

Entered at the Postoffice, Columbus, Nebr., as second-class mail matter.

PUBLISHED WEDNESDAYS BY
Columbus Journal Co.,
(INCORPORATED.)

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:
One year, by mail, postage prepaid.....\$1.50
Six months......75
Three months......40

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21, 1906.

FREDERICK E. ABBOTT, Editor.

RENEWALS—The date opposite your name on your paper, or wrapper shows to what time your subscription is paid. Thus Jan. 1, 1906, shows that your subscription has been received up to Jan. 1, 1906, Feb. 1, 1906 and so on. When payment is made the date, which answers as a receipt, will be changed accordingly.

DISCONTINUANCES—Responsible subscribers will continue to receive this journal until the publishers are notified by letter to discontinue, when all arrears must be paid. If you do not wish the journal continued for another year after the time paid for has expired, you should previously notify us to discontinue it.

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

A FARCE.

The Journal has been criticised for speaking against the adoption of the proposed constitutional amendment providing for an elective railroad commission, and has been asked to show cause why the same should not be adopted.

The Cady railroad commission bill after providing for the election of 3 commissioners, one every two years at a salary to be fixed by the legislature, contains the following language with reference to the commissions powers:

"The powers and duties of such commission [railroad commission] shall include the regulation of rates, service and general control of common carriers as the legislature shall provide by law. But in absence of specific legislation, the commission shall exercise the powers and perform the duties enumerated in this provision."

The very indefiniteness and indirectness of the language of this bill brands it as a plaything of, by and for the railroads invented to fool the people and create endless legislation in the courts.

Contrast the Cady weakling which will be forced upon the voters next fall, with the Dodge commission bill which passed the House but which met a violent death at the hands of the railroad lobby in the senate. The Dodge bill contained the following provision:

"THE RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS SHALL HAVE POWER TO ESTABLISH, MODIFY AND ENFORCE REASONABLE RATES OF CHARGES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONS AND FREIGHTS ON THE DIFFERENT RAILROADS WITHIN THE STATE AND PREVENT DISCRIMINATIONS AND ABUSES AND ADJUST AND DETERMINE CONTROVERSIES IN RESPECT TO TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES, CHARGES AND DISCRIMINATIONS. The liability of railroad corporations as common carriers shall never be limited.

The legislature shall provide by law the methods of enforcing the findings and orders of the state board of railroad commissioners which power shall extend over all express, telegraph and car companies operating in the state."

The Dodge bill would have provided for a commission with powers in the state similar to those vested in the Interstate Commerce Commission by President Roosevelt's late re-regulation bill now before congress.

The Cady bill is weaker even than the old Interstate Commerce law which after years of expensive experimentation has proved inadequate. First, it gives the commission power, not to create or establish, but simply to regulate rates, and it shifts that power to the legislature, leaving the commission with limited constitutional authority, subject to the whims of every changing legislature.

Suppose the next legislature after the adoption of the Cady amendment should pass a law authorizing the commission to "establish" a reasonable schedule of freight rates for Nebraska. What would the railroads do? History would simply repeat itself. The railroads would enjoin the enforcement of the schedule on the ground that the Cady constitutional amendment simply gave the commission powers of "regulation." And the railroads would go right on in violation of law, while the learned judges were spending three or four years in writing an opinion to inform the people that the commission's authority under the Cady law "is inadequate to establish rates."

Will anyone question these conclusions?

Read any report of the Interstate Commerce Commission of the last ten years. Or read the history of rate regulation in Iowa and the development of the railroad commissioner

There is no substitute for...
Calumet Baking Powder
—BUT IN THE BAKING POWDER TRUST—
It makes pure food.

system. Iowa's first commission established in 1888, failed because its powers were inadequate and that commission had much larger powers than those proposed by the Cady bill. Over twenty states in the United States have strong commissions with powers similar to those provided in the Dodge bill. According to the last report of the Interstate Commerce Commission, several of these "strong commission" states have complained that their control of rate evils was not satisfactory. And the states with "weak commissions" like that provided by the Cady bill have found the plan inadequate and are rapidly abandoning it.

With such a history before us and with the example of President Roosevelt's rate program in congress to guide us, it is past belief that the voters of Nebraska will put their feet in the Cady railroad trap next fall.

The whole thing is a farce and it should be turned down.

Let us have a real public railroad commission or none at all.

