

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

Ex-Speaker Cannon and ex-Secretary Ballinger—doesn't those titles look fine?

Another sign of spring is found in the return of all the lame ducks from Washington.

It is not likely that Senator Lorimer will ever ask the Illinois voters to vindicate his vindication.

In the rush of other important events the quest for Dorothy Arnold has been allowed to languish.

Joy over the adjournment of congress is considerably marred by the knowledge that it is coming back in less than a month.

Are you going to attend the Bryan birthday banquet at Lincoln Monday, March 20? Some big men have promised to be there.

This year's famine in China is not really accout for. It was thought when China ceased the use of opium it would be able to buy food.

The Nebraska Retail Merchants, in session this week at Omaha, have petitioned the legislature to pass the publicity bill, with an appropriation of \$25,000.

It was much to the credit of Senator Culberson of Texas that he restrained from any "Me, too," performance when Joe Bailey made his bluff about resigning.

It looks as though Lincoln would vote in saloons at the coming spring election. It seems to be a question only as to the number and the amount charged for licenses.

Senator Owen of Oklahoma has accepted an invitation to speak at the Bryan banquet in Lincoln on Monday night, March 20. Senator Owen is worth going many miles to hear.

Popular interest hereabouts is wavering somewhat between the tariff board bill and the governor's family board bill, but in either instance it is the taxpayer who pays the freight.—Lincoln Star.

Has anybody heard from Poulson since he was fired from the state house? Maybe the temperance advocates have muzzled him. They should have fired him from the state months ago.

When the interstate commerce commission decided that the new freight rates must not be put in force, there was a sort of an upheaval on Wall street, in order to scare the people, but the panic failed to materialize. None of the western roads were affected by the ruling of the commission.

Congressman Dalzell declares that the apparent popularity of the reciprocity agreement is artificially worked up by the newspapers. If he means that the newspapers are more intelligent and broadminded than the general public, it is a compliment which the press of the country will accept with modesty. But the more usual complaint of the newspapers is that they go in heavily for anything that is popular, regardless of its merits. It is not probable that the newspapers have combined against the public sentiment which it would seem to be judicious of them to reflect.

Now that the house has passed the initiative and referendum there is still some dissatisfaction among those who favor the proposition. The senate now has a bill that has passed

that body, and the house now has a measure that has passed that body. Now the question arises, "Which will be which?"

It is very unfortunate that Howard Elliott has declined the presidency of the Missouri Pacific system. Being one of the most efficient railroad men in the land, he would soon have had matters straightened out and in good working order. Probably he thought it too hard a proposition at \$100,000 per year. But a man ought to stand most anything at this salary.

The concentration of such large forces of infantry, cavalry and artillery at Fort Sam Houston looks ominous. It is hardly possible that such large expenses should be incurred if the government had no more information of the conditions in Mexico than has been given to the public. If things go on in this fashion we may have another annexation war on our hands. There has been an occasional dispatch telling of the movement of quite a force of fighters into Lower California and hints that these men might attempt to set up a government of their own there. The republican party, that is, the interests, have held the government for ten years as the result of the Spanish war and the same leaders may have come to the conclusion that another war may be necessary to continue them in power.

AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION.

Now that the legislatures of more than two-thirds of the states have declared in favor of a constitutional amendment providing for the election of senators by direct vote, the possibility of procuring such an amendment, in spite of the objections of the senate, becomes an interesting factor in the situation.

If two-thirds of the states, through their legislatures, formally apply to congress to call a convention for the proposing of constitutional amendments, such application becomes mandatory. The constitution makes no provision as to the election and composition of such a convention, the procedure and other details being, therefore, left to the discretion of congress.

There has never been a constitutional convention to consider amendments—all those acted upon having been submitted by congress—but the original constitutional convention was composed of delegates elected by the respective legislatures by order of congress.

There are also two ways by which constitutional amendments may be ratified—the ratification of three-fourths of the states being necessary. Ratification may be by state legislatures or by state conventions called especially for that purpose. The latter method has never been employed.

The senate, in defying the will of the people in the matter of senatorial elections, is inviting resort to the constitutional convention. And if such a convention were called its deliberations would not necessarily be confined to any one proposed amendment, for doubtless a goodly number of amendments would be proposed to it. And whatever the amendments approved by the convention might be, and regardless of their number, congress would be compelled to submit them to the legislatures for approval or rejection.—Kansas City Star.

