

The Plattsmouth Journal

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CONGRESS SHOULD GO HOME.

As soon as the senate has regained the national honor from pawn and its own independence from the shipping trust, congress should adjourn and go home.

The senators and congressmen have been so long in Washington that they are entirely out of touch with America. This has been clearly shown by the absurd conduct of La Fayette, Bristow, and Cummins fighting their own constituencies on the wornout issue of railroad discrimination.

Congress should go home. It does not know anything about the present state of public opinion. It does not know anything about the present condition of business.

If its committees ever sought information on public questions they have now become so prejudiced by partisanship as to blind them to anything but their own bigoted views.

Further trust legislation is needed. That we know.

The kind of legislation that is needed congress does not know. Congressmen know the conditions that pertained two years ago.

They have utterly no conception of the condition that pertains today.

The congressmen should go home to find out what is going on and what is being thought, and then as many of them as are re-elected should reassemble next winter and enact a law to treat business conditions as they exist today.—Chicago Tribune.

A bumper apple crop is predicted in southeast Nebraska.

What next? Decoration and Commencement have passed.

Candidates for congress on the republican ticket are still multiplying.

Plattsmouth remembered the old soldiers remarkably well this Decoration day.

It remains for Thomas A. Edison to blame cigarettes for most of the trouble in Mexico.

Take good care of your common sense, boys. Some day it will be worth more than par.

The timely rains are making the wheat fields clap their hands and corn fields laugh with joy.

The season is at hand when city folks begin to long for a sight of their relatives on the farm.

Teddy Roosevelt's enthusiasm for Mr. Pinchot of Pennsylvania will not assist his cause much in some of the western states.

Saturday was an ideal Decoration day, and everybody turned out to observe the time-honored event.

Most men who are out of touch with the political situation are taking good care of their families.

The corn crop is booming in every section of Cass county, and the farmers feel rejoiced over the prospects.

If there is any virtue in mediation the Mexican delegates are anxious for prompt action at Niagara Falls. Immediate mediation is their battle cry.

Prospects for an enormous crop has pulled down wheat prices.

The only way to keep Teddy out of politics would be to abolish politics, or banish Teddy.

The government is trying to suppress the Indian dances, some of which are as bad as the tango.

A New York physician has invented a harmless bichloride, but there is not likely to be any demand.

A man must have a mean disposition to try to beat another out of a nomination on the progressive ticket in Missouri.

Bob Fitzsimmons, who is being sued for divorce, may consider himself eligible to the class with DeWolf Hopper, Nat Goodwin and Lillian Russell.

The great contest to increase the subscription list of the Journal will soon be on. See the magnificent prizes offered, including one of those fine Overland automobiles.

Teddy should hasten to Oregon, where the registration of republicans is sixteen times that of the progressives, and more than double that of the democrats and progressives combined.

Imagine Zapata, Villa and Obregon settling down to the placid pursuits of piping peace; imagine all this, we repeat, and it will demonstrate that you have a great little imagination.

This country, at least need not worry about its army officers resigning in large numbers. Here a commission is a good job until the warrior marries money, and the limited supply of heiresses makes that impossible for the majority.

So much fault has been found with Secretary Bryan recently that Secretary Redfield's widespread whiskers are not being abused as much as they deserve. We are disposed to blame them for the watchful waiting policy or anything else you can think of.

It will open the eyes of the nonentity congressman at Washington if Bill Price should get the democratic nomination for congress. We must say, in honor of Mr. Price, as to ability he is far superior to the fellow who simply has the reputation of holding down his seat in congress, and that is all.

The political situation in Nebraska is such as would almost make angels weep. When you look at some politicians in both parties, some of whom have worked their way well up to the top, and behold the tactics used by them, you wonder what sort of moral fiber they are made of. It seems to be so elastic that there is no conscience left.

Mr. Bryan thinks of going on the chautauqua circuit this season. Well, what if he does? Has he not as good a right as Taft's whole cabinet had? That isn't it, but it will give the republican papers an opportunity to blow their huzzos, because it is Bryan. Anyone else occupying a similar position could cut the chautauqua caper and you would not hear a chirp from any of them. Now, ain't that a fact?

FUTURE DECORATION DAY.

