

# THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1908.

There will be an appropriation for the payment of wolf bounties this year and there will be economy in the state administration as well. Not niggardly penuriousness but ample appropriations with the graft cut out and the careful judicious use of a million dollars ought to run our state "as slick as grease," as Pete Skow used to say in old Riley county.

Some necessary state laws should be passed requiring publicity of legal actions and all court work. There are too many secret acts of the courts that we, as a people, never learn anything about. Every court proceeding, civil and criminal, should be required to be published in at least one county paper. The county commissioners and village boards should be required to publish their official proceedings and to pay for the publishing of said proceedings. People want to know what is going on and if the proceedings are officially published the people will know. This law should be passed by the next legislature. It is not enough to say that a record is kept and that all may view it by going to the county clerk's office or the office of the village clerk. If these records are required to be published and paid for then they are legally published. Otherwise a publisher may or may not put in all or only a part of the proceedings as he chooses and oftentimes two or three weeks after the commissioners have been in session. This is also an expense to a newspaper man to put up and he should receive some compensation which makes him responsible for accurate and complete published accounts of proceedings. Also the proceedings of all courts should be required to be published providing for legal compensation to the newspaper publishing the same and requiring accurate accounts of official acts. Public legal transfers should likewise be published. These items I chronicle in the interest mutually of the people and the press. The people pay taxes and have a right to know what is transpiring legally in their county and district offices. They ought to know and they are privileged to look over the records of any of their county officers above mentioned but time and distance from the court house forbids many such opportunity. Therefore in the interest of education in county and state affairs and that people may get more in touch with official records I advocate these publicity laws.

Governor Shallenberger is already taking an active interest in learning of Oklahoma's bank guaranty law and has gone down there to learn fully as to its operation and defects which may be changed and enacted in the most beneficial and least harmful form. This is one of the campaign pledges that will receive most careful attention. There are other measures to be enacted that will require careful consideration among which the least is a more equitable system of taxation, the revision of the primary law and the election of precinct assessors by the people. Now, this latter is not a re-

cent complaint of THE DEMOCRAT and we would be perfectly satisfied to have our county assessor appoint his deputies to assess property in Cherry county but the system is wrong. It takes privileges of self government from the people and vests the assessing business too much into the hands of one man, who could be more easily controlled should he be a subservient tool of any special interest, encourages graft by making one man the distributor of considerable patronage and permits men to become officers of the law that could not be elected to a precinct office and generally thwarts the will and wishes of the people. The system is wrong and a democratic legislature will correct this abuse of one man power.

## Repeal of The Sherman Law!

There is something like consternation among the trusts. It would be real consternation had Bryan been elected. As it is, it is more like surprise, and a realization that "something will have to be done." It has actually been shown, in the Tobacco trust decision, that the Sherman anti-trust law is susceptible of effective enforcement! That, under its provisions, such a concern as the Tobacco trust can really be convicted as a conspiracy in restraint of trade, and made subject to severe penalties! No wonder Tobacco securities slumped heavily on the stock market, and that there was even a temporary flurry in other trust stocks!

Here, for example, comes the Weekly Financial Review of J. S. Bache & Co., "System" bankers, and says:

The crying need of a repeal of the Sherman law is evidenced in the Tobacco decision. The Sherman law is the most conspicuous example of the ill-considered, politically-hatched, half-digested and commerce-killing laws that were brought forth as a concession to the supposed popular demand for knifing of the trusts. The United States circuit court of New York decided this week that the American Tobacco company was a combination in restraint of trade, but the judges took occasion to declare in effect that it was a combination of the most beneficial character to the consumer, the producer of the leaf, and to the whole country in general.

Certainly, by all means. It is so "beneficial" to the producer of the leaf that it has driven tobacco planters to the verge of desperation. It induced them to organize a "trust" of their own to prevent selling to the other trust except at prices that would make it possible for them to live. The "night riders" were only one of the "beneficial" consequences—to punish the planters who sell their tobacco at whatever price the trust chooses to pay.

The "benefits" have been great, indeed, to Kentucky and Tennessee!

