

The Plattsmouth - Journal

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Always, when the reactionary leaders plead for "harmony" and "party solidarity," they mean party control.

Some people have not cleaned the snow from their sidewalks yet, and it has been almost a week since it snowed. Shame!

Since the price of upper Berths was reduced a great many travelers will discover that they always did say the uppers were the more comfortable.

Plattsmouth merchants should enjoy a good Christmas trade. They have the goods and will make the right prices, so why not buy your holiday presents at home?

Hogs are much lower, but do you notice that pork is any lower in the retail meat markets. Does this not look like there is something wrong somewhere? Well, we should say so.

What to buy for Christmas presents is what is bothering some people. It is not so much what to buy as where to get the money to buy with that is bothering most of us.

"The liquor interests have already damaged the democratic party sufficiently," says Chas. W. Bryan. May be there are others to whom the "sufficiency" might be attributed with about as much force, also.

The authorities at Washington announce that the official census of the United States will be officially given to the public through the morning papers next Sunday. The total population will reach nearly 35,000,000.

Announcement that a two-dollar counterfeit bill is in circulation is alarming. That's getting down within the fiscal world of the plain, common people. We are all liable to get a counterfeit two-dollar bill.

Poor Bill Taft no doubt wishes he was out of the troubles. He is about as deep in the mire as he can possibly get, and is working every conceivable plan to extricate himself. But it can't be did, Billy. Just quit when your time is out.

A New York court decided recently, in a case calling for a construction of the tariff law, that horse-hair is "a vegetable product." This is one of the very ablest tariff rulings obtained since the decision which held that "frogs' legs are poultry."

While we regret to see Prof. N. C. Abbott vacate the position of superintendent of the School for the Blind at Nebraska City, we are pleased to learn that the plum falls to the lot of R. C. King, county superintendent of Otoe county, who is a most worthy and well qualified gentleman for the position.

People who go to the larger cities to get their Christmas presents must bear in mind that they cannot get such articles any cheaper than they can get them right here at home, and in many instances not as cheap. And then, deduct your railroad fare and time lost in going and coming, and see where you are at. Don't you think it is best to buy at home and save time and money?

The person who is able to solve the problem of how to hold the boys in school long enough to get a practical education, will have a fortune if he reaps the reward that is due him. Some parents in Plattsmouth are endeavoring to solve the problem right now, with not the very best of success.

The truancy law should be more

thoroughly enforced in the Plattsmouth public schools. We hear of several cases that the direct attention of the truant officer should be called to. One pupil is no better than another when it comes to enforcing the law.

Charles W. Bryan has issued his edict just before he takes his trip to Oklahoma, and Texas, in which he advises the democrats of the legislature who favor county option what to do. He talks to them as though they did not have sense enough to know their own minds. Let us hope they have at least sufficient brains not to be controlled by anyone with less brains than they have.

THE SHIP SUBSIDY SCHEME.

There is to be held a general convention of boards of trade, chambers of commerce and similar organizations for the purpose of aiding in pushing through congress at this session a ship subsidy bill, for if such a bill is not passed at this session of congress while the republicans are still in power, there will be no hope for it anywhere in the near future. Such a scheme is the most audacious special privilege proposition ever presented to congress.

Take for granted that American citizens cannot compete with foreigners in the transportation of ocean freight and passengers, which is not at all true, on what economic ground does it follow that the few millionaires who want to go into this business should be allowed the special privilege of taxing all the rest a sufficient amount to make the business pay? The foolish, sentimental cry, that the American flag is no longer seen in foreign ports, is no reason why the American farmers should contribute two or three dollars a year each to a few millionaires to get them to put it there at a great profit to themselves. If the products of the American farmer are now transported across the seas at a lower rate than these millionaires can do it, then the farmer is the gainer and not a loser thereby.

