

# The Plattsmouth Journal

Published Semi-Weekly at Plattsmouth, Nebraska

R. A. BATES, Publisher.

Entered at the Postoffice at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, as second-class matter.

\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

"Money has relaxed," says a dispatch from New York. Money seems to have done worse than relax—it has let go entirely.

The season is here, too, when some ardent attorney general usually brings proceedings to "bust" the coal trust—and then forgets about it.

The sugar trust lost so many of its able friends in congress at the last election that ex-Senator Smith, of New Jersey, feels he is needed back in Washington.

The census returns have been a great disappointment to many cities. Kearney, for instance, has a population of 6,202, as compared with 5,634 in 1900, and they have been claiming 10,000. But there is no going back on the returns.

It would seem that Champ Clark had a walkaway for the speakership. Nearly every state delegation in the south and west have declared for him. It looks like he would be the unanimous choice. No man is better able to fill the place.

Congressman Hitchcock seems to be opposed to the parcels post. We do not believe that such a law would be of any benefit to local merchants, but would rather prove a detriment to them. It is just what the metropolitan department stores have been working for for years.

From a dispatch from Falls City, we note that the friends of Henry Gerdes are booming him for speaker of the incoming house. Mr. Gerdes is an awful good man, as straight as a string, and has served four or five terms as a member from Richardson county. We regard our old friend as one of the very best men for the place.

The Christmas shopping has opened up quite briskly with Plattsmouth merchants, much more so than it did a year ago at this time. The people are finding out that they can get what they want for Christmas just as cheap and just as good here as they can in Omaha or anywhere else.

C. O. Whedon and Arthur Mullen, attorneys for the state, have just returned from Washington, where they had been before the United States supreme court in the interests of the bank guaranty law passed by the last legislature. Both seem to think that the court will uphold the constitutionality of the law.

A diminishing birth rate in the United States is indicated by the census statistics. Eliminating the net immigration in the past two decades, it is found that the increase in population from the excess of births over deaths was 13 per cent in the past ten years, compared with 19 per cent in the preceding ten years.

There may be some surprise at the readiness with which such stand-patters as Aldrich, Lodge, Hale and Carter agreed with Senator Cummins in the latter's presentation of the tariff situation, but it ought to be remembered that these leaders have been severely chastened since the last session of congress. The demand for proper tariff revision is becoming so insistent that even the high protectionists are beginning to see that the only way to get rid of the demand is to revise the tariff right.

It is reported that F. E. Helvey is after the Nebraska City postoffice. He served for eight years in that capacity, and then has held some soft state or government position ever

since. What more does he want? land and sea cannot be fought without first consulting it. This colossal combination, unlike most others, did not achieve its immense proportions through the operation of the tariff. It was built up by ruthlessly smothering domestic competition, but these have all gone into dividends, as in other monopolies. The consumer never gets the benefit. In ten years, according to the bureau of labor, beef has risen 32 per cent, mutton 35 per cent, fresh pork 68 per cent, salt pork and bacon 80 per cent and veal 30 per cent. The trust controls the cattle-growing industry of the world, is able to meet competition abroad and to fix and enforce prices at home. When meats were sold at reasonable prices we had no need to import them and the tariff on them was something of a joke. But now that the people are being held up almost to the point where prices are prohibitory we cannot send abroad for this essential food because the tariff keeps it out. Thus the trust, having controlled absolutely the home market by a process of elimination and absorption, is made safe from the competition of the entire outside world by this beneficent system of high protection. The tariff on meat should be immediately repealed. It is an accessory to the robbery of the people.

Henry Bartling, who defeated Schuyler Buck for the senate by deceiving the voters on the county option question, is going to have "a hard row to hoe." The German-American Alliance of Nebraska City is after him with a sharp stick, and if he fails to do as he promised the Germans he would do, he had better take to the woods instead of returning to Nebraska City, if he votes for county option.

Young Waldorf Astor, whose ancestor, John Jacob Astor, a Bavarian peasant, came to the United States, and with his wife to earn a living dressed rough furs, has just been elected to the British parliament.

He was born an American and inherited a part of the colossal fortune which his progenitor, John Jacob Astor, had founded. But America was not good enough for young Waldorf. So he transferred himself to London and swore allegiance to the British Empire. Of course, according to the practice of renegades, he separated himself as far as possible from the land of his birth by joining the Tory party. He is not only helping to perpetuate the house of lords, but is aiming at a peerage for himself. He is a prince of snobs, and he honors the home which he has deserted by his toadish ambition.