The spirit of Decoration day exercises, held May 30 throughout the northern states in honor of the heroic dead, has vastly changed of recent years. Once there was the glamor of crowds, a staid parade of former soldiers, an enthusiastic gathering of citizenship. The depletion of the ranks of the veterans by death gives each recurring Decoration day a deeper note of sadness. The spirit of sectional triumph and bitterness has gone, for which all are thankful. But in the place of the sturdy marchers of twenty years ago, there is but a fragment left who usually proceed to the cemeteries in carriages and automobiles. The surviving soldiers earnestly entreat their townspeople to give these commemorative exercises the support of dignified assemblage. But too often the veterans seem to have passed from the center of the stage. The younger generation know of their deeds only through dull history books.

Ball games and outdoor life draw the crowds, while these patriotic services are commonly not well attended. Similarly the observance of the various Memorial days of the southern states take on a deeper note of pathos each year. All who admire the heroism shown in the civil war will wish to see the exercises in honor of the blue and the gray continued after the last veterans have gone. But in a few years there will be few or none who feel directly responsible for carrying on the work. In some towns various churches and societies have already organized to observe this occasion in place of the veterans who have gone. Graves of federal and confederate dead alike are decorated. Honor is done to all who made these sacrifices of the past, and a similar spirit of self-devotion in future is urged. Certainly Decoration day should not be suffered to lapse as the two armies depart on their long journey and there need to be some observance other than those at the ball park.

Senators and representatives cannot be blamed for attending ball games as long as the Washington team is doing well. It is a novel experience to all the home fans to have them win.

And now comes State Superintendent of Schools Dalzell and wants to run for the republican nomination for congress in the First district. Any more? Bring 'em on, while the track is hot.

Those republicans in the several states who are candidates for the U. S. senate must envy the ease with which Penrose got the nomination in Pennsylvania, while Pinchot, his opponent, was supported by the "immaculate" Teddy.

Aldrich "has it in" for Ross Hammond, who is running for the republican nomination for governor, and threatens to run for governor again himself. Ross had better do something to pacify the vengeance of the irate ex-governor.

The fire inspection committee that attended the state fire marshal to this city were highly pleased with the cleanliness of the town and the fire protection. They say Plattsmouth is the cleanest city they have visited. Let us keep the reputation we have gained.

It will be found when the vote at the state primary is summed up that Governor Morehead has made a great number of new friends, simply because he has conducted an administration of which the democrats and republicans feel proud. And no one can say that it has not been economical.

THE MEDIATORS WILL PROBABLY DISAGREE ON THE QUESTION OF INDEMNITY.

At some stage in the game of war somebody always insists upon being paid.

The Lincoln Herald says: "If Governor Morehead receives the nomination they will have to get a flying machine to beat him to it." Well, he will sure get the nomination.

John G. Maher has written another caustic attack on W. J. Bryan and Brother Charley. Such articles are not calculated to gain any votes from Mr. Bryan's friends, and perhaps he does not expect any. If Col. Maher could run as well as he can write, he would lead them a merry chase.

While the friends of Governor Morehead in Cass county did not want to see him withdraw from the congressional race, they believe that he was right in doing so and again run for governor. The great demand for his candidacy again for re-election was greater than many supposed, and it is generally believed now that his party will be a unit for him at the general election.

In reference to Governor Morehead's declaration to run for a second term, isn't it natural for any person to change his mind? How many people in the world have never changed their mind? We would like to see the color of the hair of the fellow that has not. Anyone has a right to change his mind when he thinks it right to do so. The matter has weighed upon Governor Morehead's mind for many weeks, and as he has always been right on matters that have come before him during his present administration, we cannot help but believe he is right on the matter of his running again.

While it is true that the democrats of Nebraska are in a serious predicament, there is sufficient cause for them being that way, when a little ring at Lincoln tries to run the affairs of the party in their own selfish manner, and together with a few henchmen scattered here and there, to do their dirty work, they are determined to have their own way or bust the party wide open. This they have almost completed now, and if they do not check their mad career, they will finish the job by the time election day rolls around. They believe people should rule as long as the people do as they bid them. But the masses of the democratic party have always opposed ring rule, and this year of 1914 will see the little coterie up at Lincoln flat-blowed out completely unless they blow their horns to different music.

