

The Plattsmouth Journal

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Now for reciprocity and lower taxes.

There are two reasons why the harem skirt is not popular—one on each side.

A bill has passed the legislature and gone to the governor to prevent public exhibitions of hypnotism in Nebraska in the future. Good!

Illinois is now calling upon both Lorimer and Cullom to resign. And while they will do nothing of the sort, it is a wholesome sign on the part of Illinois.

Silk stockings are going down, says a trade journal. Well, you can't thank the standpatners for that. Only the unterrified could have stood bravely up for such a thing.

Senator Bailey is not consistent in his preaching and practice. He vehemently opposed the recall in the Arizona constitution, but very promptly made use of it in taking back his resignation.

A hot time is expected in Lincoln when the commission bill comes up for adoption tomorrow. Those cities that favor the proposition will send representatives to work for its adoption. Omaha will send hundreds to work against it. There will be a hot time around the hotels.

The Journal is pleased to note that its friend, L. F. Langhoret of Elmwood was elected president of the Nebraska Retailers' association, in session in Omaha last week. The selection was a good one, as there are no better men in the state. He is also one of the liveliest merchants in Nebraska and has a right to head the live wires in a business capacity.

The senate killed the congressional reapportionment bill. It would seem that the redistribution of seats in the house of members to be elected in 1912, as provided for by that body, should have been satisfactory to the senate. But the old guard in the upper branch wished to prevent the legislature of states that came into the democratic column at the last election from making the necessary congressional realignments. This scheme will be frustrated at the coming session.

The other night at the banquet Attorney A. L. Tidd made some very timely remarks about cleaning up in the various quarters of the city. It is about time to begin thinking about removing those old cans, ashes and other rubbish that has accumulated during the winter. Not only the general appearance of your property makes this necessary, but public health makes it imperative. Let us not wait for orders from the board of health to clean up and make our residential district look clean and show people that we are proud of our little city. There is no inducement more tempting to a prospective resident than neat and well kept surroundings.

William F. Sheehan is not to be forced down the throats of the unwilling New York electorate after all. Governor Dix, whose silent acquiescence in the scheme to make Sheehan senator disappointed and alienated a large proportion of his friends, has finally come out in a letter to the democratic members of the legislature advising them to disregard the caucus which named Sheehan and vote as their consciences and their constituents direct. There is now every reason to believe a United States senator to succeed Chauncey M. Depew will be elected early this week; and there is ground for hope

that he may be a progressive democrat who will represent the people instead of the trusts and corporate interests.

A FLANK MOVEMENT.

The fear expressed by so many that something more serious than army maneuvers and instruction of troops is involved in the hurried assembling of large masses of men from every arm of the service on the Mexican border is not at all surprising. The people have been engaged in a fierce contest for ten or twelve years with a system that robs the many and enriches the few. It has been a long and desperate fight, but defeated again and again, the people have rallied and charged more fiercely than before the strongholds of the oppressors until at last they see the cohorts of special privilege on the retreat in every section of the country. The people know that "big business" has captured the mines, the railroads, and most of the natural resources of Mexico, and that Wall street must be intensely interested in the conflict on the border. The thinkers among them realize that if a war could be promoted, railroad regulation, excessive tariffs, conservation of natural resources, the steel trust, the sugar trust, the coffee trust, the cases before the supreme court, the high cost of living and every evil that they have fought so long to remedy will be forgotten in the excitement of war, just at a time when victory was crowning their efforts in almost every state in the union.

The election of a democratic congress may be of far greater importance to the people than anything that has occurred since the civil war. The doctrine that the government must protect, even at the dreadful cost of war, financial investments in foreign countries, is not a democratic doctrine. It is one that has grown up since money has controlled the governments of the world. If capitalists invest in a foreign government they should be made to take the risks of that government's stability and not force the common people who have no interests in them to pay the cost of their protection. The citizen of the United States—the man—is to be protected always and everywhere, but speculative investments are entirely different. If Mr. Thompson or any other man goes down into Mexico and buys a railroad, out of which he expects to make millions of dollars, the farmers of Nebraska should not be taxed to furnish troops to defend his property and make sure his speculative profits. Neither should they send their sons to die on the field of battle that Thompson may become a multi-millionaire.