BALLINGER AND LORIMER.

It is a fitting climax to the history of the Sixty-first congress that the whitewashing of Lorimer by the senate should be followed by the whitewashing of Ballinger by the president.

The alleged "investigation" of the

circumstances of Lorimer's election was converted into a shameful farce by the senate committee, and that farce became a national tragedy and shame when that committee's report was made the basis for the action of the senate in giving its sanction to the manner in which the Illinois tool of "The System" clambered into "the world's greatest deliberative body."

Lorimer's "exoneration" was seized upon, by the sob squad, as an excuse for an outbreak of hysteria, in which the fight that the public decency of the entire country had made was branded as "persecution," "conspiracy" and "hypocrisy." Lorimer's family was dragged by the hair into the circle of the spotlight, and on the floor of the senate itself the bipartisan boss was extolled as an abused saint who lived at the Y. M. C. A., and who never swore, smoked, chewed, drank liquor, played pinochle nor beat his wife.

President Taft follows faithfully in the footsteps of the Lorimer crew. He puts himself at the head of the Ballinger sob squad, and competes with Bailey for first honors as the representative of a false and mawkish sentimentality.

The fight that was made against Ballinger was a fight inspired by a crisis in Alaskan affairs, involving the conspiracy of the Guggenheim syndicate to seize upon hundreds of millions of public property. It enlisted the immediate help of scores of the best and purest men in the public life of the nation, republicans and democrats alike. It mustered among its leaders republicans like Pinchot, Garfield, La Follette, Bristow and many others; it commanded the support of great lawyers like Brandeis and Pepper, but all that Taft can see in it is "one of the most unscrupulous conspiracies for the defamation of character that history can show."

That movement for the salvation of the public property from the greedy claws of syndicate plunderers was given the hearty support of nearly every free and independent periodical and newspaper in the United States, but the free press appears to Taft as only a "malicious and unprincipled plan for the use of the press to misrepresent you."

The intelligence and patriotism of the country studied and followed the case as it had no other case for a score of years, with the result that the jury of the people pronounced an almost unanimous verdict against Ballinger. And in consequence the American public becomes, in the eyes of Taft, nothing but a "hysterical body of headline readers."

Just as the defendants of Lorimer shout "hypocritical pretense," "pettifoggery methods" and "pharisees," so Taft shouts, like an echo, "hypocritical pretense," "pettifoggery methods" and "pharisees."

And the family and broken fortunes of the tricky and untrustworthy public servant are dragged, like a dead herring, across the trail, just as Lorimer's family and "Christian virtues" were used for the same purpose.

It is a disgusting and sickening spectacle. The senate of the United States, the president of the United States, standing knee deep in a pool of tears and slobber, whinily berating that spirit of sturdy Americanism which still, thank God, impels men to action against that which is evil and untrue in our public life!—World-Herald.

Let the slogan roll onward and upward: "Drag the roads, and drag them now."

The Missouri Pacific, in its search for a president, might try advertising under the head: "Help Wanted—Male."

The administration had been holding Secretary Ballinger's hat so long that in the meantime the styles in men's hats changed entirely.

Getting 20,000 soldiers to the Mexican border in five days will show that the war department's efficiency has improved greatly since 1898.

If "it is good to dwell together in harmony," evidently a large number

of our citizens are feeling much better after attending the Commercial club banquet Thursday night.

We are now living in an age of positive marvels. A peddler came to our home the other day, and what do you think? He even offered our wife a \$7 rug for \$11.35. Isn't that funny?

Had Secretary Ballinger been as keen to conserve the public domain as he now is to conserve his health, he would have avoided a whole lot of trouble.

A few gatherings of the business men and citizens of Plattsmouth like that of Thursday night and the people of this city will be almost as one family in working for the good of the town.

Let us hope that the friendly press will not get the governor worked up into such a frenzy of economy that he will veto any item of expenses for the executive mansion, but it is difficult to forecast what a public official may be goaded under high pressure into doing for the glory of his party.—Lincoln Star.

The legislature should not wait until the publicity bill gets into the hands of the sifting committee, but pass it before it goes there and has to be pulled out to be acted upon. Pass it now and begin the good work of advising Nebraska opportunities as soon as possible.