Editor Abbott devotes considerable editorial space defending the western cattlemen in their illegal land fencing deals. It may be that the prosperity of this state depends upon this illegal work, but the majority of people are from Missouri. These same benevolent cattlemen who illegally fence thousands of acres of land which they have no title, often have a very benevolent secret method of making the small cattlemen look up a tree when they go west and attempt to butt in and raise a few fat steers of their own. Possibly the land laws used to be revised, if so they will undoubtedly be very thoroughly revised before long. But so long as Uncle Samuel has well defined laws no one should endeavor to defend the men who willfully violate them.—Boone County Advance.

This editorial in the Advance is fairly representative of the position which is taken by a small group of editors in eastern Nebraska on the land-fencing question in western Nebraska. Without questioning the honesty of those critics, who it is very evident, possess no first-hand knowledge of the conditions, the Journal desires again to go on record in behalf of the western cattlemen, not because he has fenced government land illegally, but because the fence in western Nebraska is an absolute condition to the economical raising of high grade stock; because the removal of the fences means a return to the open range with a consequent destruction of the small cattlemen in favor of the big owner; because if the fences are removed and the laws are not amended so as to permit their replacement, the best people in the grazing country will be forced to leave. The Journal not only has not spoken in defense of the violation of the fencing laws but commended the administration for enforcing the law, believing that the injustice which the enforcement of the law would work, would be the quickest way to an amendment of the law to conform to the conditions of the country. In this opinion there is evidence that we were right for there is assurance that the Nebraska congressmen are working together for the passage of a land leasing bill which will enable cattlemen legally to use thousands of acres of sand hills which never will admit of settlement. The prosperity of Nebraska does not depend upon the "illegal" fencing of land but the prosperity of cattle raising industry which is second in the state only to agriculture, depends upon the legal fencing and use of the sand hills which are uninhabitable wastes, useless for anything but grazing. The Journal is not urging Nebraska congressmen to stand by western cattlemen in illegal fencing, but to help them by a lease or purchase bill, to gain the privilege of legal fencing.

Pat Crowe has been acquitted by a jury of twelve men. He was proved guilty by unassailable testimony and by his own confession, of one of the most damnable crimes known to mankind—that of child-stealing and child-torture. Some of the men who signed the verdict were fathers. Had the little Cudahy boy, too young to have guilty knowledge of the misdeeds with which his parent is charged, been a child of their blood, Crowe would not have been safe from their wrath, even under the protection of the officers of law. And yet these men forgot the brutal, cowardly child-torturer and their high duty as jurors to uphold the principles of justice and law which cry out for the protection of innocent children

whether rich or poor, and they remembered only their bitter hatred of a man—hated because he is rich. The acquittal of Crowe is more than travesty on justice and a stimulus of crime. It indicates dangers lying in the widening breach between rich and poor which extend to the very foundations of our government. The youth of America have been taught that the jury is the bulwark of liberty, the sacred protection against the encroachments of designing classes. And yet here is a jury tearing down the bars of justice and inviting the lowest criminals to walk in and do their worst so long as they choose for victims the children of rich men. It is an aspect to cause sober men to pause and consider and act.

The Journal urges the farmers of Platte county not to overlook the Farmer's Institute to be held in Columbus next week. This applies also to the women for lectures in domestic science have come to be a part, and perhaps the most interesting part of the Institute course. Miss Bouton has been secured especially for this meeting and she has no superior in the state in her line. The ladies of Columbus, always hospitable to their visitors, are arranging for the comfort of all ladies from the farms and other towns who can be present so that no one should stay at home fearing that she would find herself alone at the meeting. The tax-payers of the state through the medium of the University are spending over \$10,000 a year for these meetings and this year under a new law, the Platte county supervisors have appropriated \$50 to assist the cause in this county. It is the farmer's money largely expended to pay for the meetings and it is all spent to help the farmer and his wife. The committee in charge has a right to expect a record breaking meeting.

In the matter of rate regulation, besides being weak and worthless the proposed railroad commission bill apparently vests the commission with no authority over express, telegraph and telephone companies over which it is just as important for the public to hold a restraining hand as it is the railroads.

OTHER EDITORS.

Fremont Tribune:—A measure providing for the whipping post for wife beating was discussed by congress the other day. The merits and demerits of the bill were gone into freely and fully after which it was defeated by a decisive vote. Of course we are not to understand, nor is the world to understand, nor is the American congress endorses domestic discipline by means of physical force. That method may serve its purpose with less civilized people than we but it is not resorted to in this country except in rare cases. For this reason we presume, lawgivers are usually opposed to restoring the whipping post. They do not care to bring disrepute upon the country by recognizing wife beating as a national evil. Here the refined cruelties are practiced. The wife is starved or abandoned or driven to despair by cold neglect. These make a deeper hurt than beating and the whipping post does not appear as a remedy. If there be sections of the country, states of the union, where wife beating is frequent and scandalous, it is within the province of the legislatures of those states to make provision for punishment. But it is scarcely necessary to hold out a threat against Nebraska merely that Missouri and Arkansas be properly curbed.

