great body of reasonable citizens will approve, leaving the malcontents on both sides out of the account.

Teddy is a mighty lion hunter but he failed to bring down the tiger.

However, reduced meat prices in the news dispatches are about as serviceable as a railroad built only on blue-prints.

Those who control the price of food products may be wiley, but the head of the federal bureau of pure foods is also Wiley.

People in ordinary circumstances will have to content themselves with turkey for Thanksgiving. The rich can have a bacon dinner.

Stockmen have long complained that cattle feed costs too much and now a Spartansburg, S. C., calf has gone and swallowed \$118.

The call to do Christmas shopping early should make a strong appeal to all shoppers except those whose Christmas appropriation is not available until Saturday, December 24.

The Daily Journal will not be issued on Thursday—Thanksgiving. Those having advertising or notices of any kind will please take notice and bring such in for Wednesday's issue.

Those who desire notices or advertising in the Thursday's weekly will please understand that the paper will be issued on Wednesday on account of Thursday being Thanksgiving. Please bear this in mind.

The Journal would like to see Senator W. B. Banning elected president pro tem of the senate. Mr. Banning was one of the leaders in the last senate and possesses excellent qualifications for the position.

Make room for Montana in the galaxy of states that will send a democrat to the United States senate to succeed a republican. Complete returns show that the next legislature will stand 52 democrats and 50 republicans; thus blasting Senator Thomas H. Carter's hopes of re-election.

The glass trust, which made more than one million dollars in illicit gains, pleaded guilty in the federal court in Pittsburg and was fined a total of \$10,000 by Judge Young,

who thereby handed a merited rebuke to his collaborator on the bench, Kenesaw M. Landis.

Coincident with the Democratic sweep of the country, announcement comes from the beef barons that food will begin to come down. Thus do the people's oppressors anticipate the inevitable, foreseeing the end of the special privileges and immunity from prosecution on which they have waxed fat at the expense of the poor for 10, these many years, under republican rule.

Caleb Powers, republican member-elect of congress from Kentucky, may be denied a seat in the 62d congress. The house has the power to refuse to seat him and may do so. It would be a fitting rebuke to the brazenness of Powers and the constituency behind him. Three juries have convicted Caleb Powers of conspiracy in the successful plot to assassinate Governor Goebel. A republican governor pardoned him, just as a previous republican governor issued advance pardons to other conspirators and then fled, himself a fugitive from justice. Powers' innocence or guilt we do not propose to discuss. We do not pretend to know. But it is an affront to decency to force upon the highest legislative body in the land a man thrice convicted of a capital crime and whose innocence has never been proven, and congress ought to resent the attempt. Let Powers' neighbors "vindicate" him, if they wish, in some manner less offensive to the sensibilities of the nation at large.

There will be a lively time when a county option bill comes up in the legislature this winter. There are a few fellows in both the senate and the house, who signed an agreement with the Anti-Saloon League to vote for county option, and then promised many of the German voters they would vote against such a measure. How are they going to get out of "a bad fix"?

Hon. John Kuhl for Speaker.

The first booster for John Kuhl, representative from Cedar county, who wants to be speaker of the house in the coming legislature, reached Lincoln Thursday forenoon in the person of Phil Kuhl, elected to the house on the democratic ticket from Wayne county. Kuhl says that most of the democratic members from his part of the state will support Kuhl. The latter has served in the last two legislative sessions and was one of those mentioned for the speakership two years ago, although he made no canvass for the honor then. He is now reported to be asking votes for speaker.

"We think Kuhl has the ability and the level headed judgment to make an ideal presiding officer," said Kohl. "His record in the legislature is first-class. He was the man who moved in the caucus two years ago that a committee be appointed to name standing committees of the house, instead of leaving them to be selected by the speaker. This proposition carried, and Kuhl is in favor of the same plan now, although himself a candidate for speaker."

The above is taken from the Lincoln Star, and we can vouch for every word as being true. The writer served with Mr. Kuhl in the last legislature and besides being one of the leaders in the house, he demonstrated by his work in that body, that he was a gentleman of more than average ability and one who was always at his post of duty. He possesses every qualification that goes to make a capable and reliable presiding officer, with fairness to all members alike. Has had several terms' experience in the house, which, among his other excellent qualities, well fits him for the position.

THE GREATEST CAUSE.

The cost of living hits everybody; it benefits a comparatively small class, but this class is abnormally enriched. This is why the cost of living is on everybody's mind. It is the leading subject of thought and discussion and many conflicting theories are advanced as to the chief causes of excessive prices and of the

present downward tendency of food cost.

But there seems to be a disposition to ignore or minimize the greatest cause. The relations of supply and demand, the costly system of retail distribution, the habit of buying in small quantities, ordering by telephone and accepting whatever the butcher or grocer chooses to send, habitual waste, concentration in cities to the hurt of productive farm employments—all these are factors, but most of them cannot be reached except by fundamental changes. They are susceptible to education, practical propaganda and demonstration and the gradual evolution of the social order. But the fact remains that prices have been much lower with all of these factors having substantially the same inherent force that they prices.

