

The - Plattsmouth - Journal

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The "Back to Iowa" movement recently inaugurated in that state is likely to be enforced in the case of the Hon. Lafayette Young.

Senator Lorimer shares Secretary Ballinger's reluctance to "resign under fire," but it's different with Lorimer—he is likely to be fired out if he doesn't.

We hope the good roads proposition will result in something more than wind, and that a good road law will be enacted, no matter who the author may be.

Mr. Root is among those who oppose the election of United States senators by direct vote. He believes the senate should continue, as in the past, the most exclusive club in the world.

Why not discuss the water franchise question at the next meeting of the commercial club. The time to act is drawing near. What is best to do regarding the matter is what the club should discuss.

Champ Clark declares the world is growing better rapidly. It is easy for a winner to be cheerful. A lot of republican congressmen are equally certain that the world is rushing to the bow-wows pell mell.

As for Senator Lorimer's expressed desire to save his friends from any "embarrassment" on his account, it may be said that certain of his friends, having no shame, are proof against the emotion mentioned.

It would be better for some members of the legislature not to vote at all, if they have not sufficient judgment to vote the sentiment of their constituents on all questions before the legislature.

A Washington preacher announces that the millennium will come in 1915. Others hope that it will be possible to get rid of Ballinger and Lorimer before that time.

The verdict in the Rasco case shows that Nodaway county, Missouri, is an old-fashioned community where the people believe that a man who murdered an entire family without provocation ought to pay the death penalty.

That legislative investigation committee sent to Omaha at the instance of the governor, it would seem, have so far disclosed nothing that would excite the unusual activity of the police. Smart Aless always get their eye-teeth cut sooner or later.

Is it best for the city to own the water plant, or renew the franchise to the present owners? This is a matter we should be thinking about, and then give the people an opportunity to vote "yes" or "no" on the proposition.

When men quarrel over whether there should be permitted twenty-five saloons or only fifteen, it indicates two things. One is that strong dissatisfaction with the no-license policy exists in potential quarters. The other is that they are bilious, and are looking for a fight upon small pretext.—Lincoln Star.

Another capital removal bill will be introduced in a few days, but entirely different from the one defeated. No section of the state will be excluded, and any town in the state can get the capital if it can secure votes enough.

Representative Bassett, of Kearney, has certainly placed himself between the devil and the deep sea. He

voted against the removal of the capital from Lincoln, and a thousand of the voters of Buffalo county have petitioned him to resign. A man should represent his people on all such matters, or quit.

The men like Senator Root, who are opposing the popular election of United States senators miss the point. The average man doesn't care two straws for any theories of government involved. What he does care about is that the senate as at present constituted has failed to be responsive to public opinion. It has represented the interests that were dominant in the legislatures rather than the common welfare. The move to elect senators by direct vote is an attempt to bring the upper house into line with popular ideals—not to work out any particular governmental theory.—Kansas City Star.

The defeat of the reactionary senatorial candidate, Smith, and the election of the progressive, Martine, was the first important victory of Governor Woodrow Wilson in New Jersey. Now the governor is at work on a sweeping program of election reform. Measures extending the direct primary system to the nomination of candidates for governor and congressmen already have passed the state senate, while other measures providing for the Oregon plan for the election of senators and for a preference vote on presidential candidates have been introduced in the house at the governor's request.

Lincoln has been nearly two years without saloons, and just as much whiskey and beer has been sold, and it has been an endless task to keep out the "dead-falls." They now propose to limit the number of saloons to fifteen and raise the license to \$2,000 a year. As long as liquors are manufactured it will be sold, no matter how strict the law, and it is always best to legalize the sale where strict laws are in force and officers are elected who will maintain those laws. Lincoln is too large a town to keep out dives, and the people will show good judgment in returning to the license system.

WHERE WHEAT PRICE IS MADE.