It is being hinted by the Washington correspondents that the cause of Bailey's wrath was the fact that Senator Owen was forging to the front as a real democratic leader and that he, Bailey, must in the near future take a back seat in the democratic councils. Many besides Washington newspaper men hold the same views.

In the long debate over the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill, Secretary MacVeagh, who was called from Chicago to Washington, was the only member of the cabinet who came out strongly in public for revision downward. Now Chicago has furnished another avowed progressive in the cabinet in Walter L. Fisher.

That was a great banquet of the Commercial club Thursday night, and will result in a great deal of good socially, morally and almost every other way, for that matter. The coming together of the business men of any town results beneficially to the interests of the community at large. Let's have more of these gatherings.

The Commercial club banquet was the most successful one ever given by that organization. The Plattsmouth Commercial club has done more to unite the business men of our town than anything possibly could. Our people begin to realize the fact that what is good for one of them is good for another, and we trust the Commercial club will continue in the good work until every business man and in fact every citizen who is here to be a permanent resident will become a member of the club. Let us all pull together for the best interests of Plattsmouth and we will all reap our rewards in benefits derived.

WORK FOR PROGRESSIVES.

The tentative plans of the progressive republicans for the extra session of congress, as outlined by Senator Clapp, denote that there will be no cessation in the activity of these peoples' representatives in the new congress.

The progressive republicans in the senate are in a peculiarly advantageous position. They hold the balance of power. The democrats, even if united, will need these republicans to put through such good measures as they may father. And there should not be any irreconcilable differences between the programs of the progressive democrats and the progressive republicans in either house. Even on the tariff they are closer together, so far as immediate changes are expedient, than are the two wings of the republican party.

This great fact of a new, non-partisan division is going to be made more and more apparent in the new congress, for there are already signs that the reactionary democrats are going to align themselves on some important measures with the reactionary republicans. If the results of the extra session are what they should be, no party will have exclusive credit. The honors will go to the progressives, regardless of party.—Kansas City Star.

TO TEXAS OR MEXICO?

Circumstances justify the popular impression that a full explanation of the order for the mobilization of troops in Texas has not been made and that the real reason for the movement is withheld.

The magnitude of the movement, the inclusion in it of both the army and the navy, the reticence of the war department and the executive with regard to ultimate plans, the nature of the preparations, the suddenness of the order, the revocation of leaves of absence to officers, the destination of the troops, all combine to cause the conjecture that the government is providing against some contingency which to it seems imminent or launching some movement of extraordinary moment.

The massing of one-fourth of the United States army with the assembling of one squadron of warships off the Texas coast and of another off the coast of Lower California seems too big an undertaking to be simply for demonstration of efficiency and for practice. Nor would one think it likely that, under ordinary circumstances, a maneuver field would be chosen lying just across the border from the territory of a neighbor nation engaged in civil war or suppressing an insurrection. In short, it looks too much like preparation for real war to be preparation merely for mimic war, and with the facts at hand the inference seems sensible that under cover of the announcement of extensive military maneuvers, the government is getting on its guard against an exigency which it foresees as probable or possible, but which there is nothing in the general information to indicate. If the exigency does not arise the army will have the benefit of maneuvers on a grander scale than ever before executed. If the exigency does arise, then the government will be ready to meet it.

No information of any sort warrants the supposition that the action of our government is pursuant to suggestion or to meet any menace from a foreign power, but it is easy to imagine that the government, through confidential information, may apprehend a great change in the internal situation of Mexico, such as the collapse of the Diaz regime through the death of Diaz or reverses to the federal arms, giving occasion for disorders that might seriously jeopardize American and other foreign interests—and also, conceivably, giving occasion for creating a new war issue that might serve to retain Wall street in power in Washington for another period of four years after 1912.—World-Herald.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Watson*

Poultry Wanted

Hens 10c
Springs 7c and 8c
Old Roosters 4c
Ducks 8c
Geese 7c
We also buy cream.

HATT PRODUCE CO.

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

SERVICE NOT A REFORM SCHOOL

Secretary Nagel Orders Admission of Harry London.

CAME HERE TWELVE YEARS AGO

Will Not Deport Persons Who Become Objectionable After Being Admitted. States Which Let Them Become Undesirables Must Stand Consequences.