And "beneficial" to the consumer—who will deny it! The consumer pays a good deal more money for a vastly worse cigar. He is thereby discouraged from smoking too much—to the great benefit of himself and his family. And "beneficial" to the country

—well, rather! With the Tobacco trust the country might never have had the Duke family and its salacious divorce suits to point to with pride. By all means the Sherman law should be repealed. Nobody wants to punish or restrain the trusts any more. Let them run wild, and take all they can get—in other words, all that the rest of us have.—World Herald.

## Spiteful George.

Having grabbed hold of the special session poker, with the avowed intent of ramming its point, sizzling hot, into the persons of his "enemies," Governor Sheldon seems to have found that the handle was hot, too.

And so he drops the poker incontinently and stands and sucks his fingers and curses his stars.

It's too bad, but it was to be expected. Sheldon is not, and never has been, a fighter. He lacks the staying qualities. He served two terms in the state senate before he was governor, and about all the fighting he did there was to get first to the cloakroom on adjournment. He dilly-dallied with the two-cent law, in the session that met while he was governor, and he dilly-dallied in the same way with the county option question. He had a way of choosing his seat, always, carefully between two stools. More recently, when the bank guaranty issue came up, he dilly-dallied with that, and blew hot and cold; in fact, did nearly everything he could do but fight on the one side or the other.

It is the same way now with his special session, designed to punish somebody. He felt mean and ugly when the election returns came in. Some of his partisan friends are proclaiming that it was a "crime" to beat him, and he seemed to think so himself. He flew into a peevish and petulant rage. And so, that hot poker being the nearest weapon at hand, he grabbed it. But the look on his face only seemed to be one of determination. Really it was not. It was only near-determination. Just a counterfeit.

And so again Sheldon seems to have deposited himself firmly on the floor between two stools. He has succeeded in disgusting the whole state, and in pleasing nobody—not even himself. He has weakened himself in the estimation of his friends, and has convinced those who are impartial that he was a very much over-rated man. The sad spectacle presented by Spiteful George at this time will be a lesson to defeated candidates in the future. "Be a man, if you can; do not cry." It pays.—World Herald.

Peder Thorsen and Will Flory stopped in town last Thursday on their return from a shipment of cattle from Gordon to Omaha.

The progressive Finch club spent Wednesday evening at the home of Mrs. I. M. Rice. There were steen ladies to one gentleman and ye editor hid out.

The farmers Institute held here last Friday was well attended considering the severe cold spell just at that time. Farmer's and ranchmen took considerable interest in the talks on grasses by Professor's Hunt and Hull and the most interesting to stockmen held here in years. Some change in the grasses for hay is being contemplated and the experience of experts on alfalfa and red top is just what our people wanted to hear. Miss Gertrude Rowan gave a splendid lecture to the ladies on how to cook. Prof. Watson brought a large number of his young lady pupils up to the meeting from school and the court room was filled during a demonstration of how to prepare and cook various articles of food in the wooden box. Mr. Hunt says to turn your cattle out to the meadows in the fall to prevent them from shrinking before winter begins.

Mrs. Frank Kletecka entertained a party of ladies, Wednesday evening, board of trade being the chief amusement of the evening, at a proper hour refreshments were served and those present report an enjoyable time.

## Valentine Camp No. 1751, M. W. A.

### Neighbors:

You are earnestly requested to be present at our next regular meeting, Wed., Dec. 2, 1908. Election of officers, initiation and other business of importance to every member, will be presented for your consideration. GEO. ELLIOTT, Clerk.

### County Prohibition.

Agents of the Anti-Saloon League who are so zealously working in Nebraska for so-called county option can not be expected, of course, to tell the people the true inwardness of the movement. The term "county option" is a misnomer. No doubt it was chosen because of the popularity of the local option clause of the Slocumb law of Nebraska, which has worked to perfection in so many cities and towns. There is no option in the plan proposed by the Anti-Saloon League. The dictionaries tell us that to exercise option is to have the power of choice. The program of the Anti-Saloon League respecting the giving to voters of a county a chance to vote in regard to the liquor traffic prevents the exercise of choice. The bill introduced in the last legislature providing for so-called county option intended to make it possible for voters to express their will only upon the negative side of the proposition as to whether or not saloons may be licensed. Under that bill, if enacted into law, it would be impossible for the voters to express a desire for license; therefore, the quality of option does not attach to the measure.