A day's record in wheat prices, February 7, Winnipeg, No. 1 northern, 90c; Minneapolis, \$1.01@1.03; Liverpool, red western, \$1.76. Wheat movement: World's shipments:—America, 2,192,000 bushels; Russia, 2,406,000; Danube, 712,000; India, 716,000; Argentina, 2,998,000; Australia, 2,376,000; Chile, 180,000. Market note: "Liverpool opened ¼d higher, influenced by light offerings and the light shipment from Russia."

The difference between Winnipeg and Minneapolis was 11 to 13 cents. What the freight rate on wheat is between the two points we do not know. The distance is about 500 miles. The price difference must be nearly the freight rate. The rate is 12 cents from Omaha to Chicago, 510 miles.

But whatever caused the difference is immaterial. The figures of world movements of wheat tell the story. There is shown the great current of surplus wheat moving from the countries of surplus production to those of insufficient production, moving from America, which includes Canada and the United States, to the center of demand at Liverpool, where the price was ¼d higher "influenced by light offerings and the light shipment from Russia."

And the price of wheat in Winnipeg and in Minneapolis for wheat, whether for domestic consumption or for export, was determined by the cost of getting the surplus product to that focal point.

How absurd, how childish, then, is this prattle about the decrease in

price of domestic wheat if that futile and empty protective tax of 25 cents a bushel on Canadian wheat be taken entirely off.—Sioux City Tribune.

REJECTING COUNTY OPTION.

Nebraska is not the only progressive state that is rejecting county option.

In Wisconsin it was beaten in the primaries by an overwhelming vote. In Oregon it was repealed by the people, in the election last November, and in Indiana it has just been repealed by the legislature in pursuance with the recommendation of Governor Marshall and the specific pledge of the democratic state platform.

In Minnesota, last Tuesday, county option was defeated in the lower house of the legislature by a vote of 69 to 50. The Pioneer-Press, commenting on the result says:

"It was apparent when the roll was called yesterday, that practically every man voted just as he expected to vote when he came to St. Paul. County option was an important issue in the fall campaign. Nearly every legislator was on record as to what he would do. The arguments and oratory of yesterday did not change a single vote, nor is it likely that there would have been any change had the subject been discussed till the last day of the session."

In Ohio the bill repealing the county option law of that state has passed the senate by a vote of 22 to 12. Senator Dean, author of the repealing bill, said in the course of the debate upon it:

"The Rose law in practical operation has been found not to be practical. It fastens upon communities conditions they do not like and will not tolerate. There are evils connected with the liquor traffic. If the Rose law curbed those evils I would not be standing here now urging the passage of this amendment, but it does not, and every member of this senate is aware of this. The legalized saloon has been supplanted with the 'blind tiger' and the 'den,' more in number and much more vicious in character."

Senator Andrews, a republican member from Ironton, a city that has been voted "dry" by the county against its will under the county option law, and himself a temperance man who had been supported by the Anti-Saloon League for election, according to the newspaper reports, "made an impassioned speech and declared he had seen more drunken boys in Ironton since it was voted 'dry,' because of the ease with which liquor was secured and the law disobeyed, than when the saloons were regulated."

It is not because they are all in the toils of "the brewers" that these states which have had county option are repealing it while other states as progressive as Wisconsin and Nebraska are rejecting it untried. It is rather because experience has demonstrated that the system does not work as its friends say it will, and as most of them honestly believe it will. Instead, by forcing prohibition upon a town against its will it makes for defiance and violation of the law, for laxness and disorder. The county votes a "wet" town "dry"—and then leaves it to that "wet" town to enforce the law to which it is opposed. The natural result follows. Unregulated liquor selling replaces regulated liquor selling, and both town and county suffer. That is why states that have voted for county option vote to get rid of it after they have tried it.—World-Herald.

Next comes February 22—the anniversary of the "Father of Our Country."

Perhaps, when Champ Clark says the world is growing better, he means that it is going democratic.

A deadlock still continues in the struggle to elect a United States senator, both in New York and Iowa.

The rain Tuesday is just what we have long needed in this section, and the farmers are feeling very jubilant in consequence.

