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WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25, 1905.

FREDERICK E. ABBOTT, Editor.

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REPUBLICAN TICKET.

STATE.

CHARLES B. LETTON.... Supreme Judge
V. G. LYFORD } ..University Regents
F. H. ABBOTT }

COUNTY.

W. L. SMITH.....Treasurer
ED. LUSINSKI.....Clerk
J. D. STIRES.....County Judge
R. B. WEBB.....Sheriff
O. H. SMITH.....Superintendent
Dr. H. G. MORRIS.....Coroner
O. C. SHANNON.....Surveyor

SUPERVISORS.
Dist. 2—F. J. SHURE.
Dist. 4—A. E. PRIEST.
Dist. 6 & 7—WM. J. NEWMAN.

A "square deal" for Platte county.

The mud geyser in the Biene office is working over-time these days.

We would be worried at the Biene's flim-flam, if we could only care A-dam.

W. L. Smith has enough democratic support promised to land him in the county treasurer's office.

There isn't a finer young fellow in Nebraska than H. G. Morris, republican candidate for coroner, and he ought to be elected.

We humbly suggest that the Telegram change that big black head from "Leavy Nails a Lie" to "Leavy's lie nailed." and run in the letter of C. R. Atkinson in place of Leavy's letter.

The Columbus Journal's persistant vilification of good and honest men during the present campaign has been too utterly ridiculous to deserve the notice of decent people.—Humphrey Democrat.

Is that so? Well! Well!!

Do you want a Roosevelt square deat in Platte county, Mr. Democrat? Then follow the example of that good old democrat, Jacob Schurr of Humphrey and work for the republican ticket from Letton down.

It is county patronage he (the editor of the Journal) is after and he is willing to resort to anything dirty to win.—Humphrey Democrat.

The Humphrey Democrat is one of the democratic official papers of Platte county.

Every friend of the "square deal" policy should be on the move from now on till election. Remember that the democratic candidates have a big advantage in drawing public money while travelling through the country to whip their lieutenants into line. It is a fight to a finish between Tammany and Roosevelt in Platte county.

Don't forget that the offices of county judge, sheriff and supervisor are the backbone of the machine in Platte Co. and that the machine cannot be destroyed without breaking its backbone. Stires and Webb for judge and sheriff, and Schurr, Priest and Blaser for supervisors must be pushed by every friend of good government. There is no politics in it this fall.

THAT DEFICIT.

As usual, the Telegram and the Biene deny the Journal's statement concerning the deficit in the Platte county treasury which is drawing 7 per cent interest.

The Journal's only mistake consisted in understating the amount of the deficit.

For the exact information of the toxpayers' of Platte county the editor of the Journal visited the treasurer's office on October 20 and obtained the following figures from the records.

We ask anyone who doubs the correctness of these figures to call upon or write to Treasurer Becher.

Oastanding warrants drawing 7 per cent interest:

General Fund	$ 7,950.41
Bridge Fudd	4,690.82
Road Fund	1,982.87
Total	$14,642.10

instead of $10,000 as stated by the Journal last week.

The Telegram and Biene assert that this deficit is due to the failure of the railroads to pay their taxes. The Journal said that the deficit was only partly due to that fact Which was right?

Treasrer Becher's books show that the railroads owe Platte county for 1904 taxes a total of $7724 22, only $3423.96 of which belongs to the General Fund which showes a deficit of about $800.

How about the deficit of nearly $5000, which would remain if the railroads had paid their taxes? A glance over the names on the warrant register shows the names of the Telegram Co. and the other democratic papers which are drawing 25 per cent illegally. The warrants filed by the Telegram company since August 31 aggregate $951.15 not to mention its warrants for $377.50 on the "special ditch fund," which it should be explained does not bear interest. Sheriff Carrig's warrants for the same period aggregate $814.40, not to mention his warrant for $172.75 on the "special ditch fund." Supervisors salaries are also paid out of this fund.

If all the supervisors in Platte county had collected only legal salaries; if Sheriff Carrig had collected only for necessary mil eage and had paid bac to the county the money which he had actually saved by riding on a pass after keeping out pay for his work for the railroads; if the supervisors had saved the 25 per cent which they have paid out illegally for the county printing; if John Graf had made the estimates for the county supplies according to law, instead of in favor of the Columbus Telegram if all of these things had been done, that deficit would have been whittled dowa till we could have united in charging it all up against the railroads.