A democratic congress will not vote funds for any such purpose and as the men of swollen fortunes were never known to enlist in a war, the real fighting always being done by the common people and the cost of the war always paid by them, the interests cannot have a war to save the rotten, beaten and retreating republican party, while we have a democratic congress.—World-Herald.

DIRECT LEGISLATION.

Ex-Governor Shallenberger, in writing to the World-Herald, has the following to say in reference to the question of direct legislation which is just now agitating the minds of the people of Nebraska:

I read with interest your editorial on the initiative and referendum in today's paper, and wish to commend the admonition to those interested in framing the proposed amendment that they discuss the logic of the question rather than to urge that Nebraska must have certain provisions in her constitution simply because other states have them.

I cannot find anyone who advances any good reason why it should require a less per cent of votes to refer a measure than to initiate. After diligent search I can find no case where the referendum has been used to veto a vicious bill passed by a legislature. In some states, however, special interests have made use of the referendum to protect themselves from hostile legislation more often than the people have availed themselves of the right to initiate laws.

Why should a legislative statute be held up from going into operation by reason of a 5 per cent petition against it? The people have been crying out for years against injunctions upon the part of courts, because they thus prevented laws from going into operation, and thus proving by the unassailable logic of experience the measures were reasonable and just. The bank guaranty law is just now a case in point. With a referendum as low as 5 per cent, the banks could easily have it hung up till the next election. Having done so, they could have proceeded, presuming the voters had sustained it, to hold it up again for another term of months or years in the courts, just as they did do. Railroad rate regulation and 2-cent passenger fare laws and others that come readily to mind are proof conclusive that the surest way to demonstrate whether a law is wholesome or not is to put it into operation.

Because of this referendum weakness in the South Dakota law the legislature of that state has found it necessary to pass bills dealing with matters touching special interests by a two-thirds vote, so that under the constitution they cannot be referred. I inclose an interesting letter from Governor Vessey of South Dakota that deals with this important subject in the light of actual experience.

I am glad that the Nebraska legislature is passing upon this question in so careful a manner. Both the house and the senate bills come near to the recommendations made in my last message, and further study and reflection only more firmly confirm me in my views expressed therein.

The two houses are now so nearly together that they are sure to submit an amendment giving the right of direct legislation to the people of the state and just as other commonwealths are now using our bank guaranty law as a model and are taking up our daylight saloon law as a regulatory measure for the liquor traffic, so I want to see Nebraska adopt the direct legislation amendment that shall serve as a copy for those who have come to look upon Nebraska as a leader in all lines of progressive legislation.

If this is to be accomplished, discussion must be full and free. No spirit of intolerance or questioning of honesty of motives should be manifested. No one has a patent upon the process. This is an age of improvement and progress. A free and fair debate will result in a measure that will satisfy the people.

The people of Nebraska have a jealous care of the protection afforded them by their constitution and will expect that amendments to this basic instrument will be dealt with in a different manner from that employed in the making of mere laws that courts can construe and set aside. Otherwise no one will desire to initiate laws, but all initiated legislation will take the form of constitutional amendments, so that no courts can pass on it and so that it need not conform with existing sections of the constitution.

A. C. SHALLENBERGER.

The Ad and Commercial clubs of Lincoln and Omaha have done more good for Nebraska than they will ever get credit for.

The deadlock is still on in the senatorial election in the Iowa legislature. The same state of affairs also exist in New York.

President Taft feels more kindly toward the late congress than the members of that congress, apparently, did toward the president.

Sending 20,000 additional troops

to the Mexican border, making 40,000 in all, ought to result in preserving all that's left of the peace.

It is to be expected, of course, that the usual number of wheezes about the death of President Diaz being "greatly exaggerated" will be forthcoming.

From the returns in the city elections held yesterday in Maine the democrats win in six out of seven of the large cities that voted. This still looks good to democrats.