The number of people who read a president's message is comparatively few. Some have to as a matter of duty, and among this unfortunate class are editors. They are then supposed to equal or exceed the ponderosity of the official document in editorial praise or denunciation, as the case may be, of the outgoing. We propose to set a precedent, in that we are not going to "dissect" the president's message this year. We are even going further in our iconoclasm; we are going to confess that we haven't read the document—in full. It's 38,000 words present to our view a dreary waste of verbiage unsuited to the festive atmosphere of the approaching holidays, and we rebel. We have "skimmed" over it enough to confirm our previous suspicion that it would contain nothing sensational; that it is a truly Taftian product, decorous and conservative, and we propose to let it go at that.

The course of legislative events in New Jersey, where Woodrow Wilson, democrat, lawyer, legislator and presidential possibility, has just been elected governor, will be watched with much interest throughout the country. What influence he will have thereon is a matter that will excite universal interest. That state is the mother of trusts. Half of the great combinations of the country have their legal residence there. Its incorporation laws are so made that the most exacting trust looking for universal privilege to pluck the people can be accommodated there. During the past fourteen years of republican rule of the nation, when monopoly has greatly multiplied, Jersey has been the Mecca of seekers of special privilege. It is itself in the grasp of one of the biggest public utilities corporations in the country. The defeat of the corporate interests there at the recent election by Dr. Wilson, whom they bitterly opposed, will center the attention of the country on the affairs of the state.

The meat trust is probably the greatest merchant on earth. It feeds billions. In all lands, in every army commissariat and naval store its products may be found. Battles on

since. What more does he want? land and sea cannot be fought without first consulting it. This colossal combination, unlike most others, did not achieve its immense proportions through the operation of the tariff. It was built up by ruthlessly smothering domestic competition, but these have all gone into dividends, as in other monopolies. The consumer never gets the benefit. In ten years, according to the bureau of labor, beef has risen 32 per cent, mutton 35 per cent, fresh pork 68 per cent, salt pork and bacon 80 per cent and veal 30 per cent. The trust controls the cattle-growing industry of the world, is able to meet competition abroad and to fix and enforce prices at home. When meats were sold at reasonable prices we had no need to import them and the tariff on them was something of a joke. But now that the people are being held up almost to the point where prices are prohibitory we cannot send abroad for this essential food because the tariff keeps it out. Thus the trust, having controlled absolutely the home market by a process of elimination and absorption, is made safe from the competition of the entire outside world by this beneficent system of high protection. The tariff on meat should be immediately repealed. It is an accessory to the robbery of the people.

## THE PEOPLE AND THE SENATE.

Popular election of United States senators is a right of the people. The Constitution of the United States denies that right. The Constitution should consequently be amended, since the people demand it.

But if the Congress of the United States should refuse to submit the amendment for state ratification (in accordance with Senator Bristow's resolution) the people will not be helpless. It is to be remembered that the constitution also places the selection of a president with certain "wise men" of an electoral college. The constitution has never been amended in that regard, but the people have practically changed it by instructing their electors for whom to vote.

Of the states, Oregon has already accomplished the same thing with regard to its senators. The people of Oregon instruct their "electors" in the legislature to elect a certain man to the United States senate. Within party lines senatorial party primaries accomplish much the same thing in several other states.

Every state should have the Oregon plan of senatorial election by popular instruction. That would institute the popular election of United States senators, whether or not the Bristow resolution is passed and the constitution definitely amended.—Kansas City Star.

Open your hearts to the extent of remembering the poor children on Christmas.

General Madero, the "provisional" governor of Mexico, if all reports are true, must be almost out of provisions.

It is gratifying to observe that a number of chastened senators now admit that "the best tariff law ever enacted" needs fixing in a lot of places.

As Christmas comes on Sunday this year, will Saturday or Sunday be the day on which to have a good time? Or, will we be satisfied with a Sunday Christmas?

"In regard to the hereafter, I am from Missouri," says Thomas A. Edison. It is easy to see why he shouldn't want St. Peter to know he is from New Jersey.

The Christmas fee of a justice of the peace down in Missouri for marriage ceremonies is \$1.98, and the young people are getting ready to take advantage of the cut rate.

The pure food act, which is very strict in requiring correct and truthful labels, ought to do something about the "home made sausage" that doesn't know what a home looks like.

State delegations in congress con-

tinued to endorse Champ Clark for speaker. It will be unanimous before the new congress meets. Champ Clark is the most popular democrat in the United States.

Senator Aldrich declares it is unconstitutional to tinker with the tariff. He knows all about constitutional law, having been "in mercantile pursuits" before entering politics in 1871.

