

VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

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THE DEMOCRAT is besieged for free space continuously to advocate this or that as beneficial to the farmers. They want us to tell about a corn show in Omaha, a live stock show in Chicago and another in Sioux City, a Nebraska state farmers' congress in Lincoln, a Christian science meeting and a poultry show some where, the New Orleans exposition and San Francisco opposed to it, the hot Springs baths, the western lands exhibits at Omaha, the national western stock shows of Denver and numerous railway notices "if you think they're of sufficient importance as a news item, numerous college notices, advance sheets of other papers or magazines and clubbing offers, free reading matter here and there, and innumerable other things, all free. They don't expect to pay a cent for any of it; think because we are running a newspaper we're glad to use some of their truck as space fillers; probably think we can't tell the difference between news and graft.

Some go so far as to send us the plates expecting to find us short of copy and space fillers and by chance they may get a few items chucked into the paper that will run free, and its true; occasionally we're caught that way and for lack of time chuck in some of this plate matter, but if these promoters paid us for space instead of spending their money trying to work us, they'd get more for their money and we'd feel a great deal better toward them. But we're trying to cut them out and run our paper on a profit basis. The reason we are being besieged is because so many editors have been worked and what's the use of paying if they can get their stuff run free.

Will the brother editors please sit up and take notice and help us to throw off this yoke that is expected of the county newspapers to continually advise their people to go somewhere while the city papers get paid for it. We're throwing these notices in the waste basket until they show us there is something in it. We're not entirely a benevolent association for all the grafters to work. When we're worked it will be for our own people, and that's our business.

Why the Farmer Should Oppose the Rural Parcels Post.

The advocates of the rural parcels post claim that this system of merchandise transportation would enable the farmer to have small packages of merchandise delivered at his mail box quickly and cheaply.

No one disputes this—but there are two more sides to the question. Here is one:

Every rural delivery carrier is now authorized to carry merchandise parcels weighing over four pounds from your farm to town or from town to your farm—and you, or the town man, pay the carrier whatever you agree is right. The proposed postage charge would average much higher than what you would pay under the present system of local delivery. Now there is no maximum weight limit, for the carrier can take anything for you that he is able to carry, but it is proposed to limit the weight to 11 pounds only. This would greatly curtail the delivery privileges now open to every farmer who desires to use them and make delivery cost him more than under the present method.

Here is another side of the

question—the side seen by your good friends, the home merchants:

Big city merchants of all kinds would be quick to seize the rural parcels post as a delivery outlet through the use of local agents, to whom parcels would be shipped in large quantities by express or freight for deposit in the local postoffice and delivery by rural carriers. There is absolutely no way in which this could be prevented.

The opportunity thus afforded these mail-order houses for the development of a gigantic trust is a most serious menace to the farmer's welfare. Every necessary of life could in time be monopolized through the operation of this government postal subsidy, taxed against all the people and applied for the sole benefit of the Mail-Order Trust. Already Wall Street sees the trend of events and "big business" has become interested in fostering and financing the parcels post agitation. Its appetite has been stimulated by the results of the past few years, which have enabled one mail-order house to pay an annual dividend of 7 per cent on its many millions of capital and recently to declare a special dividend of 33 1/2 per cent. What farmer can ever hope to equal that record?

The big city merchants pay no taxes of any kind—direct or indirect—in your community. They do not help maintain your schools, churches, libraries, hospitals and other public institutions. They do not help you build and maintain good roads. They do not give you credit and they give you neither sympathy nor help when misfortune comes. These big city merchants have absolutely no interest in you, excepting to get hold of as many of your dollars as they can and give as little return therefor as possible.

Furthermore, the big city merchants do not help in any way to maintain and build up the home market for your products that enables you to get spot cash or its equivalent for everything you have to sell. Your location near such a town increases the value of your farm and makes that farm easy to sell at full value whenever you desire.

You appreciate the fact that the farmer trade keeps up the country towns and that any system—such as the parcels post—which will divert the farmer trade from the country town to the big city will ruin the country town.

