

Admitted at the Postoffice at Columbus, Nebr., as second class matter... ALBERT J. MASON, Editor. HILLARD S. BINNEY, Business Manager. CHESTER J. MASON, Circulation Manager.

Notice to Subscribers. SUBSCRIPTION PRICE—One dollar and a half a year... RENEWALS—The date opposite your name on your paper, or wrapper, shows the date to which you have paid.

A Page From The Record.

If you had a hired man, working on a salary, and his dues were to collect certain fees, you guaranteeing him his salary and he to refund his excess collections over that amount you would expect him to make the proper returns of his collections.

The record reads that on January 11, 1911, the following took place:

Moved by Supervisor Schure that the county attorney be directed to submit to this board a written opinion relative to the fees retained for marriage ceremonies by the county judge.

The following day, January 12, the county attorney presented his opinion, in which he called attention of the board to Sections 9444 and 9476, of the Annotated Statutes of 1909, defining in detail the fees of the county judge.

There being a statute on and after July 5, 1907, expressly allowing county judges a fee of three dollars for performing marriage ceremonies, it becomes obligatory upon these officials on and after July 5, 1907, to report the county commissioners according to law the receipt of this class of fees the same as the receipt of other fees allowed by law and include these fees in ascertaining their annual compensation and the excess due the county.

Supervisor Schure moved that this opinion be made a part of the record, which was done.

Supervisor Clothier then moved that the chair appoint a special committee to check up the fees of the county judge. The chair appointed Supervisors Clothier, Smith, Schure and Wilson.

This special committee reported the next day, January 13, 1911, as follows:

We your special committee appointed to make settlement with County Judge Ratterman in the matter of marriage ceremonies fees for the years 1908, 1909 and 1910, beg leave to report that we checked up said fees earned for said years and herewith submit the following report:

We find that for the year 1908 there were performed thirty marriage ceremonies at three dollars each, making a total of ninety dollars; but on the final settlement for said year, said fees earned in the county judge's office did not exceed the limit allowed by law, the ninety dollars above referred to being added to the same and for said year 1908 there was no surplus fees to return in said matter.

For the year 1909 there were performed thirty-seven marriage ceremonies at three dollars each, making a total of \$111, and for the year 1910 there were forty-five marriage ceremonies at three dollars each making a total of \$135.

This being a total for the years 1909 and 1910 of \$246, for which amount county treasurer's receipt is attached.

Now doesn't it seem to you, honestly, that an honest, fair, upright judge, especially one whom his friends insist is "first in point of knowledge of the law", holding onto these fees for two whole years, until jarred loose from them by a county board of his own political faith, is rather a peculiarity?

When the county judge made his report of fees collected for 1909, he reported "marriage licenses, 175, \$350." When he made his report for 1910, he reported "marriage record fees, \$390." Why did he report the receipts for marriage licenses, and not those for ceremonies? One is as much demanded by the law as the other, and the fact that it had been customary for the judges to pocket the fees prior to the law of 1907 was no excuse when the law had been in effect for nearly four years—particularly for a judge "first in point of knowledge of the law."

Democratic Despair.

The democrats are so desperate in their fear of the election of a few republicans to county office that they are resorting to all sorts of ridiculous stories, confining themselves principally the candidates for county treasurer. They dare not attempt to atone for the carelessness of Judge Ratterman, for the record is there, too plain to be disputed, and the cause was so apparent that even the democratic county board felt that something must be done.

One of these stories is to the effect that in case of the election of Daniel Schram, that Frank Schram is to be his deputy. There is absolutely nothing to the story. In fact Frank Schram now has a position that he could not think of sacrificing for the salary paid by this office. We have this on the authority of Mr. Schram himself, who assures us that the denial cannot be made to strong.