The cry that the American marine has disappeared from the seas is only partly true. The American "owned" ships are just as numerous as they ever were, but they are forced to sail under foreign colors by marine laws which forbid an American to own, and sail under the stars and stripes, a foreign built ship. An American can buy a foreign ship cheaper than one can be built in the United States, because of the special privileges granted Morgan and the steel trust under our tariff laws. What the people want to do, is to cut off some of the privileges already enjoyed by the millionaires instead of granting a new one. But a ship subsidy will be pushed through this congress if possible. It will probably take a filibuster in the senate to defeat it.—World-Herald.

THE SPIDER AND THE FLY.

So it seems that the insurgent leaders in congress are better able to read the significance of the election returns than is President Taft.

One must either reach that conclusion or adopt the less charitable and less welcome one that the president is determined in deliberate wrong-doing.

After the expression of the electorate in the recent election it would have been craven in the insurgent leaders to relinquish any of the positions they took at the last session that were hostile to the president's plans.

They have been returned to Washington by the approving people not only because of the fight they had made, but to continue that fight and to carry the reform war to even greater lengths.

It would have been perfidy—it would now be perfidy—for them to have yielded to presidential importunities and abandon in the slightest degree any of the things for which they fought before the election.

It is going to take a great deal of charity on the part of progressive constituencies to excuse the reputed effort of the president to lure these insurgent congressmen away from the path marked out for them in the recent election by the electorate.

If it became necessary for the president to importune them at all, it must have been with the hope of inducing them to do something that they would not otherwise be likely to do. It must have been to induce them to forsake some of their policies that the people had approved by re-electing them.

Let the people rejoice that insurgents are reported to have rejected his overtures.

Let them rejoice that such men as Senator Cummins are reported to have flatly advised the president that the insurgents had no concessions to make.

This summoning of the insurgent leaders to the white house by the president was but an exemplification of the old fable of the spider and the fly. The president had nothing to offer in favor of the masses.

His hope was to secure insurgent concessions to special privilege.

It would be political suicide for any insurgent congressman to make any concessions now to the president.

Perhaps the president would recognize it as suicide to ask if he were not already politically dead.—Lincoln Star.

AUTOMOBILES VS. POPULATION.

The number of automobiles in the state has increased in the last year something over 72 per cent. On December 2, 1909, there were 8,489 machines in the state, December 2, 1910, the number registered at the office of the secretary of state was 14,693. This shows that 6,119 cars have taken out a license in twelve months. Last year in the corresponding period of time, 1,346 new machines were registered. That was something over a hundred per cent increase in the number of machines in the state. Figures for the three years are: On December 2, 1908, 4,143; December 2, 1909, 4,143; December 2, 1910, 14,698. With Nebraska's population 1,192,214, as shown by the recent census, this gives an automobile on the average to every eighty-one persons in the state, or an average of nearly 159 automobiles to each of the ninety-two counties. Early in the spring the automobile business started out briskly, until in May alone 813 new machines were registered. June raised this number with the registering of 921. Registrations in each of the following months up to December were: July 673, August 698, September 450, October 459, November 331. On some days during the rush, as high as fifty-one cars were registered in a single day.—Lincoln Journal.

HERE, TOO.

The Kearney Democrat speaks our sentiments right to the point, as follows: "Mr. Poulson, who has been managing the republican end of the anti-saloon league campaign, has evolved a brilliant idea. He is going to organize the Nebraska legislature,



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which is a democratic body, by inducing enough democratic members to stay away from their party's caucus and then go into the open body and vote for republicans to officer the legislature. Mr. Poulson is a foxy schemer and he has been using all his foxy methods to disorganize the democratic majority and place the organization of the legislature into the hands of his republican friends. Democratic members should submit to none of his republican arrangements. The legislature is democratic and the organization of the body belongs to the democrats, not to the republicans. Mr. Poulson's surface purpose is to organize the legislature with "dry" members. But because the majority retains control of the organization of the legislature it does not prevent the county option members of both parties carrying out their ideas of legislation. Mr. Poulson's real purpose is to place the legislature into the hands of the republican party, and no democrat can hope to retain his self-respect with his party and become a party to turning the legislature over to the republican machine in Nebraska. The public eye will be upon every democratic member in regard to his action in this matter."