R. L. Metcalfe made a talk in Omaha the other day, and we infer from his remarks that he is not very well satisfied with the conditions of the democratic party in Nebraska, and the manner they are "cutting and slashing one another," or words to that effect. Dick Metcalfe understands the inside of the little coterie at Lincoln, and could possibly open the eyes of the masses of the democratic party of the state if he chose to do so. Mr. Metcalfe, in speaking of the condition of affairs in Nebraska, had this to say: "I have been here less than forty-eight hours and I have seen more butcher knives than I thought were in the world. There is more hatred among Nebraska democrats than in all the West Virginia feuds. And the trouble is not a difference of principles. It is all personal. There is bitter personal feeling among the leaders. When the rank and file of Nebraska democrats come to realize this, they will speak out and choose new leaders for themselves."

NO DOUBT THE LOBBY THAT IS URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION TO RECOMMEND THE PASSAGE OF A BILL THAT WOULD PROVIDE FOR FEDERAL CENSORSHIP OF MOTION PICTURE FILMS IS COMPOSED OF HIGH-MINDED PERSONS, ACTUATED BY THE LOFTEST MOTIVES.

They urge upon the committee the fact that there are now 18,000 motion picture theaters in the United States with an average attendance daily of 16,000,000 persons, many of whom are children. That only clean and wholesome films should be exhibited to a miscellaneous assembly, in which there are youthful spectators, with plastic minds and immature characters, goes without saying. If the censorship could be restricted to the elimination of immoral and hurtful pictures, the wisdom of its establishment could not be questioned. But the human equation cannot be ignored. Experience with censorship, extending back to remote times and covering many lands, has demonstrated that official power feeds on itself and that bigotry does not hesitate to smudge anything that displeases it. The action of petty postal officials and of a few library boards has demonstrated, even in our own country and in our own time, on what whimsical grounds some of the most meritorious books and works of art may be placed under the official ban.

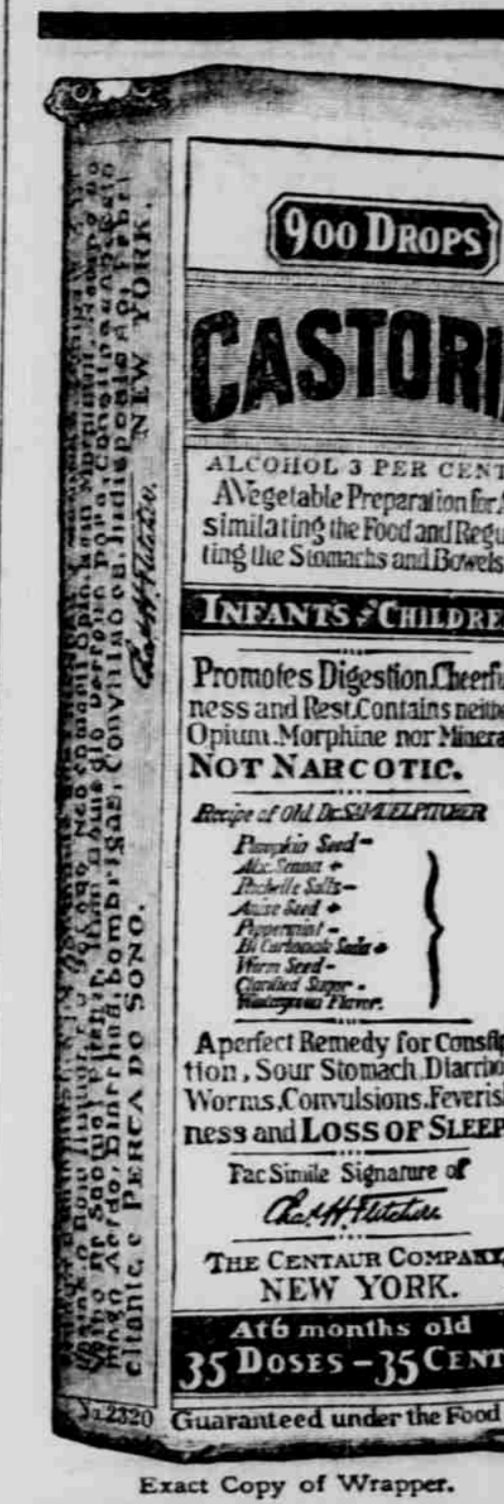
Among Americans one of the most prized possessions is freedom to speak and write, subject to the laws of the land holding a person responsible for what he has said or published. It came as a result of an age-old struggle with tyrants of thought. Men rotted in jails and mounted scaffolds and stood at burning stakes in its behalf. It is too rich a heritage, costing too much blood and tears, to be surrendered to an official, even though he be elected by the people. No matter what high purposes may be urged for the establishment of a censorship or how flagrant may be the abuses sought to be corrected, there is an ever-present danger that a censor will become arbitrary in the exercise of his power.

