

The Plattsmouth - Journal

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Canada naturally resents the reports that reciprocity is a step toward annexation. Canada hasn't even been "asked."

Champ Clark says: "I like to praise a republican when I can find one who deserves it, but it does not keep me busy all the time."

It is singularly apropos that the decorations of Pennsylvania's capitol should be naked. Justice is usually represented as clothed.

The earth is a tender and kind mother to the farmer; yet, at one season, he harrows her bosom and at another plucks her ears.

It might be said, in passing, if the congress which will soon convene has its way there will be a tremendous difference in the cost of living.

One more week and the time set for the legislature to adjourn will be up, according to Governor Aldrich's say-so. What will the poor fellows do then?

It is said that President Taft has begun collecting mileage from clubs which invite him to speak. If he persists in that Washington will see a great deal more of him than it has in the past two years.

A man in New York, who attempted to hug a beautiful young woman, Miss Lemon, has sued her for striking him in the eye. Why should a fellow steal a lemon unless he wants a punch?

President Taft sent a message to the tramp's convention in Milwaukee, famous for its thirst allaying products, advising the men where they could get work. Even a president will occasionally make a faux pas.

Some senators speak of the proposed amendment to the constitution for their direct election by the people as revolutionary. Who was the constitution made by, any way, and what is the sovereign power of the people?

It is reported that Dr. Tanner is to fast 80 days to demonstrate an effective way to smash the meat trust. There are a lot of people in these continental confines who have had cumulative experience in this respect of late that would make the doctor's proposed experiment look puny.

By the almost unanimous support of the democrats, the Canadian reciprocity agreement was ratified in the house of representatives. A majority of the republicans voted against the measure while all but five democrats supported it. The minority in congress thus gave to the country a splendid exhibition of patriotism and high minded statesmanship and the republicans showed a division of sentiment in which a majority of the party members were revealed as wedded to their idols of special privilege.

A former resident of Plattsmouth who removed to the west part of the state three or four years since, was here visiting relatives, and during his stay visited the various enterprises in town, including the gasoline engine machine shop, and he remarked that he believed Plattsmouth had improved more since he went away than it had in any ten years previously. The most of these improvements have been accomplished in the past year. A united effort of all the people of the city can do a great many things for the upbuilding of the town.

The vast amount of presidential

timber in the democratic party is an almost sure indication of party success in 1912. And the significance of it all is the quality of the timber. A list is sufficient to indicate this—Governor Wilson of New Jersey; Governor Harmon of Ohio; Governor Foss of Massachusetts; Governor Marshall of Indiana, to say nothing of Champ Clark of Missouri, the next speaker of the house; Joseph W. Folk and others. Any one of these would make a president to be proud of.

The time of the city election is drawing near, and already the signs of its approach can be seen. For the benefit of the city at large the Journal hopes that no such dirty work will be resorted to in the coming election as was resorted to two years ago. In the past two years Plattsmouth has made great progress for the betterment of her condition, and it has been done by a united effort of all who have the best interests of the city at heart. The people of Plattsmouth cannot afford to take up the battles of any private individuals, and fight their grievances out over the shoulders of the taxpayers. Plattsmouth has prospered during the past year beyond the expectations of many of our most enterprising citizens, and we should endeavor to do better in the next year. People should not expect to bring their past grievances into the campaign and expect the people to assist them in their warfare. And we do not believe they can be urged to thus take sides. The Journal for one expects to shun personalities of all kinds and will not in the least indulge in them unless driven to do so. And the people in general should look at the matter the same as we do and fight the battles upon other and more gentle issues. Let those who have grievances fight it out among themselves and not attempt to bring others into the fight who have no interest in their affairs. "See Plattsmouth Succeed," and cast such feudal disturbances to the four winds of the heavens.

SOME GOOD TALK.

Plattsmouth is better known throughout the country right now than ever before in its history. This fact is due to the great efforts put forth by the Commercial club. Whenever a man says a Commercial club does no good to a town, just tell him he does not know what he is talking about. The Plattsmouth Commercial club has done wonders for our city, and with the united effort of all the business men can do much more in the future. In fact, every man, no matter how small his business, should be a member of this organization.—Plattsmouth Journal.