The Commercial club is getting ready to do all in its power to "See Plattsmouth Succeed" again this season. Assist the boosters in their efforts.

The legislature should proceed very slowly on the telephone conspiracy now up before that body. Lysle Abbott of Omaha sounds a note of warning in Monday's World-Herald.

The Ohio legislature has passed a measure which provides that candidates for the judiciary shall be elected on nonpartisan ballots. Now for the same kind of a measure in Nebraska.

Quite a number of our citizens have already remarked that they voted against John P. Sattler two years ago, but they intended to support him for re-election because he had proved himself worthy of re-election.

No mistake was made in the nomination of Bernard Wurl for city clerk. The short time he has served by appointment has convinced those who have had business with him in his official capacity that he is just the man for the place.

If a postmaster is allowed to get out and work for the success of his favorite candidates, and make his assistants do the same, the people want to know where such authority comes from. That is the reason why the result of the investigation of the Omaha postmaster is awaited with so much interest.

Uncle Joe says he will not take the minority leadership. He will hang around Washington for awhile just to see how it feels to be without a crown. He has so long been accustomed to be the whole thing that the big toad in a small puddle proposition does not appeal to him.

The Lorimer incident will be a contributing cause to democratic victory in Illinois in the next election. Incidentally, Senator Bailey will have some tall explaining to do when he gets back home in Texas. His course in congress has shown his politics to be misbranded.

Not all of the "ex-es" will stay at home. The president has established an asylum for the lame variety of statesmen at the capital, whence, after proper recuperation, they are sent out to fill federal jobs. The latest to land is Henry S. Boutell of Illinois, who failed to get a re-nomination to congress. Now he goes as minister to Portugal.

The Commercial club had a good deal to do with the unanimity with which John P. Sattler was re-nominated for mayor. The cordiality with which he has worked with that body of hustlers is sufficient evidence for every member of that organization to support him for re-election.

The new democratic senator from Montana, Henry L. Myers, announces that he is a thorough democrat "in all matters except those pertaining especially to western Montana." That section of the state is largely devoted to sheep raising. Can the declaration mean that Mr. Myers is in favor of high protection at home and a low tariff in other parts of the country?

If the Nebraska legislature passes but one more bill this season that bill

should be what is known on the calendar as house bill No. 185, which provides for a state bureau of immigration and publicity. It carries an appropriation of \$25,000 with it for the biennial period. It will be readily admitted by all that Nebraska has been overmodest in regard to letting the people in general know of its wonderful resources and its great advantage for homeseekers.

Friday's long drawn out contest in the house of representatives over the Evans' anti-treating bill, which ended in the measure being put to a vote and killed, practically ends all serious attempts to change the Stocumb liquor law at this session of the legislature. With everything now out of the way tending to divide the membership over the liquor question, the chance of passage for important legislation, such as reapportionment, biennial elections, the Ollis stock yards bill and others embodying platform pledges, will be bettered.

After the first of next July the salary of the postmaster here may be \$2,000 per annum, which will give the next postmaster a chance to spend \$1,000 per annum to promote the principles of the party and yet have enough left to pay him more than he ever received before in the way of a salary.—Falls City Journal (Rep.) That is pretty tough on the Falls City postmaster, but coming, as it does, from the republican organ of Falls City, there is certainly something in what the Journal says, but not only in Falls City, but in all other towns, for that matter.

It is almost alarming to note how the suspicion of a prospect of a brush with Mexico has fired the heart of American youth, more especially of those who have been lured by training at arms. It almost suggests that the \$10,000,000 donation of Andrew Carnegie and all the propaganda for universal peace are wasted. It is really disappointing to note that without knowing what cause there may be for war with Mexico, and without calculating what advantage, if any, this country might gain from it, the young men of the national guard are manifesting an outspoken eagerness for trouble that will call them into the field.—Lincoln Star.

STANDARDIZING IN EDUCATION.

Of all the dangers in American life today there is none more serious than that which lurks in the scheme of standardization. Standardization is the a-b-c of tyranny, and its pace is in a geometrical ratio.