The Journal has given only facts that can be verified by the records. We ask taxpayers to consult the record, and to vote for a Roosevelt administration in Platte county, if the Journal has quoted the record correctly.

"GRAFT" DEFINED.

Our townsman, Judge Albert wrote an opinion which was considered so "pat" on the subject of "graft" that a well known journal quoted it and commented on it. Judge Alberts definition of graft should be read by Platte county voters. The article follows:

In discussing a statute forbidding contracts between a county and county officers, the court said: "The tampta tion of public officers to vicarious generosity is well known It assails them greater force when the object of such generosity is one of their own number, and in a position to reciprocate or to further or thwart the purposes of his fellows. The object of the provision just quoted is to remove that temptation so far as possible, and to render innocuous that spirit of amity and reciprocity which is apt to prevail among public officers." Lord Chesterfield himself could not have defined "graft" more politely.

The Telegram says that this paper is trying to charge the deficit in Platte county against the offical conduct of Treasurer Becher and other officials. Here is the record and it has never been published by those democratic papers that pretend to be supporting Treasurer Becher. Treasrer Becher collected interest on county deposits in the banks in 1904, $832.85. Up to date in 1905 he has collected $773 19, a record without a precedent in Platte county. We challenge the Telegram to copy this statement from the Columbus Journal giving due credit.

"If the railroads would pay their taxes Platte county would have money to take up every outstanding warrant."—Telgram. A slight typhographical error in this statement. Insert the words "nearly one-half of" before the word "every", and you will have it.

THE EVIDENCE.

The Journal has no personal attack to make on Supt. L. H. Leavy or any other democratic candidate, nor has it any reply to make to the personal attacks made on the Journal editor by democratic editors. Neither has it any apologies to offer to Platte county taxpayers for performing its duty by publishing the facts concerning the officials who have been entrusted with the county's business.

Last week by attacking the Journal's statements concerning Supt. L. H. Leavy and Ed. Lusinski, republican candidate for county clerk, the democratic press hoped to discredit the Journal's statements with reference to the other candidates.

That Journal readers may know the whole truth we offer evidence in this issue to support every statement made in the Journal. If the Journal's statements have been verified by the evidence, then the thoughtful taxpayers of Platte county without regard to party, can be depended upon to protect their pocket books. All that we ask is a dispassionate and careful reading of the evidence.

The cases of Leavy and Luseinski will be taken up first as the Journal's statements regarding these two candidates are the ouly ones that have been denied.

AS TO LEAVY

The Columbus Journal of October 11, said in part:

> "Supt. Leavy plays a smooth game with the teachers of Platte county. Within the last three years he gave the teachers a reception at the beginning of the institute, treating them to ice cream, etc., presumably at his own expence. But as a matter of fact the taxpayers footed the bill for which Leavy got the credit and a great many votes the next year. He worked it in this way. One of the institute workers was to get $50 a week. At the close of the institute Leavy said to him in substance: "I want to raise some money to pay for my treat to the teachers. You sign this receipt for $65 and I'll pay you $50." And the deal was made.

Supt. Leavy, replying, declared the Journal's charge false, but a careful reading of his denial discloses the fact that he does not specifically deny that he over paid the instructor and received back enough to pay for the reception out of his "own private bank account." Leavy's denial follows:

> "I brand as unqualifiedly false every charge made against me. I paid for that ice cream out of my own private bank account, and have the cancelled check to show for it."

Here is the Journal's evidence, contained in a letter written by Prof. C. R. Atkinson of Sheridan, Wyoming, under date of August 13, 1905. Prof. Atkinson related the same facts to Prof. Fulmer of Pawnee City, his fellow instructor at the time: "I am willing to swear only to the facts, which are as follows:

> When the financial settlement came, I noticed that my check was $10.00 (possibly $5.00) larger than I had expected and my heart gave a joyful thump as two other County Superintendents had given me more than my agreement called for, saying that my work had pleased them and that the fund was in better shape than they had anticipated. But Mr, Leavy explained to me that the expense of the reception given the evening before was charged into this account, saying that it was a legitimate expense and would merely look better on the books if charged to instructions.

STATE OF NEBRASKA, }
PLATTE CO. } ss

D. M. Newman being first duly sworn deposes and says that the foregoing is a true and exact extract from a letter under date of August 13th, written by C. R. Atkinson, Superintendent of Schools of Sheridan, Wyoming, and relating to the payment to him of salary for services as Institute instructor by Superintendent L. H. Leavy.