What is true in regard to Plattsmouth is also true in regard to Nebraska City. Our Commercial club has worked wonders for this city, but the officers have never been given credit for the good accomplished. When a mistake was made there were many ready to criticize, but few were the praises given for the good done. What we need and need badly is a more concerted action of all our business men and property owners. We should work more in harmony. There is too much of a disposition to tear down; to hamper the efforts of those who are trying to build up; those who are anxious to see the town advance, and should a mistake be made then the officers and those in charge are severely censured. Those who are working for the betterment of the town are compelled to bear all the burdens and complaints, while they receive no encouragement for the good they do.

If a mistake is made then all are censured; if a successful move is made then it was only what was ex-

pected of those in charge. Life at best is short and why should we not drop a few roses in the pathway of those who are working and striving for the betterment of the town? Why not drop all factional feeling and work for the progress of the city? Are you willing to throw aside your hammer and become a booster?—Nebraska City News.

NO INTERFERENCE.

If anything be needed to alienate the vote of the southern senators on the direct senatorial election bill it has been furnished by Senator Root of New York, who, in a speech on the measure Friday, said that if such an amendment to the constitution be passed "the government must retain the power to make these elections free and unhampered. Without this privilege," he continued, "the government of the United States surrenders the power of its own preservation."

This, properly understood, would mean the revival of an effort to pass such a measure as the infamous Force bill, which stirred the country some years ago and which received deserved defeat, some of the republican senators, if we recollect rightly, voting against it. It would mean direct government interference in state elections and arouse the passions of the people almost as greatly as would another civil war. Indeed, Senator Root's remarks indicated that it would be the direct purpose of such a bill to give over state elections to the federal authorities. It was distinctly a sectional address, bringing in the race question in such a manner as to cause decided protest from the democratic side.

How the integrity of the federal government is to be endangered by popular election of senators is hard to conceive. Under the present system, copied with modifications from the house of lords, the danger for fraudulent elections are much greater than they would be under direct elections. In fact, there have been many cases of corrupt returns by state legislatures of late years, these noticeably not coming from the south. The case of Lorimer, returned through rank bribery, which has excited national indignation, is still before the senate for determination. Under the present system the bosses and the machines control. The various legislative deadlocks demonstrate this. The popular will is not consulted. But popular elections with the whole power of the national government possible to be used to control and direct the nominations would be infinitely more dangerous. It would be a centralization of power in direct conflict with the theory of our government and threatening to its very existence.

Two more business failures in Lincoln last week—a department store and cigar manufactory.

"Go back to the farm," is the cry of the reformer. Go back yourself and see how you like it.

The county option question seems to be very dead in the legislature, especially in the senate. The temperance people attribute this state of affairs to the meddling of Poulson, the boss of the Anti-Saloon league.

The democrats in the legislature want to be very careful in tinkering with the primary election law, or they may make it a great deal worse than it is. If it can't be bettered, leave it alone. It is bad enough now.

Postmaster General Hitchcock declares that the postal savings bank has passed the experimental stage. The 999 and 99-100 per cent of the postoffices of the United States that have not yet had a try at it want to know.

Too many bills have already been introduced in the legislature, and they have yet time to introduce several hundred more. Just wait till a sifting committee gets a hold on that bunch of bills and about two-thirds of them will never be heard of again.

Taft declares that Canadian reciprocity must come through the present congress or an extra session will have to come. Taft sees hope through the next congress. The democrats are almost unanimously for reciprocity.

The banks of Plattsmouth will be closed on the following holidays: February 22, May 30, July 4, Labor day (first Monday in September), Thanksgiving day, Christmas and New Year's day. Paste this in your hat as a gentle reminder.

Quackenbush's tax ferret bill is creating considerable stir. This bill gives the assessor authority to go into the bank and examine the records. Of course there is serious objection to thus interfering with private matters. Another feature of the bill is that it permits the tax ferret to go after property for a period of five years from the time it should have been listed.