The steel trust fears Canadian recip-

rocity would hurt the American farmer. The steel trust loves the American farmer almost as devotedly as it does the widows and orphans.

We are glad to see our people are agitating the water plant question. This is a matter that has been a pest to many towns the size of Plattsmouth, and we have plenty of time to make up our minds as to what is best to do.

Only about twelve more days remain for the introduction of bills in the legislature. The people will hail the closing hour for this purpose with great delight. Too many bills have been introduced already, such as they are.

The man who sold sugar trust secrets to a magazine has been sent to prison. The law seems to have had better luck in this case than it has had in its efforts to send some of the guilty officials of the sugar trust to prison.

Another capital removal bill will come to the front again this week. At least that seems to be the program, and it thought the new bill will pass the house with a whoop. The people can place the capital where they want to or leave it where it is. Under the new bill any town can get in the race.

Some of the Plattsmouth ladies say they don't care how soon the Hatfield anti-hat-pin bill passes and becomes a law, so that it is as fair for one as it is for another, and all alike are compelled to throw aside the long daggers. All they want is to be in style, and they can do that just as well with a short pin as a long one.

The county optionists are gradually getting their eyes open to the fact that the Anti-Saloon League made a great mistake in bringing Poulson to Nebraska. He is eternally getting his foot in it, and a blunderer from start to finish. The county optionists have lost a third of their strength since the election last fall on account of Poulson and his dictatorial manner of trying to do things.

Some sheriffs over the state are favoring the repeal of the anti-pass law insofar that they may be allowed to accept these favors from the railroads. They claim that it will better enable them to run down criminals. We don't see just how that would help them any. We have not heard of any county refusing to pay the expenses of a sheriff who is engaged in the legitimate and bona fide pursuit of criminals. And under the old pass system we never heard of any sheriff deducting anything from his expense bill to the county because he carried a pass and was compelled to pay no railroad fare. Whenever any of their bills were turned in they always included their little old mileage charge of 10 cents per mile. If there is to be any juggling and compromising on the pass question it would be just as well to repeal the whole measure. Representative Meyer, of Nichols county, has introduced a bill asking for this concession to the sheriffs. If the legislature expresses the will of the people it will pass this bill by with the expressive endorsement of "indefinitely postponed."

The republican members of the Nebraska house who sternly refused to permit the government to remove one brick from the tariff wall because the portion to be denuded was that which protected farm products, will doubtless feel themselves out of tune with the national thought when they read of how the standpatners and insurgents alike are joining in trying to give the president the support of both houses of congress. The argument that the first concessions should come on the manufacturing schedules has its merits, but as long as there must be concession in order to make a start it can just as well be made by those who have never received any particular benefit from the tariff—the farmers, whose products are priced for him by a foreign market. As a matter of fact the reciprocity agree-

ment will reduce the farmer's lumber bill more in a year than he would ever get in decade on his wheat by reason of a tariff. The best feature of the reciprocity idea as the president has advanced it is that whenever we find we are getting the worst of it, if that ever comes, it is not necessary to break a treaty with Canada, but simply repeal the statute.—Lincoln News.

TAFT AND RECIPROCITY.

President Taft is zealously endeavoring to procure the ratification by congress of the Canadian trade agreement. No other measure since his administration began has received so much direct and insistent attention. In this effort the President evinces a full consciousness of the country's dissatisfaction over the new tariff law, but his purpose to procure reciprocity is on a still broader basis—that of consistent and beneficial relations with Canada.

Opposition to this agreement comes almost wholly from the old line protectionists, men who have fooled the farmers for many years, and from some of the fooled farmers. The rank and file of voters in the agricultural sections have seen long since that the tariff, in all its years of operation, has been only a cost in making more expensive things they have had to buy and affecting in no way things they have had to sell. Duties on products that are exported in large volume to the world's markets, which fix the prices, cannot enhance the domestic prices of such products.

The strongest point in the opposition to the Canadian agreement comes from men who are afraid to let the farmers see that the tariff has meant nothing to them—that it has been for the benefit of the manufacturers almost wholly.—Kansas City Star.