If the country town is ruined, the farmers' home market will be destroyed or at least very seriously impaired. Property values in the country towns would certainly depreciate as store after store was forced out of business and greater burdens of taxation would be placed upon the farmers' overburdened shoulders. Lack of funds raised by taxation would curtail the schools of the country towns. Churches now so largely supported by the home merchants could no longer be kept supplied with ministers, unless the farmer members heavily increased their contributions. Public spirit would be destroyed, public institutions would suffer and public improvements become a thing of the past.

The plain fact is that the interests of the farmer and the home merchant are mutual. They are partners in the business of production and distribution—in the upbuilding and maintenance of the best possible home market. And the best home market is one that buys everything the farmer has to sell at top market prices and sells him everything he needs at fair competitive prices.

Therefore, Mr. Farmer, stand by your home merchants now as you would expect them to stand by you. In doing this you are conserving your own best interests.

Furnished rooms to rent by day or week. Hot and cold water baths included. Valentine House, John D. Eaton, Prop. 32tf

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER

(Special Correspondent)

The Humphrey ship subsidy bill, which provides for an annual gift of \$5,000,000 from the treasury of the United States to millionaire private ship owners, is to be jammed through this session of congress at the special request of President Taft.

Ship subsidies are about as unpopular with the country generally as tariff revision upward. Yet the republicans appear unafraid to place this additional class legislation upon the statute books.

The stand-pat republicans who were defeated for re-election have nothing to lose through voting for ship subsidy. The stand-pat republicans who were re-elected will vote for it to be consistent with past performances. Besides, republicans voting against measures recommended by Taft lay themselves open to the charge of traitor, for which "hanging is too good for them," and in addition thereto may have their patronage taken away from them.

The vote on the ship subsidy bill will be close. Several progressive republicans will refuse to support the measure, the president's recommendation and implied threat notwithstanding.

The best that can be said for a shipping subsidy is that it provides for the payment of public moneys directly to big private interests on the assumption that the maritime commerce of the United States will increase and that the public will then be able to get the donations back indirectly. But past experiments have proven that once the special interests get hold of the people's money, the people have their own trouble getting it back, either directly or indirectly.

Although it is not generally known, Uncle Sam now subsidizes a few mail steamship lines. Our heaviest-subsidized line is between New York and England. If it is true, as subsidists assert, that trade follows subsidies, why is it that exports to the United Kingdom in the ten years between 1897 and 1907 increased but 25 per cent, while our exports to nine countries to which we have no subsidized lines increased from 105 to 4900 per cent?

Our exports to the United Kingdom and countries to which we have no subsidized lines, increased as follows between 1897 and 1907:

United Kingdom	25 per cent
Turkey	4900 per cent
Austria-Hungary	275 per cent
Egypt	200 per cent
Germany	103 per cent
Italy	181 per cent
Canada	181 per cent
Japan	196 per cent

The Unpopular Appointments.

The appointment of Judge Robert W. Archbald of Pennsylvania and Interstate Commerce Commission Martin A. Knapp to the federal court of commerce is satisfactory—to big interests particularly.

Archbald, although the president may not have known it, was once upon a time the subject of a scathing arraignment in a decision of the Pennsylvania supreme court when an enterprise floated by him was denounced as a "fraud upon the public" and a "disregard of the requirements of business honesty." The suit was one brought in 1885 by Hill, Keiser & Co., in the Lackawana county court against Archbald and others, doing business as the Amity Coal Co., Ltd. The suit was carried to the state supreme court. The decision against Archbald was written by the late Justice Williams. It declared that the concern in which Archbald was one of four partners was an "empty shell" and its business, conducted on a fake capital of \$25,000, "a fraud upon the public."

The nomination of Commissioner Knapp is objected to on the ground that Knapp has shown himself to be strongly in favor of railroad privileges, and is therefore disqualified for service on a court which is to pass upon rail-

road questions.

Close observers here at the capitol declare there is nothing surprising about the appointments. The two nominees are of the same temperament as the men who are most frequently received at the White House, to-wit: Aldrich, Hale, Stephenson, Guggenheim, Penrose. From the first, the president's advisers have been men whose views were not the views of the great mass of the American people. Republicans like LaFollette who have called at the White House to counsel with the president have been kept waiting in the ante room so long that they have left the executive mansion in disgust.

