

The Plattsmouth - Journal

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MEN WHO HOLD BACK.

In both the great national parties there are men who feel this ardor of progress and of reform, and in both parties there are men who hold back, who struggle to restrain change, who do not understand it or who have reason to fear it. Undoubtedly the present moment offers a greater and larger opportunity to the democratic party than to the republican party, but this is not because there are not men in the republican party who have devoted their whole intelligence and energy to necessary reform, but because the democratic party as a whole is freer to move and to act than the republican is. — Governor Woodrow Wilson at Kansas City.

Get in the habit of boosting for better roads. It will do you good.

The oyster season was closed, but the lobster is every with us.

Bangor and its cigarette promise to go down to history with Chicago and Mrs. O'Leary's cow.

Up to this time President Diaz's resignation is very much like that of James Wilson, secretary of agriculture.

On with the Fourth of July celebration, and let us have the biggest yet on record in Cass county.

New York is said to be facing a water famine, but they'll never know the difference on the Great White Way.

The standpat senate is evidently planting its hoofs in the turf, worthy of the most balky days of the democratic donkey.

Possibly on days when there are no ball games and sometime during the summer, the senate will debate the reciprocity treaty.

Hobble skirts cannot be worn at the coronation festivities and many of our feminine tourists will be wishing they had remained at home.

After President Diaz has tried to enforce order a little while longer in Mexico he will get some idea of what it is to run a Sunday school picnic.

This Camorra trial may have to be postponed soon, so that judge, jury, witnesses, lawyers and prisoners can come over here and find hurdy-gurdies for the summer.

Just exactly eight weeks till the Fourth of July, and we should get a move on us if we are to have the biggest celebration ever held in Plattsmouth. Don't be afraid of a little work. It takes work to make a live town, and we must not shirk from any duty that is calculated to boost Plattsmouth. So put on your hustling clothes and get up and do.

The Bangor fire skipped both the city hall and the jail. Even the inanimate flames felt that they were to be treated as belonging to the same class.

It is reported that out in Los

Angeles, California, there is a married woman who has not spoken to her husband for five months. Happy man!

In the early days of temperance reform we used to hear about "Ten Nights in a Bar Room." Our gilded youth of today are more inclined to ten bar rooms in a night.

The insurrectos now threaten Mexico City. Mr. Diaz's power is getting limited to his own household, and even there his wife may ignore his commands about house cleaning.

Ohio legislators charged with bribery now. If our representatives don't begin to represent something besides their own pockets the voters will make the legislatures look like a grease spot after washday.

The newspapers herald Bangor's courage in rebuilding. Most people do, when they get a chance to substitute modern buildings for old arks, out of a fat roll of fresh greenbacks paid over by other people as insurance money.

There's a big crusade against bill boards and other outdoor advertising in Germany. That is one more thing that will make the American traveler spend his money abroad instead of at home.

Those who are objecting to the democratic free list bill in the house are the ones who would object to any free list bill that could possibly be devised and calculated to benefit the masses of the people.

The report that the real Ark of the Covenant, containing the original Ten Commandments, has been found by a party of English archaeologists on the site of Solomon's temple reads as though H. Rider Haggard had become the Jerusalem correspondent.

Lincoln has no edge now over Omaha on the saloon question. Already there are nearly forty saloon applicants registered. This must be consoling to the gang of hypocrites that have been trying to run Lincoln for the past two years. And, say, what has become of that man Poulson and his anti-saloon league?

Another monster crowd of farmers in town Saturday, many from fifteen and twenty miles distant. Several from the vicinity of Nehawka and other sections were very anxious to know if we were going to celebrate in Plattsmouth. We told them we were. Now, how about it? Are you going to help us make our word good?

Hon. John H. Morehead, who becomes the lieutenant governor by the death of Lieutenant Governor Hopewell, will be the acting governor for a short time next month, when Governor Aldrich expects to be absent from the state. This will give our friend, Morehead, an opportunity to get his hand in preparatory to what might follow to his election as chief in 1912.

It is surprising how many persons there are who are anxious to give somebody a "dig in the ribs," or a "left-handed compliment" through the columns of the press; and it is equally surprising that every person so inclined is sure

to make an effort to swat his foe over the shoulders of somebody else. The Journal is not in that kind of business and the sooner some people understand our position the better for all concerned.

