

# The Plattsmouth - Journal

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Chicago's population, according to the last census, is 2,185,283, most of whom seem to be candidates for mayor.

The threatened visit of the seventeen-year locusts may reveal that he's no other than your old friend, the grasshopper.

It is shown that in 1909 that the number of hogs killed for food in the United States exceeded that of all other animals combined by 4,483,000.

It is added that the New York man who bet \$5 that he could drink a quart of Scotch whisky in an hour, won the bet, but will never collect it.

Omaha is not creating as much stir in the present legislature as it did two years ago. Ransom and Howell are not in the senate. Neither is Jerry Howard in the house.

They are again talking war with the United States and Japan. How much do they want to extend the appropriation for the army and navy now? War talk always ends that way.

In the election contest of Wertman vs. Scheele for a seat in the house from Seward county, has been decided in favor of our old friend, Scheele, by a vote of 54 to 43. Fred Nutzman, the member from Otoe and Cass, voted for Scheele. Good for Nutzman.

We do not believe Champ Clark's annexation talk done much good for reciprocity with Canada. England don't desire to lose Canada, and we don't believe Canada wants to annex itself with the United States under our present state of affairs.

The B. & M. shops, the banks, post-office, county offices and numerous stores were closed yesterday in honor of the anniversary of the Father of our Country. The Journal was issued just the same and delivered to its patrons.

Poulson and the Anti-Saloon League has interested themselves very much in the Scheele-Wertman contest, which was decided in favor of Scheele Tuesday. Wertman is "dry" and Scheele "wet," and Poulson and his gang made themselves so obnoxious in this matter that they proved of great assistance to Scheele.

The occupants of the gallery in the senate hissed Bailey of Texas while he was speaking in defense of Lorimer of Illinois Tuesday. The question is, could the senator of the Lone Star state have expected anything better while speaking in defense of a man like Lorimer? A man who has been condemned by his own people.

Governor Carroll of Iowa has vetoed the Oregon plan primary bill, which was passed by both houses of the legislature in that state. Carroll characterized the measure as "an attempt to indirectly accomplish something that cannot be done directly." Will it be passed over his veto?

Bassett of Buffalo county seems to be the lion of the hour in Lincoln, all because he voted against the capital removal. Kearney is the county seat of Buffalo county, and is a candidate for the capital, and now Bassett's constituents demand his resignation. We are just like the Irishman many years ago, when he was yelling for his choice for president in a terribly hot campaign, a fellow not far away yelled, "Hurrah for h—!" The Irishman replied, "D—d a man that will not stick up for his own country."

The chemists have done another good thing and the result will be the cleaning up of the back yards and road-sides of the old tin cans. A way has been found to make the saving of the tin on old cans a profitable business. The American geological survey reports that 5,515 tons of tin were recovered from the cans thrown away during last year and that the improved process will give such a value to empty cans that hereafter they will all be gathered up.

"We commit this matter to the care of the Canadian parliament," said W. S. Fielding, Canadian minister of finance, introducing the reciprocity agreement in the Dominion parliament, "with the firm conviction that it is going to be a good thing for Canada and a good thing for the United States, and that we will continue to have it and maintain it not because there is any binding obligation to do so, but because the intelligence of the two countries will decide that it is a good thing for the promotion of friendly relations and for the development of commerce of the two countries."

It is a satisfaction to note the unexpected turn of affairs indicating that the Canadian reciprocity agreement will be ratified by the senate before adjournment. By putting this trade agreement in force at once, the effects of its operation will have time to develop before congress is again engaged in a tariff revision struggle and before the country is again plunged into a presidential campaign. For undoubtedly this reciprocity agreement, if it is ratified, will be a factor in both the first session of the next congress and in the ensuing campaign. It ought to have time to demonstrate its value meanwhile.

## POSTMASTERS IN POLITICS.

It is rather significant that the Hastings Tribune, a republican newspaper whose editor is, we think, himself a postmaster should indulge in such comment as the following concerning the charges preferred against Postmaster Thomas of Omaha:

Postmaster Thomas of Omaha is charged with violation of the civil service law. It is said that because a letter carrier refused to support candidates and measures as directed in the recent campaign, as directed by Mr. Thomas's subordinates, he has been punished by a reduction in rank. If the charges be true one will not have to look very long or very hard to see Postmaster Thomas's finish.