Oscola Record:—Attorney General Brown's victory in the suit to dissolve the Nebraska Grain Dealers' Association, while important in itself, also serves to show the efficacy of the Junkin Anti-Trust Law enacted by the last legislature and under which statute the above suit was commenced. There is not an unlawful combination of any sort but what the Junkin act is elastic enough to cover and under it, anything that acts in restraint of trade can be strangled. Notwithstanding the hue and cry that has been raised in some quarters about the last corporation owned legislature, since the smoke has cleared away, it appears that some "good things can come out of Nazareth" after all.

Spalding Enterprise:—It is true, too, that the sand hill land is only fit for grazing purposes and that it takes 20 acres of land of that kind to raise one animal from the time he comes into the world until he takes his departure for the next. These men are entitled to not only credit for what they have done but also to consideration from the hands of the government. Some kind of lease law should be passed so that these men will not lose everything they have worked so hard for, and also to prevent the land from again becoming a wild desert.

R. W. HOBART
Attorney - at - Law
Rooms 10 and 11 New Columbus State Bank Building.

HORSE SALE

I will sell at Public Auction at my barn in Columbus, Nebraska, on

Friday, March 2nd, 1906

200 - Horses and Mules - 200

150 Head of Good Young Horses, consisting of 33 Head of Heavy Draft Horses, weighing from 1400 to 1600 lbs.; 60 Head of Good Young Farm Mares and Geldings, Weighing from 1200 to 1400 lbs.: Also 50 Head of Good Southern Horses and General Purpose Horses.

Come and bring your Good Fat Horses, as I will have buyers here from all of the big markets—Thos. Dattery, from St. Louis, will be here; Frank Sweet, from St. Joseph, Charlie Barrett, from Audubon, Iowa, Ed Helliker, from Fremont and Mr. Hoops, from Schuyler, who has always been a good customer for any kind of a good, marketable horse; Janmes Connolly, from Chicago, will be here to buy some nice, smooth 1200 lb. horses for the New York trade.

Mr. Fred Wille will be here to offer 12 head of choice Brood Sows from his fine herd of Poland Chinas. All are safe with pig by the boars the country offords.

Hog Sale Commences at 10 A. M. Horse Sale Commences at 1 P. M.

Every Horse must be as represented or no sale. Come and help me make you a market at home for your horses. Through billing to South Omaha will be furnished to parties buying 10 or more horses.

Two loads of Mules at barn to sell at Private Sale of any time.

W. I. BLAIN, Auctioneer
H. A. CLARKE, Clerk

Thos. Branigan

This is to

Remind You...

That the Union Pacific and the Burlington
Railroad Companies

Are Now Building Lines of Road along the North Platte
River Through
Deuel County, Nebr.,

Do You Want to Buy a Fine Quarter Section

Of table land with good black soil and within five to nine miles from Chappell, county seat of Deuel county, which is situated on the main line of the Union Pacific Railroad. These lands produce just as good wheat, rye, oats and alfalfa as is raised on lands in central and east Nebraska, where they sell at \$50 to \$75 per acre

Then Investigate these Deuel County Lands.

The Kinkaid Homestead Bill

Has made it possible to put these lands on the market, and the small farmer has a good chance to buy good farm lands and improve them and have the neighborhood settled up instead of having large pastures and few houses adjoining his farm as in the past. These lands are now accessible by way of the Union Pacific railroad to Chappell, the county seat of Deuel county, and the prices are from \$5 to \$16 per acre, according to the number of acres under cultivation and the improvements. These lands are just as good soil and as fine laying as lands that are selling from \$50 to \$75 per acre in south central Nebraska.

COME AT ONCE and see for yourself. You can get homeseeker's rates on the railroads to investigate these lands. We offer the opportunity of the year. Don't delay, but come at once. We refund railroad fare to all purchasers of land.

These Lands are for sale on Easy Terms, One-Half Cash, Balance on Mortgages or Contracts at a Low Rate of Interest.

This offer is made to you only until March 1, as all lands not sold at that time will be subject to lease for 1906. Send for map and description of lands to any of the undersigned, who are the Exclusive Agents for the property.

WERTZ, McCALLISTER & DANN, Chappell, Nebraska.

A. U. DANN, Kearney, Nebraska

Or BECHER, HOCKENBERGER & CHAMBERS, Local Agents, Columbus, Nebraska