Since the president has relied upon the suggestions and advice of men unpopular with the people, and has rejected the advice and counsel of republicans popular with the people, the president should not be surprised that his administration is failing to please the people.

Progressives Disappointed.

When President Taft was considering who he would appoint to the supreme bench he gave the progressive republicans a list of men and asked them to investigate their records and declare what their attitude would be if he should nominate them. This the progressives did, reporting in favor of some and against others. Imagine their surprise when the president announced his selections and it was found that neither of the two men appointed were included in any list which had been submitted to them.

Ballinger Should Resign.

Are the services of Richard A. Ballinger as secretary of the interior department worth the price the Taft administration is paying in keeping him in that office? This is a question that many republicans are considering. Despite the "vindication" of Mr. Ballinger by a partisan majority of the congressional investigating committee, the fact remains that the evidence discredited him as a public servant. Even the republicans feel that he has lost the confidence of the people and that his resignation would lift a load from the Taft administration.

TEN MEET DEATH

Manhattan Shaken by Blast in Grand Central Station.

ONE HUNDRED IN HOSPITALS.

Property Damaged to the Amount of Two Million Dollars—Foundations Are Jarred and Walls Shaken Out of Plumb—Due to Broken Pipe.

New York, Dec. 20.—The heart of Manhattan island was shaken by a terrific explosion of illuminating gas in the auxiliary power house of the Grand Central station. Ten persons, two of them women, were killed, 125 were injured and property was damaged to the extent of \$2,000,000.

Four workmen who are missing are believed to have perished, and of 125 injured, ninety-eight were removed to hospitals. Of those eight may die. An investigation by the police is under way.

The dead: Nickolo Galucci, Patrick Jordan, E. B. Livermore, C. McMarrow, Edith Offner, Mary B. Pope, Charles Roberts, John Ryan, Frank Stagg and Luther Johnson.

The injured include laborers and other employees of the railroad, pedestrians, bystanders and others in the vicinity of the accident.

Trolley Car Thrown From Track.

A passing surface car, carrying seven passengers, was lifted from the tracks and hurled on an automobile running alongside. Four of the seven passengers were killed outright, but the chauffeur of the motor car was only cut and bruised.

Of the nearly 100 in hospitals, the following are most seriously injured: Michael Ryan, fractured skull; Vetta Abrahamson, fractured skull; Theresa Lotta, fractured skull; John Smith, injuries to the head; Francis Kelly, policeman, burned and bruised; John Cunningham, burned.

For some hours it was believed dynamite alone could have wrought such instantaneous and demolishing havoc, but Fire Chief Croker said he was convinced the whole explosion was due to a mixture of air and illuminating gas, used in lighting railroad cars, touched off by an electric spark. The gas had accumulated in the auxiliary

Stop and Take Notice!

When you are in town for Xmas shopping be sure to stop at

The Daylight Store

first and look over their splendid line of Holiday Goods. Their prices are cheaper than any place in town.

GREAT REDUCTION

We cut prices on Winter Goods in order to make room for our spring line. Big line of Xmas Candies and Nuts. Don't fail to stop at

A. John & Co.

POOL AND BILLIARD HALL

Cigars and Soft Drinks

JOHN G. STETTER - PROP.

Good Meals \$1.00 Per Day
UNION HOTEL
Valentine, Nebr.
Warm Beds Clean Rooms

power house from a broken pipe, snapped off by a runaway passenger car.

Foundations were jarred, walls shaken out of plumb, windows blown in by the thousands, ceilings came crashing down on the heads of those beneath, and the pavements were littered with pulverized glass.

Justice White is installed
New Head of Supreme Court Takes Oath of Office.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Edward Douglass White, for sixteen years an associate justice of the supreme court of the United States, became the ninth chief justice of the nation. The simple public ceremonies of installation were held in the presence of the bench and a distinguished gathering that filled the little court room.

