

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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Did you ever see a finer Easter Sunday? Not in your whole life.

The closed primary will be effective on the third Tuesday in August, this year.

The officeholder who is afraid of the people is not a fit man to serve the people.

What about a "Bargain Day?" The Journal believes if such a day is good for other towns one would prove of beneficial effect on the merchants of Plattsmouth.

Abe Ruef, San Francisco grafter, has started a bible class among his fellow convicts. Abe ought to be thankful for the blessings of adversity.

Governor Aldrich, by proclamation, has set aside Sunday, May 21, as a "Mothers' day." Don't be partial, governor, give us a "Fathers' day," also.

It is reported that a blind man was stopped from selling lead pencils on the streets of Lincoln the other day. Omaha has never yet had to answer for anything so low down as this.

The new automobile law increases the license tax of autos to \$2 instead of \$1, as heretofore, and such tax is paid to the county in which the owner of the auto resides. That will help out some.

Senator Norris Brown says he believes the income tax amendment will be adopted. Twenty-nine states have already ratified it through resolutions in their legislatures.

The work on the government building is going right on at a pretty rapid rate. The Commercial club should not lose sight of the fact that we should celebrate the day it is completed and ready for occupancy.

Another big crowd of farmers in Plattsmouth last Saturday, and the beautiful Easter displays in the many show windows attracted considerable attention. The trade on Easter hats was immense. All our merchants are well pleased with the rapidly increasing business in our city.

We would warn the grocers of Plattsmouth to be on the lookout for poor butter and rank eggs. The state food commissioner has ordered the prosecution of several grocers in different sections of the state for not complying with the law. Just as well be a little careful, gentlemen.

Statistics compiled by the federal authorities show the mutual benefits that have resulted to the Philippines, Cuba and the United States through the reduction or abolition of duties on many articles of trade. This is reciprocity, and the facts make the standpatters groggy. They cannot explain them away.

Every day from two to three baggage and passenger cars which have been renovated are taken away from the Burlington shops in this city. To say nothing of engine and freight car repairs. The employees and head men, as usual, are working in harmony with one another, which is good for all concerned.

Congressman Norris is afraid

of the people. He showed this to be a fact when he discussed the matter of the election of senators by the people the other day in congress. George probably expects to be a candidate for senator himself next year and prefers the old way. "Let the people rule."

Plattsmouth will have an opportunity when the postoffice building is completed to show our appreciation and gratitude by arranging for a celebration of the event in a becoming manner. There should have been a demonstration of some kind when the corner stone was laid, but do not let us overlook the date of the completion of the building to show our gratitude to those who were instrumental in securing the long-desired public building.

There are no better democrats than Governor Harmon of Ohio. There are, perhaps, many just as good. If he were not a good man he could not have been elected governor of a great republican state like Ohio two times in succession. Then what's the use of all this talk against the Ohio governor? The Ohio democrats love the man, and the party throughout the entire union have great respect for him, and believe he is the proper candidate for president. We lean a little that way ourself. His record is clean, he is able and we believe, if nominated, can come as near being elected as any democrat in the land.

The course and success of Governor Wilson is being watched and commended by the democratic as well as by an influential part of the republican press of the country. The adoption of Wilson's progressive policies and the strong following he has secured in efforts to eliminate the power of money from politics is destined to have its influence throughout the entire country. So keen an observer as Mr. Bryan accords him the highest praise. If Governor Wilson has an eye to the presidency he has certainly not let that ambition interfere with the carrying out of his duty to the people, as he understands it.

## ORDERLY PROCEDURE.

Much effort is being manifested by the opponents of tariff reduction to embroil the democrats in the house and senate at the extra session, to the end that harmony in proceeding may be so checked as to destroy present prospects for a presidential victory in 1912.

Division of the democratic majority, as between the conservatives and progressives, is sought to be indicated and fomented, while conciliation between the regulars and insurgents on the republican side is set forth as insuring a failure of any legislation which the democratic party is pledged to carry out in congress at the earliest possible opportunity.

In order to further increase chances of embroilment the name of Mr. Bryan is being used as a factor to widen the breach between those democrats who stand for local high protection and the vast majority who are lined up for the uninvincible care of the interests of the public at large.

The program laid out by the house caucus of democrats will avoid, if carried out, as we believe it will be, all the snags

which the entrenched interests are endeavoring to put in the way of reciprocity and general tariff reform. Mr. Bryan himself, through his Commoner, has expressed himself unequivocally in its favor.

It is first the ratification of the Canadian treaty without amendment. Next, such legislation, as price of the necessities of life by the levelling of the Chinese wall tariff barrier erected and added to by successive republican administrations—a revision schedule by schedule.