Old Joe Cannon, because the democrats in congress are running matters to suit themselves, instead of appealing to him, is engaged in predicting all manner of hard times. Old Joe has been doing the bidding of the eastern money sharks so long that he had come to the conclusion that the western farmers have nothing to say except raise crops and stock and sell them and the money sent east to replenish the coffers of the money sharks.

Our old friend Bowlby of the Crete Democrat hits the nail right square on the head in the following: The Ludden has been turned down and out of the normal board; now if the next legislature will dump the whole abnormal system, including the ring or combine of small bore professors (?) who, in the interest of favorites try to appear big in the eyes of the mullet heads, into the ditch, the people would be relieved of a heavy burden and real educational institutions would have a better opportunity to educate the young.

FARMING PROFITS.

There has been more misinformation concerning the profits of farming printed in the financial papers and even in the ordinary daily than on almost any other subject. That being the case the secretary of the interior appointed two experts of the department, Mr. J. W. Froy and Mr. C. Beaman Smith, to investigate the subject. In their report they say:

It is a well-managed farm that pays the owner fair wages and 5 per cent interest on the investment while keeping up the fertility of the soil. Some farmers make considerably more than this. A much larger number make less.

That is the truth about the matter and yet farmers, or rather land owners, are getting rich. Their wealth comes mostly from the increase in the value of land and that increase is raising very grave economic problems. If land becomes worth \$500 an acre, as some predict, it will produce entirely different social conditions from anything that has been known in the United States.

It must be noticed that the statement made includes "keeping up the fertility of the soil." Farmers have made money by taking the productiveness out of the soil. They have cropped the land year after year without returning anything to the soil, until in many places it has become almost barren, but that process is coming to an end all over the United States, except in the newest portions, and the profits of farming on a virgin soil will soon be known no more.

If land should continue to increase in value as predicted, it will result in forming distinct classes in this country. With land worth \$500 an acre it would be impossible for the young man, however industrious, to ever own a farm and the result would be the tenant and the landowner, a peasant class and a land owning aristocracy, and the profits would be divided as laid down by Ricardo.—World-Herald.

The farmers seem to be much elated over the prospects for a good crop this season.

He who forms a conclusion in a hurry is usually found on the wrong side of the argument.

J. P. Morgan paid \$25,500 for a Latin letter Martin Luther wrote, and we have doubts if Mr. Morgan can read it at that.

Plattsmouth will celebrate, and

all that is necessary now is someone to head the movement. Our business men are almost unanimous for a celebration.

Money matters are reported a little close, but the "root of all evil" has not been close enough to us to get a hold on very much at a time.

Congress seems to be questioning whether the trusts, which have been living in the best rooms in the people's house, ought not to begin paying a little rent.

The baseball proposition does not seem to materialize, and it looks as though Plattsmouth would not be known in the baseball doings this season. Shame!

Andrew Carnegie told the peace conference that Britain is his motherland and America his wife-land. He seems to have married his own sister.

While they are probing the shoe machinery trust, wish they would ask them why this year's shoes all have a tumor grown on the top of the box toes.

Sunday, May 14, is Mothers' day. Don't forget the white flower. It will be a gentle reminder of the days of youth, when mother was everything to you. Cherish the sweet memories of the day of long ago.

"We have lost the purity and directness of representative government," says Governor Woodrow Wilson. And those who are seeking to have it restored must reconcile themselves to being called cranks, grandstanders and populists.

The cleaning-up proposition is still in the minds of the people, and the menfolks are putting in their spare time brushing up around home. The paint and brush are being used pretty freely in various parts of the city, also.

President Taft told the peace conference that we want no more alien territory. If other people want us to give them good government they must pay the market price for these costly goods we have been giving away free.

John D. Rockefeller's daughter admitted to a reporter the other day that she had gold anklets, but refused to discuss the matter. That will be all right, the rest of the country will furnish the discussion.

The Commercial club is getting pretty busy on the matter of good roads. It is time some persons were getting busy in this direction. The roads are better in any part of Cass county than they are right in the vicinity of Plattsmouth. That is what everyone says who drives to this city. That should not be.

Governor Glascock has called a special session of the West Virginia legislature to enact a state-wide primary law which shall include provisions for the popular nomination of United States senators. It is catching everywhere and the people will soon rule again.