The turkey gobbler, strutting proud
On top the barnyard fence,
Cuts up like sin and chortles loud
Like one bereft of sense—
And this is the burden of his tune:
"I am immune! I am immune!"

"The common folk can never pay
The price to lay me low!
The tariff on my goods today
Is forty cents a throw!
Though Christmas's coming soon,
I am immune! I am immune!"

Have you selected your Christmas presents yet?

These slippery days suggest the desirability of getting the horse some new shoes for Christmas.

It is almost time for the boys, and some men, too, to think about swearing off time being so near.

President Taft says no more anti-trust laws are needed. They don't seem to do much good, that's a fact.

Bear in mind that Plattsmouth merchants can supply you with nearly anything you desire for Christmas presents.

If farmers got what is coming to them out of 35 cent bacon and 20 cent beef, there would be fewer millionaire packers and butchers.

Arkansas gained 262,885 in population, or 20 per cent, according to this year's census. This seems to be as good a time as any to quit laughing at Arkansas.

A nice Christmas present for your sweetheart will be a piece of bacon neatly wrapped up in tinfoil and tied with a pink ribbon. She'll believe you'd die for her, after that.

In the Chicago courts a Pullman porter is being sued for \$20,000. Why not make the proceeding worth while? A Pullman porter doesn't mind such a financial trifle as that.

Senator LaFollette so far has not availed himself of the president's invitation to call at the white house. Perhaps he sees no political good that he can accomplish there and he is not looking for social distinctions.

Aldrich's plum tree receives a shaking every day or two, but we have failed to yet hear of any of those democrats who supported him for governor getting any of the ripe ones. We glory in his spunk. He will go to work now and assist in building up his party by turning all democrats out.

A dollar spent at home for goods means that much more money in local circulation. Let your motto be: "Home first and other towns afterward," and then practice what you preach. You can get just as good

goods at home for the same price you will pay for the same articles in Omaha, and then you save railroad fare and time.

There is some talk of taking up the matter of the election of United States senator by the people in the present session by both branches of congress. There are reasons why United States senators are more disposed now than ever before to submit to the people a constitutional amendment providing for the election of senators by direct vote. This reform has been urged for sixty years, and many bills have passed the house, only to be smothered in the senate, but there seems a good chance that Senator Bristow's resolution, offered last session, will come to the surface now.

The democrats have a majority in the lower house of the legislature, and without paying any attention to the disturbers on the outside ought to go to work and organize that body, and attend to matters that are to come up before that august assembly afterward. Poulson, the boss of the Anti-Saloon League, is working to get up a disturbance among the county optionists and antis in the democratic ranks, and make republican organization possible. The democratic members should keep their eyes peeled in the direction of this imported galoot who comes here to disturb the business interests of Nebraska, and the people of the state, who desire to "leave well enough alone."

IMAGINATION.

Perhaps the world has discoursed too long and too volubly on the "secrets of success." Perhaps the means of success are so obvious that they are apt to be overlooked in the search for the "secret." At any rate the young man who won a prize offered by the New York Globe for the best short letter on success stuck to the obvious. He believed that the country boy had the better chance in the city because he had more imagination, because of a more open mind, because he was not lured to the great achievements of man, and therefore the achievements of others inspired him and kept him from getting into a rut. That's the substance of the prize letter.

But the lesson applies to all, almost regardless of environment. For even a superficial knowledge of the world, and especially of life and accomplishments in this country, is calculated to furnish inspiration. Even in times when opportunities for the individual are becoming more circumscribed there is much to appeal to the imagination. And imagination is necessary to enthusiasm, and Emerson was about right when he said that nothing great had ever been achieved without enthusiasm.