The truth is that we are getting well past the time when public sentiment in either party will support the misuse or abuse of official position for partisan purposes. It is not so long ago that the actions charged against Postmaster Thomas would have been looked on as ordinary practice, permitted by the rules of political warfare and the adage that "to the victor belongs the spoils." Senator Burkett himself proceeded along that theory when he made the postmasters of the state the backbone of his political organization. But Senator Burkett did not get very far with it when it came to counting up the practical results, and neither, by the same token, did Postmaster Thomas. Public employees, whether in or out of the civil service, are coming more and more to resent the covert pressure brought to bear by their superiors, just as the public at large is looking more and more askance on a "postmaster's brigade."

Here in Omaha sentiment is overwhelmingly in sympathy with the mail carrier who charges that he was punished for refusing to give active support to Postmaster Thomas's candidate, and there is a general desire, shared in by republicans the same as

democrats, for a thorough overhauling of the case. Political standards in this country, in spite of everything that is said to the contrary, are constantly growing better.—World-Herald.

And as you go along, there's other postmasters whose political chicanery will perhaps bear investigation, and they do not all live a thousand miles from Plattsmouth, either. If postmasters are prohibited from engaging in politics, according to civil service rules, then the same should be enforced to the letter.

## THE HOG SERENE.

Consider for a moment the hog. The hog is Nature's sedative. He is the antithesis of excitement and the anesthetic of worry. When frayed nerves cry out in protest and the tired brain aches with a surfeit of care or pleasure go then to the humble pig sty and learn a lesson of repose.

What does the farmer do when the hired man gives notice or grasshoppers threaten to take the upper eighty? He heads for the hog lot; and, with his elbows on the top rail and one foot in an intermediate crack, he watches the swine at their evening meal till his soul finds peace.

As a preventive of nervous prostration, a sanitarium, compared to a hog, is a riot and the seashore is an insurrection. His peaceful grunt is a lullaby to tortured ears, and his placid oblivion of the flight of time is a rebuke to the strenuous. As he pokes his nose into the moist earth—never furiously—but with calm and quiet—and upturns the succulent roots that he may add weight to his hams and breadth to his spareribs, to the ultimate profit of the butcher, we are reminded of the futility of crying out against the fate for which we are being fattened and taught to bow the head in humility.

Reach over the top of the fence and scratch his bristly back with a raspy comb and his legs, unable to support his excess burden of pleasure, crumple beneath him, and he sinks to sleep, singing a song of contentment that rumbles forth from cavernous depths.

His humble limitation have not made the hog a pessimist. On the contrary, he is your true optimist. His life knows no sorrows, and he goes to the slaughter house triumphant in the consciousness that no part of his life has been wasted except his squeal.—Kansas City Star.

Apples taste awful good now at two for a nickel.

Lafe Young, the standpat candidate for United States senator from Iowa, has sidestepped to et another standpatter have a chance at the prize.

They are even opposing the opening of the postoffice in Lincoln on Sunday. Have they not extended the New England blue laws in the capital city about far enough?

Missouri should build a new capital building that will be a credit to the state. The one recently destroyed by fire was constructed seventy-two years ago. Missouri is able to build one of the finest capitals in the union.

Local republicans, some of them, seem to think President Taft is beside himself in standing with the democrats on Canadian reciprocity. One of them remarked the other day: "Can it be possible that Mr. Taft has retreated and gone into the democratic camp?"

There is something mysterious about the origin of the report that the farmers are opposed to reciprocity. The most sensation correspondent has not yet located any rural agitation or chronicled a single meeting of protesting farmers.

So far as we know, it makes little difference whether the Missouri Pacific railroad is controlled by George Gould or Rockefeller and his bankers. They are all Wall street stock brokers, anyway, and they will get all they can out of the road, and the people will pay the price.

And now it is hinted that National Committeeman Rosewater is behind the charges filed against Postmaster Ben Thomas of Omaha, the favorite of Burkett, because the latter, following his leader's promptings, became a Cadet Taylor adherent. There is nothing so exhilarating or so healthful in politics as a good fight, says the Lincoln Star.

A petition signed by nearly 20,000 people, over half of which number come from Lancaster county alone, asking for a state-wide initiative and referendum, was presented in the house of representatives Wednesday. The people want the initiative and referendum, and the members of the legislature have been instructed to give it to them. Don't go back on the people, boys. Remember that the "voice of the people is the voice of God."