D. M. NEWMAN,
Sec. Rep. Com. Platte county.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of Oct., 1905.

WM, O'BRIEN,
Justice of the Peace.

Either Mr. Leavy or Mr. Atkinson is mistaken. It is up to them and the taxpayers of Platte county.

The Journal also said:

> "Supt. Leavy is an agent of the "book trust," recommending only the trust's books for use in the schools of Platte county. If Supt. Leavy is not getting a "rake off," will he explain why he is crippling the schools of Platte county by recommending only the trust's books?

"This charge Mr. Leavy did not attempt to deny specifically, denying it only in general by saying that "every charge in the Journal is absolutely false." His statement that other book companies than the Amer-Book Company sell books in Platte county is not to the point. Under Nebraska's text book law, which is one of the best in the United States, school boards are vested with authority to buy books. As a rule they buy the books recommended by the county superintendent, but in some cases they are slow to change old books for new, hence Supt. Leavy could easily find isolated examples where other companies are still furnishing books. But it must be noted that the Journal simply charged that Supt. Leavy "recommends" only the books of the American Book Company. Nor does the Journal charge that Supt. Leavy gets a "rake off." It simply asked him to explain why he recommends only the books of one company if he is not getting a "rake off."

Here is the evidence. It is an extract from a circular letter issued from Supt. Leavy's office under date of Nov. 21, 1903 and addressed to "To Teachers and School Boards." A copy of the letter was handed to us by R. P. Drake of Humphrey. Every teacher and school director in Platte county probably received a copy. The circular reads in part as follows:

> We have given these questions careful consideration, and in reply to many questions, have decided to recommend a list of books, which we think will prove satisfactory.
>
> It is not expected that radical changes will be made but as new books are needed they may be ordered from this list.
>
> The books may be ordered through local dealers, who will attend promptly to orders. Where not convenient, they may be ordered direct from the publishers, **The American Book Company**, Chicago, Ill., who are reliable and will courteously answer all inquiries: In case you find we can be of any service to you, don't hesitate to write to us.
>
> Yours for better books,
> L. H. LEAVY,
> County Superintendent.

By offering evidence that Platte county school boards buy books of other companies, Mr. Leavy proves simply that all the boards do not follow his "rocommendations."

Lest the Journal may do the American Book Company or Mr. Leavy an injustice, it should be said that the American Book Company has many good books and that the list recommended by Mr. Leavy is a good list. It is just as safe to tie up to the American Book Company alone as to Ginn & Co., or D. C. Heath & Co., alone.

Mr. Leavy's letter over his own signature proves his agency for the American Book Company. The letter of C. R. Atkinson, if he spoke the truth, proves that the taxpayers of Platte county paid for L. H. Leavy's reception to his teachers for which he claimed the credit.

AS TO LUSIENSKI.

It is not unusual to see a slight mistake in a biography and the Journal was getting ready to correct any mistatement it might have made about Ed. Lusienski, republican candidate for county clerk and to give proper acknowledgement to the democratic committee for pointing out the error, when we received the following from Ed. Lusienski: "The Journal was correct in stating that I spent two years in the sister's school in Omaha. The democratic committee was correct in saying that I had worked in the packing house at Omaha for a while. And the Journal was correct in saying that I was engaged in the mercantile business in Platte Center for about four years, although not all of the time in the employ of Ripp & Co.

ED. LUSIENSKI.

The following testimonials will also be interesting as throwing a little more light on "Journal veracity" which seems to worry the democratic editor of the subsidized department of tne Argus:

PLATTE CENTER, NEB., Oct. 21, 1905.

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that I have known Mr. E. F. Lusienski from childhood and that he worked for Bruckner & Greisen as an apprentice and later for the firm of H. M. Ripp & Co. as a regular employe for about two years, during which time he gave splendid satisfaction. He then resigned his position with that firm to accept one with K. A. Kehoe. Mr. Lusienski is a conscientious, capable young man and a splendid book-keeper and one that would be a credit to any firm.

HILGER GREISEN.

PLATTE CENTER, NEB., Oct. 21, 1905.

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that we have known Mr. E. F. Lusienski for a number of years, during which time he has conducted himself in a gentlemanly manner and during the time he was in our employ, he gave good satisfaction and did his work in a business like manner. We have a place for Mr. Lusienski as an employe, should he at any time apply.

K. A. KEHOE,
Per W. M. COBBISON, Manager.

With this evidence on Leavy and Lusienski before the taxpayers of Platte county, we are willing to rest our case on the question of "verasity."

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