The greatest cause—and the one cause that a progressive government can reach and should reach promptly and effectively—is the burdensome volume of excessive profits. When the cost of living rises out of all proportion to the average income, somewhere, somehow, the people are robbed. Somebody is getting more than his share. Somebody is exercising coercive power over the consumer. And even if the people knew nothing of the processes by which they are robbed they would know the beneficiaries of the robbery.

The fortunes that are made by the chief manipulators of the various food combinations, by the heads of the big industrial trusts and by the men behind the big transportation corporations and systems—these are the evidences that are open to everyone. For no man can justly make a vast fortune by manufacturing, buying and selling, or transporting articles of common necessity, nor for that matter in making, selling or transporting any article closely affecting the cost of necessities.

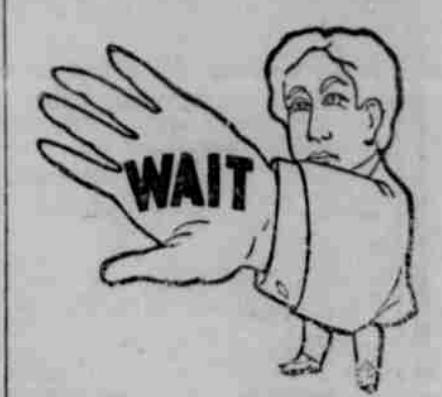
But the people also know, in a general way, the process by which they are robbed. They are bled by monopolistic combinations, which demand that they shall have large profits on both their legitimate investments and on stocks that cost them little or nothing. A government has no right to tolerate any system by which one man or set of men is enabled to extort tribute from another man or set of men. But the governments of this country have not only failed to reach these extortionists effectively when they have tried, but in the matter of the protective tariff the federal government actually licenses extortion by giving it legal shelter.—Kansas City Star.

ELECTION OF SENATORS.

At the conference of governors of the states to be held at Frankfort, Kentucky, the last of November, the proposal is to be made that concerted action be taken by all the states asking congress to call a constitutional convention to amend the federal constitution to provide for popular election of senators. The secretary of the conference has sent out a bulletin showing that twenty-nine legislatures have adopted resolutions on the subject, acting independently. But the resolutions in sixteen cases he believes were defective, so that only thirteen states can be considered as having acted. The constitution requires action by two-thirds of the states, or thirty-one.

The trouble with this plan is that if a constitutional convention were called it could not be restricted in its amendments to the single issue of popular election of senators. When public sentiment is not sufficiently advanced as regards other desirable changes to warrant a general overhauling of the constitution. There has been a feeling among the progressive leaders in Washington that a constitutional convention at this time is not to be desired.

Why wouldn't it be better to trust to an amendment to be submitted by congress? The only difficulty in the way of such an amendment has been the conservatism of the senate. But no effort has been made for nearly ten years to obtain the senate's con-



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sent. With the spread of the popular election idea in the last decade it is reasonable to expect that the senate of the next congress would acquiesce in a reform which everywhere has demonstrated its popularity.

The agitation for the establishment of the parcels post has gained impetus by the expressmen's strike in New York. The express trust, in its arrogant disregard of public loss and inconvenience, is setting forth some very convincing arguments against the further existence of this private monopoly. John Wanamaker's four reasons why we did not have a parcels post in his day—the Adams, American, United States and Wells-Fargo Express companies—remain the only arguments against the establishment of this highly necessary governmental service.

Goes to South Dakota.

Mr. Robert Troop departed for South Dakota, this afternoon to ascertain what his tenants had raised and to dispose of the crops. Mr. Troop has something near 700 acres of farming land in the vicinity of Crookston, Nebraska, and another large tract across the line in South Dakota. He has heard that the small grain crops were very good, and he will look after his interests himself rather than entrust everything to an agent.

I. Pearlman, of Omaha, came down today to look after his real estate interests in this city.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE Plattsmouth State Bank

of Plattsmouth, Nebraska. Charter No. 796. Incorporated in the state of Nebraska, at the close of business, November 10, 1910.

RESOURCES	
Loans and discount	\$121,010 00
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	2,964 81
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	1,479 00
Real estate other than banking house	11,086 37
Interest	1,957 43
Current expenses and taxes paid	80 19
Cash items	19,015 40
Due from national state and private banks and bankers	737 14
Checks and items of exchange	1,000 00
Currency	2,040 00
Gold coin	688 30
Silver, nickels and cents	162,578 23
Total	\$162,578 23

LIABILITIES	
Capital stock paid in	\$50,000 00
Surplus fund	500 00
Undivided profits	3,441 43
Individual deposits subject to check	70,255 64
Demand certificates of deposit	753 40
Time certificates of deposit	37,627 76
Total	\$162,578 23

STATE OF NEBRASKA, ss I. J. M. Roberts, Cashier of the above named bank, do hereby swear that the above statement is a correct and true copy of the report made to the State Banking Board, J. M. ROBERTS, Cashier.

Attest: J. W. H. NEWELL, Director. J. H. BECKER, Director. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of November 1910. R. B. WINDHAM, [Seal] My commission expires Oct. 19, 1915.

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