The agents of the league ought to be frank enough to say that they are seeking county prohibition as a means of bringing about state-wide prohibition through the voters of the several counties. Their plan is severely criticised because it does not give the voters an option or an alternative in an election to determine the question whether or not licenses shall be issued. Their program is unfair and unjust, and can not win among voters who take the trouble to learn all phases of it.

### Why Hoke Smith Was Defeated.

Politicians will cite the case of Governor Hoke Smith of Georgia as an example of the folly of leaders of any party leading up with the issue of prohibition. Hoke Smith is one of the best men of the south, where nearly every white man is necessarily a Democrat. He has made an excellent record as governor, and was entitled to a renomination for a second term. Partisan oracles of the north will not be slow to perceive that Hoke Smith's defeat was due to his championship of prohibition in the face of a popular movement among business men of Georgia for a revision of the law which was put into effect only last January. This law was enacted to abolish the black man's saloon, but it was not intended to prevent the white man from getting liquor. The net result, however, is the loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars in trade, according to the estimate of the Savannah Chamber of Commerce, and this has led to a concert of action of boards of trade throughout Georgia to bring about a revision of the law. Immense quantities of liquor are being shipped into the state in original packages, so that while there is no diminution of the amount consumed, there is an enormous outgo of money from the state to outside dealers.

Hoke Smith's competitor, Joe Brown, is said to have promised the business men to approve any bill the legislature would enact affording them relief. This is why he was successful in the Democratic primaries, which triumph is equivalent to an election. In other words, Georgia business men have risen, as did Iowa business men, and demanded of the dominant party relief from damaging conditions. They are for any candidate who is willing to help them.

In a nutshell, this is the whole story of the overthrow of Governor Hoke Smith and the breaking of time honored precedent, which calls for the giving to a good governor a second term.

Paid agents of the Anti-Saloon League are agitating prohibition in Nebraska. They force resident voters to defend existing law. They are getting the farmers to sign petitions to the next legislature for so-called county option, which is nothing but county prohibition, the ultimate aim being state-wide prohibition. Taxpayers should compel them to take off the mask, and to abandon the false pretense that there is the slightest degree of option in the bill which they are advocating.

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No shipment too large and none too small to receive the most careful attention.

Each consignment intrusted to our care will be handled by members of the firm.

Each man's stock sold on their merits and a square deal guaranteed to all.

Write us for the market paper and our special market letters, which we send you free of charge.

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This is a question which is asked of every man who is seen with a neat and dressy suit on. We can easily answer this correctly and to perfect satisfaction. In over eight years in which we have been handling tailor-made clothes we have handed five or six different lines, but we find that the best and greatest satisfaction is given by the house which we now handle, E. L. V. Price & Co.

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Let us fit you out with your FALL and WINTER clothes; such as a tailor-made, rain-proof cravenette, or overcoat, or suit, or, in fact, anything in the line of MEN'S FURNISHINGS.

We have just received a new line of the latest styles in bow-ties, four-in-hands and flowing-end ties.

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## To The Voters Of Cherry County.

Through the columns of the DEMOCRAT I wish to express to the voters of the county my sincerest appreciation for the vote given me at the recent election. The campaign was carried on in a non-partisan manner, the vote given me was as equally non-partisan, and the discharge of my official duties will be wholly non-partisan. Realizing that the people want an officer to serve their interests and to give his attention to the work, my hope is to please them in every particular. Every energy will be bent toward "making good".

Most sincerely,  
JAMES C. QUTBLEY.

### MILL PRICES FOR FEED.

	Per Cwt.	Per Ton.
Bran, sacked	\$1 05	\$20 00
Shorts, sacked	1 20	23 00
Corn, sacked	1 45	28 00
Oats, sacked	1 50	29 00
Chop Corn, sacked	1 50	29 00
Chop Feed, sacked	1 50	29 00

### Taken Up.

Taken up by the undersigned at my residence on the Haley farm south of Valentine Nebr. one stray 2 year old red and white spotted heifer notched under right ear. No other visible marks or brands. Has been here since last May. Owner can have same by paying costs.

C. B. BACHELOR,  
Valentine, Nebr.  
Dated Oct. 28, 1908.