A CASE IN POINT.

In the troubles of Representative Bassett, of Buffalo county, is presented a case exactly in point as bearing on the initiative, referendum and recall. The people of Buffalo county, it is said, by an overwhelming majority are in favor of submitting capital removal to popular vote. They petitioned Mr. Bassett as their representative in the legislature, to support the bill, and he refused to do so, holding that it was unfair. They now demand that he resign from his office, on the ground that he has not represented his district, but has misrepresented it.

Nobody, we presume, will question the integrity, ability and patriotism of Mr. Bassett. He is one of Nebraska's most substantial and valuable citizens. His character is above reproach. He has no doubt voted, in this matter, according to his conscience and best judgment—which have led him, it would seem, to oppose the wishes of the people who commissioned him to go to Lincoln as their representative. Ought he to have done so? And if so, should he now resign when his constituents demand it? If he will not resign, should they have the power summarily to recall him—that is, discharge him from office before his term has expired?

Another interesting field for speculation is opened up in the argument that the bill the people of Buffalo county desire to vote on is an unfair one. Who should have the right to pronounce judgment as to this—the people, or their representative? Suppose the people should initiate a similarly unfair bill under direct legislation. Who then could prevent their considering it in an election, and saying, by their votes, whether or not it was really unfair? Shall the proposed constitutional amendment providing for the initiative and referendum be so changed as to declare that only "fair" bills may be initiated and voted on by the people, and that to the legislature is reserved the right of censorship in this particular?

The World-Herald wishes it distinctly understood that it propounds these queries only academically, and without the slightest prejudice pro or con, on the capital removal mix-up. The case in hand is so clean cut, and its bearing on the principles involved is so direct, that it is worthy

of some thought on the part of members of all political factions of our beloved but somewhat confused commonwealth, to-wit, those who favor capital removal and the initiative and referendum, those who oppose both, those who favor the initiative and referendum, but oppose the submission of capital removal, and those who demand the submission of capital removal but oppose the initiative and referendum. And if all this makes your head ache, gentle reader, it is merely because you have not kept up with the rapid evolutions and convolutions of recent Nebraska politics.—World-Herald.

THE PEOPLE BETRAYED.

There is no denying that large masses of the people are beginning to distrust representative government and that the demand for direct legislation will grow. This condition of affairs has been brought about by the repudiation of platforms by representatives after they have secured their election by advocating the principles contained in the platforms. There is no doubt that Taft secured his election as well as many members of the house and senate upon a platform that the people understood to mean, and which these men declared did mean, a reduction in the tariff, and that platform and those promises were afterward repudiated and the tariff raised instead of lowered. That gave a tremendous impulse to the demand for direct legislation.

The state senate of Kansas has added still more force to the demand. The platform of both parties in that state contained planks demanding a law for the recall of state officers. The senate killed such a bill by a vote of 23 to 15. That is as serious a blow as representative government has yet received. If parties can appeal to the people on a well defined set of principles, and the men elected as representatives are at liberty to defy those principles, there would be little use in holding elections at all. A general adoption of such a practice would entirely destroy government by the people.

The Nebraska legislature will never disgrace itself in that way. All parties promised an initiative and referendum, and that of course implied a practical, working law, and that kind of a law Nebraska will have a chance to adopt at the polls.—World-Herald.

Louis Meisinger came in from the farm this morning and visited friends in the county seat for a few hours and also transacted some business which demanded his presence.

An Honest

Clearance Sale is a good place to buy, provided you know the goods you are buying or know the honesty of the dealer. When you know both you are absolutely safe.

People around here who have patronized our "clean up" sale will tell you that ours are honest clearance sales. They know.

CLEAN-UP PRICES:

\$10 for any suit worth \$15
\$14 " " " " \$21
\$18 " " " " \$30
\$24 " " " " \$35

The Home of Hart, Shaffner & Marx
Clothes

Manhattan Shirts Stetson Hats

Falter & Thieroff
GIVING CLOTHES