Washington, March 10.—The immigration service is not a reform school. It is intended to protect states and communities from foreign countries and not to return to those countries characters that have become objectionable by reason of our own influences.

This interpretation of the functions of the immigration service was made by Secretary Nagel of the department of commerce and labor in a decision ordering the admission of Harry London, a Chicago saloon keeper.

London came to the United States twelve years ago and had never been out of it until he went to Europe last year. He was detained at Ellis Island, New York, several weeks ago as an undesirable citizen because of his record in Chicago.

In announcing his decision the secretary declared: "There is every reason to believe that he is guilty of keeping a disreputable place in Chicago and that he perjured himself before the immigration board. This being accepted, ought we to exclude him? To return him would be to inflict him on a country which has no substantial part in the shaping of his career. He came here properly and what he is we have permitted him to become. All his offenses have been committed in this country and the authorities here ought to deal with him as he deserves, if he is guilty as the record discloses."

ROOSEVELT VISITS ATLANTA

Former President Makes Address to Southern Commercial Congress.

Atlanta, Ga., March 10.—Theodore Roosevelt spent the day here as the guest of the Southern Commercial congress and the Atlanta chamber of commerce. Mr. Roosevelt was met at the railway station by the Atlanta companies of the Fifth regiment, national guard of Georgia, the Governor's horse guard, the officials of the chamber of commerce and the commercial congress.

He delivered an address at a negro church, after which he was entertained at the Capital City club. His address to the congress last night was on "The South's Obligation in Statesmanship and Business Endeavor."

Cox Not in Contempt of Court.

Cincinnati, March 10.—George B. Cox, indicted Republican leader of this city, was held not to be in contempt of court by two members of the committee of three attorneys appointed by Judge Gorman of the common pleas court to investigate a statement purporting to have been made by him in a newspaper reflecting on the grand jury which indicted him.

Three Sailors Asphyxiated.

New York, March 10.—Three sailors from the United States armored cruiser or Tennessee were found dead from gas in a room in the Hotel Washington, in Hoboken. The men registered as J. Walling, J. Wadsworth and E. B. Bradley.

Fortteen Horses Burned to Death.

Beatrice, Neb., March 10.—The livery barn of J. W. McCullough was destroyed by fire at Blue Springs, with all its contents. Fourteen head of horses perished in the flames.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS

Closing Quotations on the Chicago Board of Trade.

Chicago, March 9.—Closing prices: Wheat—May, \$9.90; July, 87½¢@87½¢. Corn—May, 48½¢@48½¢; July, 49½¢. Oats—May, 30½¢@30½¢; July, 30½¢@30½¢; Sept., 30½¢. Pork—May, \$17.45; July, \$15.62½. Lard—May, \$9.12½; July, \$9.05. Chicago Cash Prices—No. 2 hard wheat, 89½¢@91¢; No. 2 corn, 46¢@46½¢; No. 2 oats, 29½¢.

Chicago Live Stock.

Chicago, March 9.—Cattle—Receipts, 5,000; steady; beefs, \$5.25@6.90; western steers, \$4.70@5.80; stockers and feeders, \$4.00@5.85; cows and heifers, \$2.65@5.90; calves, \$7.00@9.00. Hogs—Receipts, 25,000; 5c lower; light, \$6.85@7.15; mixed, \$6.75@7.10; heavy, \$6.55@7.00; rough, \$6.55@6.75; pigs, \$6.50@7.00; bulk, \$6.55@7.00. Sheep—Receipts, 15,000; steady; natives, \$3.00@4.80; westerns, \$3.15@4.80; yearlings, \$4.75@5.75; lambs, \$5.00@6.35.

South Omaha Live Stock.

South Omaha, March 9.—Cattle—Receipts, 5,000; 10c lower; beef steers, \$4.65@6.10; cows and heifers, \$3.75@5.50; stockers and feeders, \$4.25@5.65; bulls, \$4.15@5.50; calves, \$4.00@8.00. Hogs—Receipts, 11,000; 5¢@10¢ lower; long strings went at \$6.65@6.70; heavy, \$6.55@6.90; light, \$6.70@6.80. Sheep—Receipts, 4,800; 10¢ higher; ewes, \$4.30@4.40; wethers, \$4.60; yearlings, \$4.85@5.25; lambs, \$5.25@5.50.