It is said that John O. Yeiser will present the legislature with a claim for payment for his services as representative of Governor Aldrich before the legislative committee in Omaha. Yeiser at first thought he ought to have about \$3,500, but is said to have scaled the amount down to \$1,500. After all the fuss and furor created on the plea of great election frauds, here is what J. D. Lee, a member of the senate committee, says about the whole business: "The testimony taken there certainly failed to substantiate the governor's charges in any such measure as the special message would have seemed to demand. The only irregularity that struck me as being of much consequence was in connection with the votes by affidavit. Some of these affidavits were not returned. The first conjecture would be that these affidavits were not returned in many cases because of irregularities. I failed to see where any serious blame attached to City Clerk Butler. I can well see the difficulties that one would encounter when hundreds of people, of every nationality, swarm in on the last day to vote. A great many such voters do not know what to do and when they ask assistance in voting it is pretty hard to tell what will happen or who is to blame."

The location of the next national convention is beginning to be discussed in Washington. On the democratic side thus far but four cities have been seriously discussed—Chicago, Louisville, Baltimore and New York. Of Chicago the democrats seem to feel shy because of certain political influences centering there which might be employed to pack the convention. There is more talk about Louisville than any other city, possibly because the present democratic delegation in congress is largely southern. Also there is Champ Clark, by whom all the blue grass statesmen swear. The largely increased democratic representation from northern states in the next congress, however, may alter this trend of opinion in favor of the town of mint juleps. Baltimore, the scene of the late democratic love feast, is getting into the bidding early, but it is handicapped by lack of hotel facilities. New York is much in favor. The democratic party has not held a national convention there since the civil war, and many democrats believe that the time has come to turn to the east for support.

IN TROUBLED WATERS.

President Taft is sailing in troubled waters. To square himself with his party he must stand to the theory of protection. But to maintain the confidence of the people he must go in for tariff reform. He declared at Winona last summer that the Payne-Aldrich bill was the best tariff measure ever enacted by the republican party. With the object lesson of popular disapproval at the November elections he strives to save himself for renomination by an admission of the protective fallacy with his Canadian reciprocity treaty. For this the interests damn him and the

progressives and insurgents praise him.

Meanwhile the tariff commission idea is evolved by him as a measure to allay the popular distrust and to secure the return of the republicans to power on the ground that "it is the best medium for dealing with the affairs of the nation."

The president will have a hard time to free himself from his difficulties. He cannot successfully carry water on both shoulders. He will have to definitely align himself with the insurgents or the old guard. The latter are doomed to defeat. They have already been defeated. The former can only succeed with the help of the democrats—and to have that they must persist in their adherence to democratic principles which takes them out of the ranks of the regulars in their party and makes them practically democratic. Whichever horn of the dilemma the president chooses to seize will be found uncomfortable.

WILSON A PROGRESSIVE.

It was expected that Governor Woodrow Wilson of New Jersey would make an effort to clean up the rotten election system of his state. This expectation will not be disappointed. The beginning of his program for various reforms occurred in the legislature of the nursery of trusts the other day when bills were introduced which, if they become laws, will completely reform the entire system of registry and elections and make New Jersey's election laws as progressive as those of Wisconsin or Oregon. The bills provide for civil service examinations and appointments for election officers, with representation permitted to minority parties. This would give the socialists an opportunity to compete for appointment on election boards. Provision is also made for direct primaries for the election of delegates to national conventions, with a proviso giving voters the right to express their choice of candidates for president and vice president on the primary ballot.

Direct primaries for all nominations to elective state and municipal offices, including governor and congress, are provided for, and candidates for legislative nominations cannot have their names placed on the ballot unless they sign a pledge agreeing to vote for the candidate for United States senator who receives the largest primary vote.