Raising standard of life is glorious; trying to crystallize life is damnable. Raising standards is projecting efficiency. Life is never standardized; only the inorganic can crystallize.

There is no such thing as petrified wood. That which goes by that name has no more trace of organic life than has the frost forest on the window. That which we call petrified wood is purely a mineral substance that has taken the place of the wood, replacing every fiber so daintily and gracefully as to leave every cell in perfect form, retaining every finest tracery of fiber, though not a suspicion of anything is there that was ever organic.

Standardization means the transference of a live institution into one that is inorganic. Every trace of life is removed, but it is done so delicately that there remains even the very cells and filament of that which was once alive, but it is now no more alive than the tree-shaped rocks of Arizona.

It is the same whether you standardize a method of teaching or a two and one-half by four and one-half measurement for admission to high school or college, or the size of endowment of a college requisite for a professor to draw a pension.

Nothing was ever standardized without injecting into it an embalming fluid to preserve the form of the corpse.

A standardizer is no more, no less than an up-to-date undertaker who satisfies the bereaved friends that he has made it impossible for the de-

parted to come to life.

Every great service rendered the cause of education from earliest times has been by those who brought life into institutions and methods.

The world has been cursed by standardizers from Gollath to men in the twentieth century. There has never been a ray of hope from a standardizer since the day when Cain tried to standardize the suburbs of the Garden of Eden. Standardizers get the same satisfaction from killing off the ambitions of boys in this day that Cain did in killing Abel. They raise Cain literally by reproducing his work among the sons of men.

Standardization sooner or later meets a David. If standardization had been able to rule, there would have been no science, no art, no civilization, no Christianity. There was never greater need of a hero among the sons of men than there is today in the educational life of America.—Journal of Education.

AN INDIAN QUITTER.

Senator Bailey resigned his seat (and then withdrew his resignation) because of a filibuster against the admission of New Mexico to statehood unless Arizona should be admitted at the same time. The senator is a hot-headed Texan and has disappointed the high hopes his abilities seemed to justify. His affiliation with and sympathetic attitude toward corporate interests came as a surprise to the country. His subsequent stand in the Lorimer disgrace further alienated public respect. His last position on the admission of New Mexico's sister territory will eliminate what little public regard for him may have remained.

The New Mexican constitution was prepared by combinations and politicians and rushed through by the votes of ignorant Mexicans. There is every reason to believe that these same influences which were unsuccessful in stemming the tide of progressiveness in writing Arizona's constitution, opposed its final ratification by congress. Hence the filibuster of Senator Owen of Oklahoma, whose state was admitted under a constitution nearly as far advanced in its principles of popular government as that of Arizona.

While the president did not have the stamina to back up his previously expressed opinions on the undesirability of the initiative, referendum and recall, as contained in the Arizona constitution, and he put the responsibility up to congress, Senator Bailey stood pat, and not succeeding in his effort to keep Arizona out without the admission of New Mexico, lost his head and resigned in a huff to reconsider his action later on. The democratic party could well spare him.

It is now up to the president to authorize the governors of the proposed new states to proceed to issue their proclamation for the election of state officers, as provided under the enabling act. Mr. Taft, as usual, is up against it at both ends.

For Sale.

R. C. and S. C. R. I. Red Cockerels, \$1.00 each. Eggs, per setting, 75 cents; \$1.00 per 100. Inquire of Mrs. C. E. Schwab, Murray, Neb. Phone 3H Murray. 2-16-2mos-w.

For Sale.

I have four pedigreed Hereford bulls, from a year and a half to two years old, ready for service. Sired by my herd bull, Ajax, weight 2,500 pounds. C. Bengen. 2-9-16tw.

Horse Shoeing.

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.

The stork visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Hatt, Jr., last Sunday and left in their charge a fine girl baby, and Mr. and Mrs. Hatt are correspondingly happy, as well as Grandpa and Grandma Hatt. May the young lady live long to bless the home of its proud parents.

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