The possibilities of the motion picture are immense, both in the way of entertainment and education. In many respects the films are more impressive than the printed page and nobody can estimate the far-reaching effect that are daily producing on the present and future citizens. Reputable theater owners are interested in maintaining the reputation of their places and in holding the good will of their patrons. Parents should see that the theaters attended by their children are reputable. Officers of the law should see that exhibitors of immoral and degrading pictures are relentlessly prosecuted. If the present laws are inadequate they should be amended. But there does not seem to be any imminent peril which would justify the adoption of censorship in advance, a policy so foreign to our free institutions.

An independent oil company has been cleared of criminal charges. This is good fortune, but not equal to the good fortune of being "dissolved."

Ross Hammond held onto the collector's office as long as he thought it was healthy to do so. But his successor has not been appointed yet, and it is hard to tell when he will be—maybe not until after the adjournment of the senate.

No man can offer any good excuse for the democrats of Nebraska being split up the back the way they are. The leaders are responsible for the condition of affairs, and the only way to remedy matters, as R. S. Metcalfe says, "is for new leaders to assume the party reins."



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From present appearances there will be an even dozen republican candidates out for governor before the primary election.

It is apparent that Sleuth Burns and his men are not smooth enough to go up against Mayor Dahlman and the Omaha administration.

One gets a glimpse of what a terrible thing war is by reflecting that possibly as many Americans have been killed in Mexico as have met their deaths in this country in automobile accidents.

R. L. Metcalfe was not long in finding out the true situation in Nebraska, and as he told a personal friend the other day in Omaha, "the cause of the feud in the democratic party was not altogether one-sided, either."

Matthew Gering has many republican and democratic friends in Cass county who will support him if he concludes to run for congress. He will make his opponent hump himself, when Matt goes before the people with his oratory, of which he is proficient.

Nehawka News: The editor of this paper hasn't much sympathy for Ross Hammond in his candidacy for governor. It is just such pap-suckers as this geek who has put the party on the bum. It looks like enough of these fellows have been turned down to give the rest a hint.

From the tone of some of our republican exchanges Ross Hammond is not going to have as easy sledding as he thought he would for the nomination for governor. And neither is Charley Poole in his candidacy for secretary of state on the democratic ticket. The people are getting tired of pap-suckers all the time.

No objection to Huerta running for president should be raised, provided the election machinery is in proper hands.

The theory of the attraction of opposites is illustrated by the marriage at Albany, N. Y., of the 600-pound fat woman in a side show to the 90-pound dwarf.

Huerta, who must be eliminated, seems a little better than Villa, who is in turn, superior to Zapata. The Mexican outlook is a helva prospect, regardless of developments at Niagara Falls and points north.

And still a republican is drawing postmaster's salary in the Lincoln postoffice, and the "Log-gerheads" at Washington don't seem to care a cent about what the common democrats think about it, either. Still a gentleman was recommended for the position two months ago.

The last state legislature provided by the statute for the observance of the "Pioneer's Memorial Day," the second Sunday in June each year. This year it comes on June 14, and the officers of the Nebraska Territorial Pioneers' association and of the State Historical society are anxious for its general observance throughout the state. The law provides: "That the second Sunday in June in each year shall be known as Pioneer's Memorial Day and the same shall be set apart for holding suitable exercises in the schools and churches of the state, and when possible in the cemeteries and over the graves of departed pioneers, and that the present inhabitants and future generations may not forget the spirit and the achievements of the men and women who settled these plains and prairies and established the institutions which we now enjoy."

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