With this alone accomplished the democracy can go before the country with a record of confidence not misplaced and promises performed. If time remains to assure the admission of New Mexico and Arizona, and the making of an equitable congressional reapportionment, very well. But the two former pieces of legislation, of nation-wide import and insisted upon by the great majority of the people, should be kept in view.

The menace to the adoption of these measures is a nominally republican senate. This should not, and will not, deter the democratic house in redeeming its pledges to the people. If, through the opposition of the upper chamber, these immensely important reform measures shall fail, the democracy will go before the people in 1912 with additional strength and claim for the support of the country.

## CHEAP.

If the Commercial club can find no more important matters to engage its attention than fake negotiations with Memphis to sell Mayor Dahlman for a fabulous number of dollars, then the Commercial club might as well disband.

If the publicity bureau of the club is so oppressed with the weight of its own inertia that it finds satisfaction and relief in a story on the first page of the Chicago Tribune to the effect that Omaha is trying, through its Commercial club, to sell its mayor to Memphis for \$1,500,000, then the various enterprising business men who are contributing their good money to support the publicity bureau are making wildcat investments.

Horseplay is all right, in its way, and so is boy's play all right, among boys. But merely because Memphis, as a spectacular advertising stunt, made a serious offer to William J. Bryan of \$2,000,000 or so if he would make that city his home, is no reason why anybody should be permitted to make a fool out of the Omaha Commercial club. To offer Mayor Dahlman as a satisfactory substitute, at \$500,000 less, may appeal to the sense of humor of the village cut-up. But to make the offer and spread it broadcast over the country is hardly worthy of Omaha's most serious, most democratic and most important civic body. To say nothing about the horseplay at the expense of Mayor Dahlman and Mr. Bryan; not to consider the several hundred members of the club who voted for either or both of these gentlemen—it isn't the best kind of advertising for Omaha. It's cheap. The chief advertising that it carries is that the Omaha Commercial club has so little important matters to attend to that it occupies its mind with trifles—with jokes that are in questionable taste, and downright stupid to boot.

Somebody ought to furnish the publicity department with a new plaything.—World-Herald.

The lower house of congress has passed the Rucker publicity bill. This is a bill to compel candidates for members of congress and the senate to publish their campaign expenses. Also candidates for president and vice president and other positions elected by the people. But what's

the use of the lower house dilly-dallying along with such measures as this when they know that it would not pass the senate, and if it did the president would veto it.

This is the week when the adorable pikers can buy \$35 Easter hats for \$6.33.

Get ready for the fiddlers' contest next Friday night, and by all means don't fail to be on hand.

Suggestion to correspondents: When in doubt between the words "cyclone" and "tornado," why not call it a "twister?"

"Firing has begun," says a dispatch from Juarez. This is unquestionably correct. Practically the entire Diaz cabinet has been fired.

Aldrich's veto of the non-partisan judiciary bill should defeat any candidate the republicans put up for judge of the supreme court next fall.

Buy everything you can at home, patronize home institutions and be sociable with one another. That's the way to "See Plattsmouth Succeed."

The W. C. T. U. is now going to take a hand in the location of the new agricultural college. What this organization has to mix into such matters, we would like to know.

We do not think there is any more harm in playing baseball on Sunday than there is in running an automobile on that day. Now, honestly, do you?

Colonel Roosevelt has gone back to New York to stir up the boys again. He is proficient in getting up a fuss in his party in New York and then run off and let them enjoy pulling hair for awhile.

Kenyon, the new senator from Iowa, takes his post with the progressives in the senate. He favors the income tax and wants Lorimer "fired" from the senate. His talk, evidently, has the right ring.

A British gunboat landed marines at San Quintin, Mexico, last week and raised the British flag to protect subjects of King George. In the absence of any frenzied yelping it is inferred that the Monroe doctrine came through the ordeal without a scratch.

It looks just a little bit like real war in Mexico. Diaz has really called for more soldiers, and promises them 50 cents a day, with board and clothes.

A "Bargain Day" will bring more people to Plattsmouth for one day and our merchants will sell more goods than they will sell in a month of Saturdays. The merchants who have had the experience in other places say so. Then why not try it once? It won't cost much.

The "dry" republicans who were at first opposing Armstrong for mayor of Lincoln, are now calling for "dry" as well as "wet" republicans to unite in his election. This is quite a concession for the "drys" to make and it looks more every day like saloons will come again in Lincoln.

Champ Clark is occupying the speaker's chair in congress with more dignity than any man who has occupied the position in many years. With a commanding appearance and pleasing countenance he has the confidence and respect of all members of the house.

A successor to Judge W. B.