The republican state officials are preparing to ask for some large appropriations. They will use every effort to shove them through the democratic legislature. Keep your eyes peeled, gentlemen, in the direction of the schemes of these republican tricksters. They will want to pile up the appropriations and then two years hence cry, "Extravagant democratic legislation." Don't be caught in this net.

A woman in the Minnesota State Hospital for the Insane has just won a prize of a trip to Europe, offered by one of the magazines for the best poem. This is the second case recently where a lunatic has captured a literary prize.

The people of the central and western sections of the state are working incessantly for the removal of the state capital. A large number of workers will be in Lincoln during the session of the legislature, and it will behoove the "great moral" old burg to keep her eyes open to what's going on. It is just like a resident of Plattsmouth remarked the other day, that it is simply a question of time when the capital will be removed, and why not now as well as later on?

Mary Baker Glover Eddy, the head of the Christian Science cult, who is dead at the age of 89, was a very remarkable woman—perhaps the most extraordinary woman of her century. She founded a religious sect that has shaken the foundations of every evangelical church in the United States. It is not necessary to be a Christian Scientist or to agree with the tenets of the faith to set down these irrefutable facts.

Let democrats remain true to their party organization in the organization of the legislature. The scheme is to side track a few democratic members and check them from attending a party caucus, throw the doors open and permit the republicans to capture the legislature organization with their aid. The republicans will all stand pat for this arrangement. It means a heap to them. It means disaster to the democrats.—Kearney Democrat.

Who will be nominated for president by the two great parties in 1912? Everybody is interested in that question, or will be. But what forces will control the conventions? So far as Oregon is concerned, the people will. At the late election in that state the direct primary law was extended to presidential nominations and to the election of delegates to the national conventions. Also, it was provided that the expenses of the delegates should be paid by the state. That means that the delegates of Oregon will be instructed as to the choice of the people they represent, and that the people, not the machine politicians, will pick the delegates.—Kansas City Star.

## ALDRICH'S APPOINTMENTS.

(Beatrice Sun.)

The Lincoln Journal indulges in a lot of foolish platitudes upon Chester Aldrich's appointments, and asserts that real merit and ability to fill the position has had more weight with the new governor than politics in naming men to take charge of the state institutions.

In some cases, at least, appointments have been made for political reasons and for the purpose of building up an Aldrich machine. The fact that the new governor will continue in office men who have held under the Shallenberger administration does not prove that his appointments were not tainted with politics. One

superintendent of a state institution who claimed to control the populist party and deliver the vote to Aldrich was given his job again, and some few others, who picked Aldrich as a winner and supported him with the hope of being permitted to hold on, have been paid off by appointments.

## A WEAK SHOWING.

The federal department of justice tries to show that it has made a good record in the past two years by listing the prosecutions that are under way and, incidentally, showing the few convictions that have been secured.

The department should be given due credit for starting prosecutions. When there is reason for such suits their institution is to be commended. Very complaisant officials would not even begin the suits.

The weak part of the statement is the summary of results, a brief catalogue showing four fines and two jail sentences of three months, each exclusive of the manner in which the sugar trust was handled.

It may not be the fault of the department, but the showing is weak.

What is a fine of \$50,000 to a monopoly that makes as much in a day or a week through its monopolistic methods? The officials would merely charge such fines against general expense or, if they were in the mood of some corporations, they might charge it against capital.

If monopolies do wrong, some man has done wrong. Corporations and monopolies have neither souls nor bodies but they are directed by men. The guilt is in these men if there is guilt. Until a conviction means that the individual is hit, until violation of law means a jail sentence for him just as it does for some poor, misguided creature who steals a dollar's worth of goods from a store, the laws under which the courts operate and the decisions of the court where a certain latitude is allowed in fixing punishment are a farce and nothing else.

If one can steal \$5 and be assured that he must pay only \$1 for the privilege, he will steal, if that be in accordance with his conscience. The system that fines trusts and monopolies and allows them to reap huge profits above the fines is the same dirty system of graft that protects vice in cities where the police are amenable to the influence of cash.

In the case of the sugar trust, the department of justice has recovered large sums. It has also fined a few men and put some of them in jail. But who did it put in jail? The master minds in this great monopoly, the men who concoct the schemes and issue the orders? Not a bit of it. The men who are deprived of their liberty for a time are the poor devils who were told to do this or do that or get out and get new places to get their bread and butter.

The department of justice undoubtedly works under the handicap of some bad laws but, without questioning the integrity or the industry of any official in the department, one can only say that the showing is weak, puny and has very little to do with real remedial action on the trust and monopoly question.—Lincoln Star.

