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WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8, 1905.

FREDERICK E. ABBETT, Editor.

**RENEWALS**—The date opposite your name on the renewal card will be the date when payment for subscription is paid. That Jan 1 shows that payment has been received up to Jan 1, 1905. For the time past, until payment is made, the date, which answer as a receipt, will be changed accordingly.

**DISCONTINUANCES**—Responsible subscribers may discontinue their paper until the publishers are notified by letter to discontinue, when all arrangements must be paid. If you do not wish the journal to continue, you should let the editor know of it; if he has expired, you should previously notify us to discontinue it.

**CHANGE IN ADDRESS**—When ordering a change in address, the subscriber should be sure to give their old as well as their new address.

No, they have not put it back yet.  
He seems to have seen his shadow, all right.

We need publicity more than we do legislation.

What has become of the "infamous revenue law"? Why do not the democratic papers cry out for its repeal? Their silence now proves their insincerity.

Who asked for a sign of Nebraska's prosperity? Try to get a drayman to haul you a load of cobs one of these cold days and you may sigh for some more hard times—before you get the cobs.

Senator Hughes was discussing the proposed divorce law with a group of friends in the Meridian hotel lobby last Sunday. All the members of the group were married men except the Senator, who is known to be an old bachelor. The senator was strangely silent during the discussion but seemed to be deeply interested. When nearly every phase of the question had been discussed he finally said "Gentlemen, I am afraid I am not very well qualified to vote on that question." Mr. Hughes went to Norfolk with a committee the last of the week to investigate the condition of the Norfolk asylum. He finds the work of legislation very fascinating, especially the committee work. And few men in the senate are equipped to do more effective work in committee than Hugh Hughes.

Speaking of "doctored corn," one of the most interesting cases within the memory of Nebraskans was the sort of grain distributed, by Governor Furnas when he was in charge of the state's exhibit at New Orleans. Mr. Furnas employed a man to sit in a back room and dig out grains from large white ears. In place of the missing grains others of a deep yellow were substituted and glued in. The yellow grains were placed in the ears in such a manner as to form the letters of the word "Nebraska." The same was done with yellow ears, white grains being inserted to form the word. The ears in themselves were a curiosity in the south, but with a word apparently imprinted by nature they went like hot cakes. "Did they grow that way?" asked many visitors. "They grew," blandly replied Governor Furnas.—Albion News.

The cold weather has put a damper on almost everything but the piano contest. The time is so short till the close of the contest that it is realized that strenuous work must be done by the contestants who expect to win.

The vote as published shows a great revival of interest for the finish. And it must be remembered that the published vote represents for the most part, simply the vote put in by friends of the contestants. It is not one of the rules of the contest that the votes are to be turned in as they are received and the contestants are all taking advantage of this fact. As to the number of votes that are being held back, the Journal is entirely in the dark and is glad to be in the dark.

A prosecuting attorney might be compelled, in the performance of his duty, to try a brother lawyer on the same charge in several different courts, or on various charges in the same court. Repetition in this instance would not constitute persecution.

An editor may find it necessary, in the discharge of his duty to the public, repeatedly to call attention to a state of corruption with which a brother editor may unfortunately be connected, in order to bring about the magnitude of the offense. Such repetition is not persecution.

It would be persecution for the physician in the case instanced to make repeatedly a false report or to make use of the facts to injure personally his brother physician.

It would be persecution for the prosecuting attorney to bring false charges or to make use of true charges to injure personally a brother lawyer.

Likewise it would be persecution for an editor repeatedly to make false charges against a brother editor or to make use of the truth otherwise than in the interest of the public.

Professional ethics demands that persecution be eliminated but it also demands that professional courtesy shall not stand in the way of public duty.

**THE DIFFERENCE.**  
The board of education of Columbus saves the Columbus school district hundreds of dollars by its business like methods of buying school supplies. The board of supervisors of Platte county wasted hundreds of dollars of county funds by unbusiness like methods of buying supplies and by direct violations of the law.

The Columbus board of education submits bids for all the supplies the schools need and expect to use.

Bids for county supplies are submitted without regard to the supplies actually needed and used, both as to quality and quantity.

The Columbus board of education buys of the lowest bidder, not on the supplies as a whole, but item by item, buying from a given bidder only those items which he offers cheaper than all others.

Platte county supplies are bought from the bidder whose totals are the lowest, regardless of the prices on individual items.

The board of education protects the pocket books of the district taxpayer.

The pocket books of county taxpayers are filled to reward political favorites and grafters.

When will the taxpayers of Platte county rise and demand the same honesty and economy in the conduct of the county's business that is practiced by the Columbus board of education?

**IMPORTANT.**

Representative Foster of Douglas has introduced a resolution asking for the appointment of a committee of three to investigate freight rates in Nebraska and to report a bill to replace the present dead "maximum freight rate" law. The resolution was unanimously adopted and the committee appointed.

We believe that we voiced the sentiment of a large majority of taxpayers when we said a few weeks ago that action along this line was the most important that could be taken by the present legislature. There are many other important subjects for legislation perhaps; but the question of freight rates is fundamental. It goes to the pocketbook of every citizen. If rates in Nebraska are too high, and most people believe they are, the state should provide the remedy. If they are not too high, the investigation can do no harm.

And the committee to whom is intrusted this important matter should treat the railroads as partners in business with the shippers of Nebraska.

Many of the railroad abuses are due to the fact that legislatures have treated them either as masters or as enemies.

It is to be hoped that the press of the state will unite in a demand that the Foster resolution shall be carried out to the letter.

**PROFESSIONAL ETHICS.**

A physician should be the last to call attention to a flaw in the personal character of a brother physician.

A lawyer should never criticize the conduct of a brother lawyer.