The oath of allegiance was administered by Associate Justice Harlan just before the court took its place on the bench.

For the first time in history an associate justice had been appointed to the chief justiceship, and for the first time a president and a senate of one political party had honored a member of a rival party by placing him at the head of the highest court in the land.

Because of the overwhelming modesty of Chief Justice White, officials of the court were uncertain as to the exact details of the ceremony of the day until they had actually occurred.

In a general way, the broad customs attending the induction into office of the head of the court were followed.

NEW RATE FOR UPPER BERTHS

Schedule Announced Is Eighty Per Cent of Charge for Lower Berth.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Tentative approval of the interstate commerce commission has been given to the fixed charge for upper berths in Pullman cars at 80 per cent of the charge now paid for lower berths. The new charge is to become effective throughout the United States on or after Jan. 20, 1911.

Nebraska City, Neb., Dec. 20.—There is a lively fight on here over the appointment of postmastership. The race is between Frank McCartney, the present postmaster; F. E. Helvey, an ex-postmaster, and John W. Steinhart, former cashier of the Otce County National bank and ex-president of the Nebraska City Commercial club.

THE MARKETS

Chicago, Dec. 20.—Something of a scare about dry weather in the southwest was one of the chief causes today in advancing the price of wheat. The market closed firm, with a net gain of 1/4¢ to 3/8¢. Corn at the finish was 1/4¢ to 1/2¢ higher than last night, oats were unchanged to 1/4¢ up and provisions had risen 10¢ to 12¢ to 22¢. Closing prices:

Wheat—Dec., 91 1/2¢; May, 96 1/4¢ to 96 3/4¢.
Corn—Dec., 45 1/2¢; May, 47 1/4¢ to 47 3/4¢.
Oats—Dec., 31 1/4¢; May, 34¢.
Perk—Jan., \$19.62 1/2; May, \$18.37 1/2.
Lard—Jan., \$10.57 1/2; May, \$10.17 1/2.
Ribs—Dec., \$10.45; May, \$9.75.
Chicago Cash Prices—No. 2 hard wheat, 94¢ to 96¢; No. 2 corn, 46 1/4¢ to 47 1/4¢; No. 2 oats, 31¢ to 31 1/2¢.

South Omaha Live Stock.
South Omaha, Dec. 20.—Cattle—Receipts, 4,700; strong; beef steers, \$4.55 to \$6.00; cows and heifers, \$3.10 to \$5.00; stockers and feeders, \$4.35 to \$5.25; calves, \$4.00 to \$8.00. Hogs—Receipts, 6,944; 10c lower; light and medium weights sold at \$7.45 to \$7.60, with top at \$7.65; heavy, \$7.35 to \$7.45; rough, \$7.25 and over. Sheep—Receipts, 4,000; 10¢ to 15¢ higher; woolled lambs sold as high as \$6.00; fall clipped touched \$5.90, heavy yearlings up to \$4.70; fed ewes and wethers, \$3.60 to \$4.00.

Chicago Live Stock.

Chicago, Dec. 20.—Cattle—Receipts, 1,000; steady; beefs, \$4.55 to \$7.25; western steers, \$4.10 to \$5.30; stockers and feeders, \$3.40 to \$5.50; cows and heifers, \$2.40 to \$6.15; calves, \$7.25 to \$9.25. Hogs—Receipts, 23,000; steady; light, \$7.35 to \$7.70; mixed, \$7.40 to \$7.75; heavy, \$7.35 to \$7.75; rough, \$7.35 to \$7.45; pigs, \$6.90 to \$7.15; bulk, \$7.55 to \$7.70. Sheep—Receipts, 2,000; strong; natives, \$2.50 to \$4.30; westerns, \$2.65 to \$4.30; yearlings, \$4.40 to \$5.75; lambs, \$4.25 to \$6.50.

Mrs. Jemima Hobson Dead.

Lyons, Neb., Dec. 20.—A telegram received here says that Mrs. Jemima D. Hobson died at Eud, Okla., ninety-one years of age. She was a pioneer well and favorably known in the states of Indiana, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado and California.