The people generally of Plattsmouth do not seem inclined to the idea of saddling upon themselves a water plant that is virtually worn out, as they say. We believe that it has not been many years since that an attempt was made to run a light plant by the city, and it was run to the sorrow of the taxpayers. To make sure, we should look before we leap. We believe in municipal ownership to some extent, but not to that extent where it will cost the people more than it does under the present system.

## CONCENTRATING WEALTH.

There are some phases in the evolution of modern life, so serious that economists dread to think of them. They see wealth gradually drifting into fewer and fewer hands as the years go by, and the great fortunes growing larger and larger. They see the millions becoming more dependent for their existence upon a small class, who hold the power of life and death in their hands; for they control the means of living, for own, or in the near future will own the earth and the tolls of trade, if the present tendency toward the concentration of wealth goes on, and the force that presses society on toward that condition is not fully understood. Whatever that force is, one thing is certain, it has pressed on with irresistible power for more than a quarter of a century.

More and more, as men think over this question, they are coming to the conclusion that these evils have come upon us by the violation of the truth laid down by Jefferson when he wrote that all men are born equal and have a right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

No man of sense ever supposed that Jefferson meant that men were born with equal physical strength or mental powers, but that each man had an equal right to the bounties of nature, to the things that were here before man came and which man had no part in producing, and that by the development of them each man was to live and pursue happiness. He expressed the same thought in another phrase: "Equal rights to all and special privileges to none."

The more men think over these things, the more firmly do they become convinced that the concentration of wealth is the result of granting special privileges to the few. These few have been granted tariff, water right, mining, transportation and a hundred other privileges and from these the swollen fortunes have been accumulated. The words quoted from Jefferson have always been the slogans of the democratic party and when it comes into power and administers the government in their spirit the dark shadows will pass away and the sunlight of hope will break forth again.—World-Herald.

## GOVERNOR ALDRICH'S TONGUE.

After his election, Governor Aldrich of Nebraska visited his old home, perhaps to allow his friends there to see how great a man can grow who leaves Ohio. He made a speech in his old home, and among other things said that he proposed "to make Nebraska a state to be proud of." This looked as if he had the power he thought he had. But the other day he made an address to the students

and faculty of the state university and complained that he was overworked, saying: "I have been trying to keep a hand on the democratic legislature, and I want to say that I would rather attempt to control a carload of proverbial donkeys, of which this party is symplical."

The governor was an exhibition of vanity in Ohio, and an exhibition of coarseness in Nebraska. He should take himself in hand. It is not enough to have an issue. He ought to get the point of view that the issue made him. He did not make the issue. But perhaps it is too much to expect Governor Aldrich to tame his tongue. The bible says, "It is an unruly member."—Sloux City Tribune.

## A SCHEME TO KNOCK OUT THE "COLONELS"

A Lincoln, Neb., correspondent says the house committee on militia proposes to knock out the time-honored governor's staff. The new bill talked of provides that aides on the governor's staff cannot assume any official rank, unless entitled to do so by a commission in the National Guard of the state. Another bill prohibits wearing a military uniform unless the wearer is a member of the guard.

This is a blow below the belt. It staffs the governor to have all the staff he wants, but its members cannot carry the title of "colonel" nor wear the uniform. A staff of "colonel" and the gold braid expurgated is no staff at all, at all.

## LAW AGAINST GIFT ENTERPRISES NOW A LAW

The governor signed the bill Tuesday enacting into law house roll No. 107, entitled, "An Act to Prohibit Gift Enterprises," which will be far-reaching in its effect. The law in substance is: "That every person who shall sell, or offer for sale, any real estate or article of merchandise of any description whatever, or any ticket of admission to any exhibition or performance or other place of amusement with promise of expressed or implied to give or bestow any gift or article or thing, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500." The bill was passed with an emergency clause and goes into immediate effect.

Judge Beeson and Mr. C. C. Westcott visited the auto show at the Auditorium this afternoon.

## REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE Plattsmouth State Bank of Plattsmouth, Nebraska, Charter No. 786 Incorporated in the state of Nebraska, at the close of business, February 17, 1911.