Professional ethics should forever ban an editor from using his column for a personal attack upon a brother editor or upon any other person.

On the other hand, if one physician, acting in the capacity of examiner for a life insurance company is called upon to examine a brother physician, it becomes his duty to record all the infirmities he finds, even though the brother physician is his closest personal friend.

If a lawyer is acting as a public prosecutor it becomes his duty to try to convict a brother lawyer, who has been arrested on a felonious charge.

It does not appear whether this was done for the benefit of the poor lawyers who cannot afford to own a volume of Shakespeare, nor does it appear from what statute the reporter gets his authority for advertising his legal and literary genius at the expense of the state.

Nebraska needs only a Carrie Nation to enable her to steal the palms from Kansas, as the "freak" state.

Likewise it becomes the duty of an editor to mention the name of a brother editor, regardless of personal relations, if he finds his brother connected in any way with official corruption from which the public suffers. For it is just as much the function of a newspaper to expose without fear or favor official dishonesty and corruption, as it is the function of the prosecuting attorney to prosecute criminals. In both cases it is simply the performance of public duty. But the performance of public duty should stop short of personal persecution.

What constitutes persecution? A physician might be forced by honesty to report the same infirmities of a brother physician to a dozen different life insurance companies which the latter sought to join. The repetition of the same findings in the several reports would not constitute persecution, for the repetition would be made in the course of the performance of a plain duty.

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**THE LAWSON QUESTION.**

The exchange of courtesies between Mr. Lawson and Mr. Donohue is drawing comment from the press at large which is somewhat divided.

Mr. Donohue has published two of his weekly articles, labelled "The Truth About Frontline Finance." Both those articles have dealt with the personal history and general character of Mr. Lawson. Criticisms of his

writings assert that the question is not whether Lawson is a gambler and swindler but whether his story about the high financiers is true.

This criticism would of course hold good provided Mr. Donohue had finished his argument and had presented nothing but attacks on Mr. Lawson personally, whether those attacks were true or not. But Donohue has not finished the presentation of his case. He has promised to deal fully with the charges of Mr. Lawson, but says that since much of Lawson's case rests solely on Lawson's word it will be valuable to have a correct idea of who and what Mr. Lawson is before proceeding to examine his testimony. And this is perfectly proper. Mr. Lawson himself has used six months in preliminaries before starting on the story of Amalgamation. Moreover, it is always in order to introduce testimony establishing the unreliability and previous bad character of the witness for the other side.

Lawson has public sentiment with him largely, not so much because his story bears the marks of disinterested truth as because it is a matter of common knowledge that the methods of the captains of finance are a refined form of highway robbery.

But both sides of every question must be considered. Lawson will no doubt have somewhat to say about Mr. Donohue personally, and the merits of the real question will not be affected by their exchange of long range personalities.

Incidentally, Mr. Donohue is financial editor of the New York Commercial, which paper Mr. Lawson says belongs to H. H. Rogers.

**A GRAND JURY.**

Representative Hoare's bill for calling a county grand jury at least once a year was killed last week by the sifting committee. This bill was a good one and it is too bad it did not get on our statute books.

What would a grand jury do for Platte county taxpayers?

It would indict supervisors Ernst and Bender under the criminal code of Nebraska and initiate a suit to remove them from office and collect a fine of \$200 each, in addition to the money they have collected in violation of the law. It would pry into the methods of the democratic printing monopoly in Platte county which robs the taxpayers of hundreds of dollars every year. It would see if there is any criminal statute in Nebraska that would reach any of the joint conspirators who through an organized system of graft defeat a law they lack the courage openly to violate.

It would root out enough rotteness in Platte county at one sitting to save the taxpayers ten times the cost of the grand jury for ten years. Why do not private citizens make complaint?

Because most citizens are engaged in business, and modern business makes cowards of us all." Grafters buy things the same as other people.

But perhaps the voters of Platte county will remove the cause of the disease at the next election.

**FREE CULTURE.**

Volume 66 of the Nebraska reports, which is just out, is somewhat of an innovation. It would require a careful counting of the pages to determine whether it has more of court opinions or more of reporter's notes. In one place the reporter has inserted page after page of quotations from Shakespeare. It does not appear whether this was done for the benefit of the poor lawyers who cannot afford to own a volume of Shakespeare, nor does it appear from what statute the reporter gets his authority for advertising his legal and literary genius at the expense of the state.

Rev. J. W. Angell of Monroe has sent an invitation to the pastors of the ministerial association of this city to assist him this week in the services being held there and it is possible that some of the ministers may attend. Rev. Angell was assisted in services Sunday by Evangelist Harmon and is known as the children's evangelist, and at the three services held during the day large congregations were present and much interest manifested in the services.

One of Nebraska's greatest needs is now constitution. It is evident that a majority of the people will never vote for a constitutional convention at a general election. There is only one way open to get a constitutional convention. That is to call a special election and have the press of the state unite in a campaign of education on the subject before the election. Why will not the present legislature call such an election? There is an opportunity for some senator or representative to hand his name down to history as a benefactor of the state of Nebraska.

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**Yesterday's Daily Journal.**

Miss Jennie Schram is home on account of illness.

E. H. Jenkins is confined to his home with the grip.

J. C. Dineen of Ocoee was a Columbus visitor yesterday.

R. E. Backmaster will go to Oregon tomorrow to attend the wedding of Mr. Lawson.

Mrs. M. Rothleitner and children have been confined to the house for several days with grip.

Mrs. Lena Klaase will go to Monroe tomorrow to remain with Mrs. Bert Strother for some time.

Will Bootcher is home for a two weeks vacation from his work as teacher in Grand Island and Central City.

Mrs. Alfred Palms of St. Edward came down today to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Boyd, until Thursday.

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