Rose will be chosen at the election next fall. Rose has been on the supreme bench but a very short time and by right should not be there now. Rose has held office in Nebraska for something like twenty years and was never elected to a solitary position he has held. Many republicans are sick and tired of such a continuation of office holding.

The opposition press is taking its fatuous crack at Champ Clark, as was to be expected. He is referred to in some instances as "the rattled speaker." The "rattling" part will become more evident later on when the Missouriian shakes up the box of decrepit but vicious doctrines that have held sway over house procedure for years past. Clark not only possesses humor, but has the far-seeing sense of a statesman.

Evidently the people of Belle Fourche, South Dakota, are possessed of the proper spirit to make things hum. The people of the county defeated a proposition to build a new court house, and the citizens of the city went to work and in five days raised by private subscriptions \$25,000 to erect a new county building. That's going some. A town possessing such an energetic class of inhabitants is bound to come to the front.

Buffalo Bill, interviewed in Philadelphia, relative to his alleged aspirations for a United States senatorship, and asked as to his politics, said that he was a republican, "more or less." Colonel Cody was a good scout in his day. He is probably looking for the right trail to the senate. The "less" republicanism, as measured by the record of that party under a number of past administrations, he evinces, the more chance he will have for landing.

The state food commissioner has ordered County Attorney Moran of Nebraska City to prosecute a grocer of that city for selling impure milk. This is the season when it would be just as well for Plattsmouth grocers to be on the lookout for poor butter and stale eggs. The farmer who brings such articles to market is just as liable to prosecution as the grocer who buys and sells. We simply warn all concerned to be on the lookout. There is no telling what hour a pure food inspector will be around.

The Lorimer scandal won't down. Late disclosures before the Illinois legislative investigating committee show that a number of wealthy concerns were requested to contribute \$100,000 to reimburse a syndicate who had "underwritten" Lorimer's election. The facts are laid bare in plain words by the general manager of the International Harvester company, who one Edward Hines, millionaire and lumber trust magnate, appealed to for a \$10,000 donation. The testimony given before the investigating committee has created a nationwide sensation. Mr. Lorimer pretends to treat the matter lightly, saying he had advance information that charges would be made. In the senate Mr. La Follette has introduced a resolution to reopen the probing process, on the ground of after discovered evidence. The Blond Boss may yet get his, notwithstanding Joe Bailey and his other sponsors.

Mr. Roosevelt's declaration that he "took the canal zone and let congress debate" has led up to the introduction of a resolution in the house by Representative Rainey of Illinois asking the committee on foreign relations to inquire into the complaint of the Republic of Colombia that its petition to this country to have the question of the taking of Panama submitted to The Hague

tribunal has been shelved. This is eminently just. If Colombia has been treated in violation of agreements existing between it and this country the republic is entitled to restitution. This is all the more incumbent on the part of the United States now that it is leading in a movement for international arbitration between the great powers of the world. Besides, the public is entitled to know the full truth as to how Roosevelt "took" the canal zone. The full and impartial investigation of the affair, if ever made, promises a sensation unparalleled in national politics.

## THE "MONEY POWER."

There is increased evidence of an uneasy feeling in Washington among all parties concerning the great accumulation of capital in few hands, and stories have been current that Attorney General Wickersham has been collecting evidence and asking for briefs from eminent lawyers concerning what power lies in the government to check it. Last winter when the New Orleans clearing house undertook to regulate the rates that should be charged by all the banks connected with it for collecting checks and drafts, criminal proceedings were begun against it, but the attorney general came to the conclusion that as a clearing house was a voluntary organization, from which any bank at any time could withdraw, criminal proceedings would not lie, and the case was dismissed. That started an investigation. When the evidence was turned in showing that the Morgan group alone controlled \$9,000,000,000 of cash and property, which was all practically under the direction of one man, the question began to assume startling proportions.

What can be done to control this "money power" which can at any time make or break the markets, create panics and control all business, is what is troubling the attorney general. It is the most portentous question that ever confronted the legal department of the government, for if one man can control the business of the country, bring on a panic and stop the wheels of commerce in spite of all that the government can do, that makes that one man the government, and all the machinery of congresses, courts, armies and navies impotent. The thought of such a condition brings terror to the mind of the strongest man. It is a new thought to the men in Washington, but not to the thinkers and reformers of the west, who have often predicted such a condition. What is to be done, no one in Washington seems to know. The only suggestion so far made is for congress to appoint an investigating committee.—World-Herald.

If we were president of these United States we would not wait another minute to show those Mexicans that if they didn't quit shooting down American citizens across the border we would give them a taste of real fighting and wipe them off the face of the earth. With the whole United States at his back, Taft should be brave enough to stop this murdering of his own countrymen.

C. Alden was an Omaha passenger on the afternoon train today, where he was called on business.

DR.  
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