Keep your eyes on the boy or girl, the young man or the young woman filled with enthusiasm. There is little in the blase youth, the chap who is never surprised, never elated, or who has acquired a premature cynicism, to reward your attention or inspire your hopes.—Kansas City Star.

SCHOOL DEMOCRACY.

When Jefferson assumed that all just governmental powers depend on the consent of the governed he referred to political government exclusively. But there are other kinds of government, formerly tyrannical, where some spirit of democracy is creeping in.

In the instruction of our youth, for example, none but a mollycoddle would have thought of giving the governed a voice in their government fifty years ago. The presumption was that all the pupils were suffering from an aggravated case of original sin, and that the pedagogue was perfect in wisdom and virtue as he was in power. Some of the people who were children in those days can now realize that the man who taught them was sometimes an ignorant and bumptious brute, who might more fittingly have been sitting at the feet of his pupils as a disciple in the humanities. Anyway, whether benevolent or

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not, he was a tyrant; and his subjects were not asked their opinions on matters of policy. The University Journal, published at the Nebraska State University, reports in the current number a case where a referendum vote has been taken in one of the Chicago high schools on the subject of partial segregation of the sexes. A majority of both boys and girls voted in favor of the proposition—which, however, is not the present point. The interesting circumstance is that we are getting to democracy even in the government of the youth.—World-Herald.

KILLS FATHER TO SAVE SISTER

Henry Walther, Jr., Fires Fatal Shot in Family Quarrel.

Oamha, Dec. 9.—Henry Walther, Sr., 714 North Twenty-eighth street, went to his home drunk last night. He quarreled with his family. This morning his body is at the morgue. His son, Henry Walther, Jr., sixteen years old, is held to answer for the killing. The son admits shooting his father, declaring that he acted in defense of his mother and sister.

The elder Walther returned from Graver's saloon, where he operates a lunch counter, at 9:30 o'clock, much in his cups, according to the members of the family. About 10:15 o'clock the family had gone to bed, Mabel, eighteen years old, a daughter, disturbed her father's rest by hunting for a bottle of medicine. A dispute ensued in which mother and daughter were subjected to abuse by Walther. Mrs. Walther says her husband struck her in the breast and then ran after the daughter.

Henry, the son, awakened in an adjoining room, appeared in the hallway, a revolver in hand. He fired five shots, emptying the gun. His father fell, instantly killed. Two of the bullets penetrated the skull, two the chest.

OFFICE SEEKERS BESIEGE ALDRICH

Governor-Elect Has to Elude Swarm of Job Hunters.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 9.—Governor-elect Aldrich was besieged by swarms of petitioners for office at the Lindell hotel. Mr. Aldrich had come to the capital to have a conference with Governor Shallenberger concerning the executive mansion and other incidentals necessary to the peace and comfort of the governor. These were the matters which the outgoing governor had the fullest information upon, but upon which the incoming governor, having been nothing more than a mere state senator, was sadly lacking in information.

The governor-elect had determined to spend his day in Lincoln incognito, but he wore no mask, and the horde of hungry ones in Lincoln, who had had no fair chance since election time, bore down upon him, and he was forced to take refuge in the hotel. The hotel people valiantly supported him, and declared he was not there, but half a hundred men patiently waited in the lobby, knowing by some occult power that the report of absence was untrue. Even when he escaped and went to the governor's office, they followed him and waited in the reception room for his coming forth.

Mr. Aldrich declared he had picked some men already for remaining places, but would not announce them until Sunday, when he expected to shake the plum tree vigorously. He declares that he has had an average of more than 200 visitors a day since his return to the state.

Tabor Begins Campaign for Funds.
Tabor, Ia., Dec. 9.—A big clock marked "Tabor College" has been placed in the postoffice to register the subscriptions being made to complete the \$40,000 endowment fund for Tabor college.