RESOURCES	
Loans and discount	\$113,332 70
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	311 11
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	1,479 00
Real estate other than banking house	11,996 37
Current expenses and taxes paid	196 48
Cash, items in state and private banks and bankers	23,495 16
Checks and items of exchange	60 82
Currency	5,888 00
Gold coin	1,845 00
Silver, nickels and cents	391 19-30,510 17
Total	\$157,632 37

LIABILITIES	
Capital stock paid in	\$50,000 00
Surplus fund	1,000 00
Undivided profits	846 70
Individual deposits subject to check	63,712 30
Demand certificates of deposit	1,249 55
Time certificates of deposit	38,743 82
Total	\$157,632 37

STATE OF NEBRASKA, COUNTY OF CASS, 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, Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of February 1911. R. B. WINDHAM, [Seal] My commission expires Oct. 19, 1915.



**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**

## HOUSE ADVANCES INITIATIVE BILL

Referendum Measure is Recommended for Passage.

## 10 PER CENT PETITION IN EACH

Five Per Cent Petition for Referring All Laws to People—Committee Appointed to Investigate South Omaha Stock Yards.

Lincoln, Feb. 24.—The initiative and referendum law went one more step toward its final ratification in the house of representatives when the house version of it was recommended for passage. This action was accomplished without a dissenting vote and the house will pass it as it stands within a few days.

The senate bill is now in the hands of the judiciary committee and must be disposed of. An effort will be made to send the house bill to the governor for signing.

When the bills started out they were alike, coming from the same sources. Representative Hatfield and the Direct Legislation league, but now that the house has decided to pass a bill that differs in some essential particulars from the senate bill, already passed, it becomes a question what form the measure will take as it finally passes.

## How Bills Differ.

The house bill differs from the senate bill in two provisions. Both bills have a 10 per cent petition evenly distributed as a basis for initiating legislation and a 5 per cent petition for referring. The house bill has a provision that bills initiating constitutional amendments shall have a 15 per cent petition, a provision lacking in the senate bill. The senate bill has the Skiles amendment, which provides that the majority of votes cast in favor of a bill must be not only a majority of the votes cast upon the measure, but must be also 35 per cent or more of the total number of votes cast at the election. The house has a similar provision in the bill which it will pass, but the restriction refers only to constitutional amendments.

The house has now the advantage in setting the fate of the two bills, as it has its own bill for passage and the senate bill is in the hands of the house committee on judiciary. This committee can kill the senate bill by indefinite postponement and then try to get its own bill through the upper house.

## Committee for Stock Yards.

The house interrupted the debate upon the referendum long enough to appoint a committee of three to go to Omaha and investigate the stock yards. The live stock and grazing committee which has under consideration the Taylor bill regulating the stock yards, recommended that a committee go for information and Metzger of Cass, Lindsey of Webster and Nutzman of Cass were named. They expect to be back to report Monday. Taylor of Hitchcock, author of the bill, tried to have the committee suggestion refused, asserting that it was intended to smother the bill, but he was voted down.

The senate avoided an all night call of the house on Ollis' stock yards bill by entering into a gentlemen's agreement to all be present today, having acceded to Ollis' demands for the recommitment of his disgraced measure.

## ACTOR IN NOVEL ROLE

Repays Four-Dollar Loan With One Thousand Dollars' Interest

North Platte, Neb., Feb. 24.—Last September a man who gave his name as D. J. Quillan, and who stated he was an actor, approached F. T. Redmond, the presiding officer of the Knights of Columbus of this city, and said that he was so financially embarrassed that he would like to get a loan of \$4 from the order, in order that he might get to Grand Island to join a traveling company there. His request was honored and nothing further was heard from until a few days ago, when a draft was received by the order for \$1,004, with a letter stating that the borrower of the \$4 returned that with \$1,000 in addition, to be used for the good of the order here.

## FARMERS HOLD THEIR GRAIN

Low Prices and Light Demand Making Market Dull.

Omaha, Feb. 24.—Owing to the bad condition of the roads for several days in the last week, and the consequent lighter receipts of grain, the Omaha Grain exchange is experiencing the dulllest season in its history since the panic. The poor demand for grain, the slack supply and the low prices are declared to be conditions directly traceable to natural causes, but sentiment has arisen to the effect that the reciprocity agreement between the United States and Canada may have something to do with the dullness.

## Russia to Adjust Dispute With China.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 24.—The foreign office announces that China's answer to four out of the six points in the Russian note relative to the treaty of 1881 is satisfactory, and that the remaining two can be easily adjusted. The idea of a military demonstration has been abandoned.