The supreme court of Missouri—and the supreme court of the United States on appeal—held that a statute is constitutional which makes a railroad responsible for damage to property from the sparks of a locomotive, whether or not there is negligence on the part of the railroad.

The war in Mexico is about to come to an end again, and President Diaz is to resign—when he gets ready. The uprising in Mexico is simply a warning to the leaders of combines, grafters and rulers in general in this country. The people will not stand it much

longer unless relief comes to those who earn their living by the sweat of their brows.

If the Commercial club does not feel justified in taking the lead in the Fourth of July celebration, let some of the secret societies take the matter in hand. We are going to have a celebration, that's one thing certain, and the sooner we get at the matter of arrangement the better. But by all means let us have the co-operation of every business firm in the city.

There is nothing particularly wrong about Lincoln. Generally speaking, there are many good people dwelling within the confines of the capital city. There are a few cranks who dwell there simply to "make people happy" by keeping up a turmoil the whole blessed time, and when they can rid the city of these pests Lincoln will be one of the most prosperous cities in the west. The "rule or ruin" policy has been the ruin of many towns.

The government is going to issue cream colored post cards, printed in red ink, to take the place of the present black-ink, manilla kind. It will spend \$65,000 in the change. It seems like extravagance, but the profit of the sales of post cards runs to \$8,000,000 annually, so it is worth while to make the cards more attractive and popular. The department hopes to make the new cards so attractive as to increase their use, and thereby add profits. The post card proved its usefulness long ago, and if 1 cent postage ever comes, the price of the post card will doubtless drop to half a cent each.

Progressive republicanism in Nebraska demands the elimination of Norris Brown. We have leaders that we know are true, but Brown is not one of them. If shams and pretenders are allowed to lead it means that no matter what victories the people win at the polls they will be robbed of the benefits if they trust their interests to men like these. The republican party tried to carry Burkett and failed. The load of Brown is just as onerous, his record is just as bad. Under Burkett they met defeat. Under Brown they will meet defeat. Therefore let us eliminate Brown from party leadership before the people eliminate him at the polls. —Central City Republican.

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNORS.

Governor Wilson's name just now leads all the rest in public estimation. It is an unexampled triumph which his legislative program for New Jersey has scored. Nearly every pledge made during the campaign has been carried out; and New Jersey, from being one of the backward states in laws relating to the control of public-utility corporations, to election and ballot laws, to corrupt practices, to employers' liability, and the like, now ranks with the most forward-looking. All this has been achieved within a legislative session of three months, with very little pyrotechnics, no fierce struggles, and amid general approval. The governor met with machine opposition, in his own party and in the republican, but his energy and persistence, joined to the immense prestige he won in his campaign and by the defeat of Boss Smith for the senatorship, swept every obstacle away. We think it the literal truth to say that no man in public life ever mated performance to promise better than Governor Wilson.

Other democratic governors follow Woodrow Wilson, not by too great an interval. In Massachusetts, Governor Foss is at once delighting his friends and confounding his enemies. Even partisan republicans are forced

to concede that his great industry and complete devotion to the work of his office, together with his good appointments, his well-judged vetoes, and his sound recommendations, have made a great impression upon the state and largely obliterated the bad effect of the governor's course in the senatorship contest.

In Ohio Governor Harmon has thus far has not been able to obtain from the legislature the leading reform measures which he has energetically urged in special messages. Some of them will doubtless be enacted before the session closes; and in any case the governor has heightened the reputation which he won during his first term as an able, hard-working, honest and independent executive. Conditions in Ohio are peculiar; the old democratic machine is against Harmon, openly or secretly, and his presidential candidacy doubtless handicaps him somewhat; but he has at least silenced the republican sneers about democratic incapacity. One hears little that is not good about his neighbor over the Indiana line, Governor Marshall. He, too, must be reckoned among the democratic executives who are showing that we have in this country more than one party "fit to rule."—New York Evening Post.

Den of Eleven Young Wolves.

While rusticated in the country last Sunday Al Egenberger discovered a den of eleven young wolves. Four of them seemed smaller and younger than the other seven, and the opinion of the hunter is that there were two litters in the one den. The four smaller ones have since died, while the seven larger ones were brought to town yesterday. They are about as large as a full-grown Maltese cat. Al might be induced to part with one or two of the beasts should the ball teams in the vicinity want a mascot.

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