Personal registration is required in advance for all primary and general elections, and voters must sign their names in the registry as means of identification when they are registered. County committee chairman are to be elected in the party primaries, and party platforms to be adopted at a convention of nominees. Party tickets are to be abolished and a blanket ballot substituted, on which all candidates for the same office are to be grouped under one heading on the same ballot, and ballots are to be mailed to voters before election at public expense. Here surely is a drastic change of system, as progressive as any in the union.

Horse Shoemg.

John Durman desires to inform those who need his services that he has opened a shop at the Ora Dawson place for shoeing horses. Satisfaction assured.



Better Live in a Tent

on your own land than pay rent for a mansion on your neighbor's land. Think it over, talk it over with your wife.

Become Independent.

Others have done it, why not you? Start today. Come and see us and learn what a very little ready cash will do for you.

W. E. ROSENCRANS & SON

WEeping WATER

It is said that a Mr. Whitecraft of Axtel, Kansas, will be the new station agent here.

Dr. A. C. Welch departed Friday for Darien, Wisconsin, called there by the sickness of his father.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bergman, living west of Manley, Wednesday, January 8, 1911, a boy. Also to Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Jackman, on Friday, February 10, 1911, a daughter.

J. H. Ash has moved from the old Lanham farm on to the Will Suckow place two miles west and one and one-half miles north. Mr. Ash did more than most movers do, he moved his house.

Hon. W. B. Banning has attained one of the highest honors, or rather it has been thrust upon him. He has been appointed superintendent of the mercantile hall at the state fair to be held September 4 to 8, 1911. That is one good appointment.

Mrs. M. A. Holback entertained all her children and grandchildren at dinner last Sunday, there being twenty-five altogether. This is the first time they were all at home in four years. A royal good time was reported.

A letter received Sunday from D. E. Askew, at the Andrus hospital in Lincoln, reports favorably; he has the best of treatment and hopes to soon be able to see Weeping Water and friends again. Dave says he is lonesome and asks his friends to write sometimes.

L. W. Ingwerson was out in Colorado last week looking over the San Luis valley farms. It looked so good to him that he traded his farm of 116 acres here, the Lau place, for a half section in the San Luis valley, under irrigation.

H. D. Reed, the live real estate hustler, reports the sale of the Peter Miller farm of 120 acres to Joseph Wolpert for \$140 an acre. This is a fine farm and the only wonder is that Mr. Miller parted with it at that figure, an advance of about \$20 per acre over the purchase price a few years ago.

EAGLE

Beacon.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Crabtree and son, Herbert, of Lincoln spent Sunday at the Wetenkamp home.

Everett Morgan departed Sunday evening for Edgar, Neb., where he will visit at the home of Frank Clements.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Venner, Grover and Miss Zetta of Lincoln attended the funeral of Mrs. Carper Tuesday.

Pete Peterson has been moving his belongings from Brock this week. He will farm the Ashworth place the coming season.

Mrs. William Rhoden, who has been here for some time at the bedside of Mrs. Carper, visited in Elmwood Wednesday. She will leave for her home about Saturday.

Charlie Matson suffered a fracture of the leg near the ankle last Thursday evening, which will keep him on crutches for some time. The accident occurred while the boys were wrestling.

Art Trumble took part in one of the preliminaries at the wrestling match at Alvo last Saturday evening. His opponent was Roy Armstrong, who was about fifteen pounds heavier than Art. The bout resulted in a draw.

A pleasant surprise was planned and successfully carried out on Mr. and Mrs. William Bahr for their daughter, Myrtle, Saturday, February 11, in honor of their nineteenth anniversary. The guests spent a very pleasant evening and departed at a very late hour, wishing Mr. and Mrs. Bahr many more happy anniversaries.

Meet Claims Promptly.

The Order of Maccabees, in adjusting death losses, is one of the most enterprising fraternal societies doing business in this city, and have received the grateful appreciation of Mr. A. Schuldice for their prompt adjustment of the policy carried by Mrs. Schuldice in this most excellent insurance order.

County Attorney C. H. Taylor took advantage of the lull in business, caused by the legal holiday, and visited the automobile show in Omaha this afternoon.



The Best Flour in the Market. Sold by all Leading Dealers