Fred Reznor and wife came down from Edgemont, S. D., Tuesday evening to spend a few days with relatives, old neighbors and friends. Fred called at the Journal office and renewed for the daily, which he has been taking since he removed to South Dakota. He and his wife both like the country and are prospering.

## TRUSSES

The only surgical house in the West where all fitting is done by an expert. Largest stock of trusses in the West.

THE W. G. CLEVELAND DRUG CO.  
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

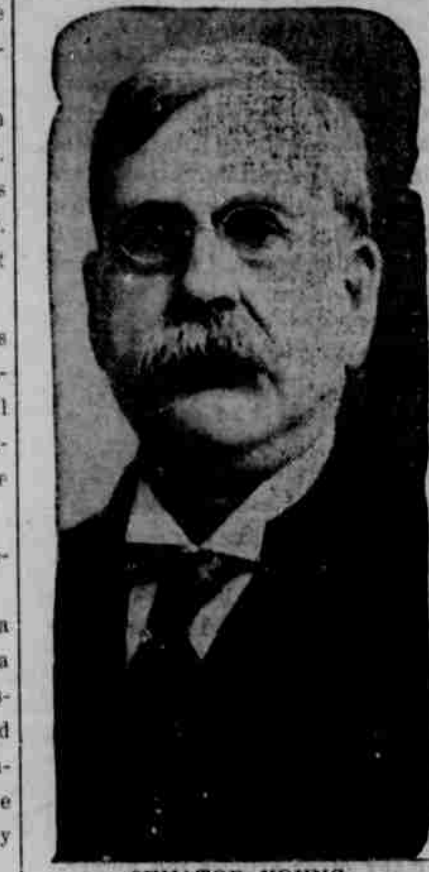
# YOUNG'S VOICE HEARD IN SENATE

Junior Senator From Iowa Urges That Tariff Debate Cease.

## ATTACKS CUMMINS' PROPOSAL

Says Suggested Revision of Tariff Rules Would Place Farming States at Distinct Disadvantage—Declares That the Country Needs a Rest.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Senator Lafayette Young of Iowa made his maiden speech in the senate. Incidentally, he stepped on the toes of his colleague, Senator Cummins, and while agreeing that tariff revision was necessary, refused to endorse the Cummins proposal to amend the rules of the senate and house to bring such a thing to pass. In closing, he called on the Republicans pledged to a revision



SENATOR YOUNG.

to accomplish all they can by March 4, and then "to subside with their agitation and give the country a rest."

## Farmer Not Too Well Paid.

The Iowa senator challenged any member to state his belief that the farmer was receiving too much for his products. He declared it had been intimated the middle man was getting too great a share of the value of farm products.

"If this be true," he demanded, "why strike at the producer? Why not go after the middle man direct? The tariff of 1909, in attempting to strike at a monopoly, put petroleum on the free list. The refiners immediately reduced the purchasing price of crude oil and continued the high price to the consumer on refined oil. Thus the consumer was not benefited. Why repeat this performance in the case of the farmer and his products?"

With the declaration that tariff legislation never could be made perfect nor universally satisfactory, Young urged that the duty of public men and the public press was to accept the Payne-Aldrich law and let the country get down to the transaction of business. He pointed out that changes in the bill will not stem the tide of criticism setting in from those interests whose welfare is touched.

"The tariff ought to be revised," he continued, "as the president has suggested, in a scientific way, one schedule at a time. I might not be willing to object to the rule proposed by my colleague, which would prohibit the offering of amendments to a schedule which might be pending, were I not afraid that the first schedule to be pending would be the schedule covering farm products."

## Farming States Would Be Helpless.

Such being the case, Young continued, the great farming states would be attacked by the south, the Rocky mountain states and New England. Under the combined attack of the great manufacturing and mining regions the agricultural states would be practically helpless. Because of this condition, he said, he hoped the Cummins rule would not be adopted, and at this juncture indulged in a fling at his colleague.

"I am surprised also," he declared, "that my colleague, who has been fighting bravely and gallantly to unshackle the members of the house from the tyranny of the rules, should undertake to bring the same shackle into the senate. Yet my distinguished colleague seeks to make it impossible for me to defend the only products of our home people."

## Lee Whalen is Acquitted.

Charleston, Mo., Dec. 16.—After twenty minutes' deliberation a jury acquitted Lee Whalen, on the charge of murder of a man, who, he said, had stolen his wife and forced him to take her back under threats to kill. Whalen's victim was Raymond Nally, whom he had employed on his farm.

## Ink Used as Communion Wine.

Carlisle, Ky., Dec. 16.—As a result of some one exchanging indelible ink for communion wine at the Pleasant Valley Christian church, several persons were made violently ill.