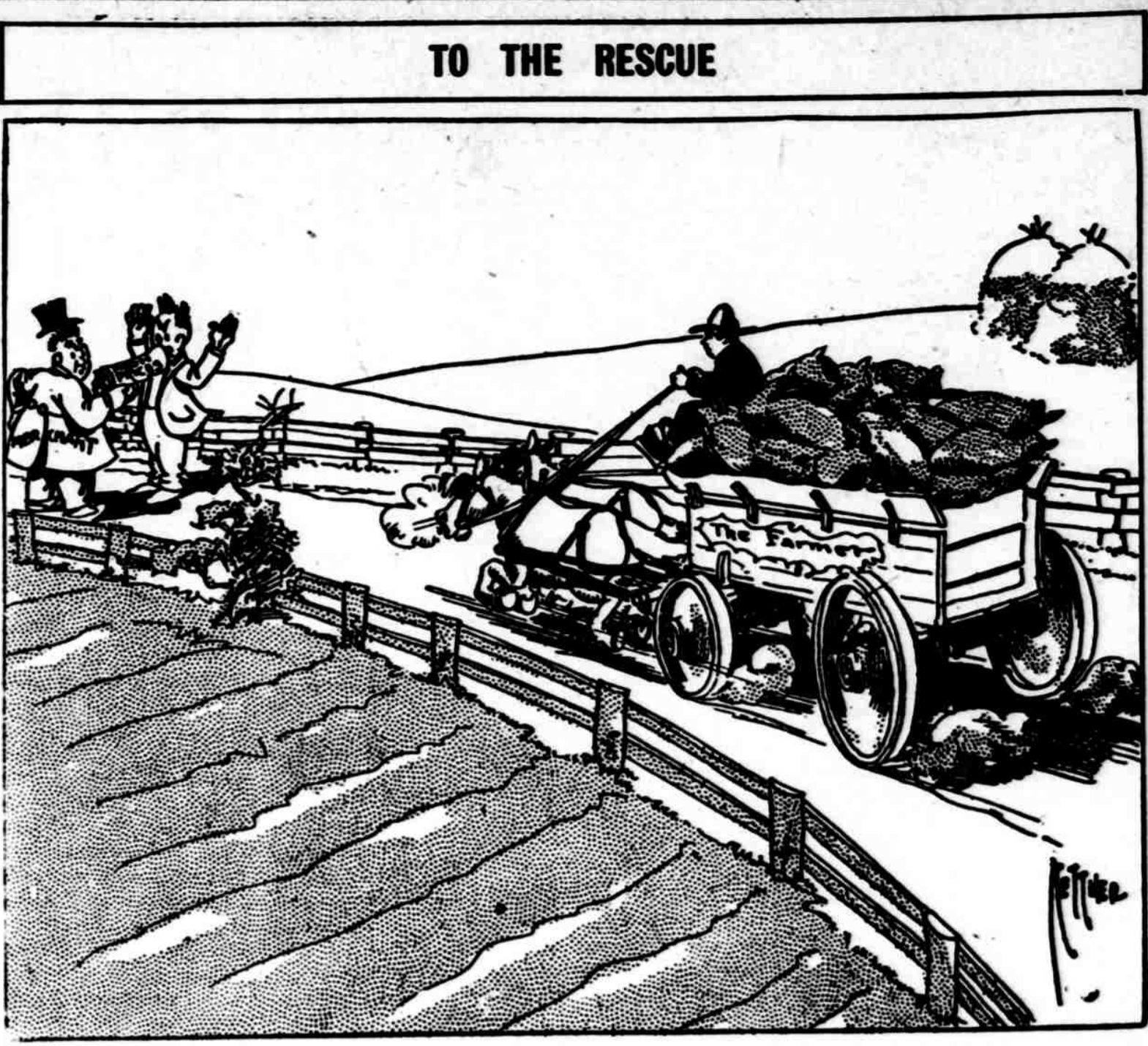
Another feature that shows the utter despair of Mr. Heuer and his associates the plea they are making that he is a poor man, while Mr. Schram is well-to-do in the matter of this world's goods. Never a poorer argument could be made. The mere fact that Mr. Schram has made a success of his business career ought to appeal to every man as an evidence that the county business would be equally well cared for. We do not believe that the people will take kindly to the argument that the world or any portion thereof owes a living to any man.

Here in the United States we have no such thing as a life job in public service, except in Federal judicial positions, and even that seems to be doomed. Don't get into the notion that because a man appeals to you for your vote on the strength of having lived off of you for a dozen years that you still owe him a living. Try a man who has made good in his own work once, and see how it goes.

A vote for Gideon Braun for county superintendent is a vote for a young man who knows Platte county conditions thoroughly, and whose every interest is in Platte county. Having lived here practically all his life, and always wide-awake, he is in touch with conditions, and having devoted his experience largely to the rural schools with which he will have mostly to deal, he will be in position to do more for the rural schools and teachers than one whose experience has not been such.

Mr. Voter, you will make no mistake in casting your ballot for John Hayes for county clerk. He does not appeal for your vote on the ground of having been your beneficiary through years of public support, but rather because of having the necessary qualifications for the position, and because he will earn his salary by saving a part of what is now paid for clerk hire.

There has been some complaint made about the practice of one or two automobile drivers who occasionally drive their machines down the street with but one lamp burning. A serious collision was narrowly averted one night last week on account of carelessness in this matter. It is much easier to light two lamps than it would be to repair the damages that might result from a single light.



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TO THE RESCUE

Some of the parents of the boys of the city have asked us to call attention to the practice of selling cigarettes to boys, which prevails to some extent here as elsewhere. Any boy is liable to arrest for smoking cigarettes, and may be released on furnishing the information as to where he received them, whether bought or given to him. This act applies not only to manufactured cigarettes, papers as well. The school board will also be asked to take hold of the matter and assist in stamping out the evil.

Hon. C. W. Poole, of Tecumseh, editor of the Journal-Tribune, of that city, speaker of the Nebraska house of representatives in 1909, and who was defeated for secretary of state last year by less than a hundred majority, was in the city Monday. Mr. Poole is a candidate for the democratic nomination for governor for next spring's primaries, and is very popular in his home district.

About a year ago W. D. Oldham came to Columbus to tell what a renegade Mr. Bryan was to oppose the election of the democratic candidate for governor. Tomorrow evening, Mr. Bryan will be here to tell what a magnificent man Mr. Oldham is, and why he should be placed on the supreme bench. How forgiving! Or is it—?

Some taxpayers always read the official proceedings of the county board; some occasionally do; some, never. We hope not one will fail to read the record of the meeting last week when it shall be published.

We are not generally superstitious, but it seems strange that so many people should find themselves in the coils of the law within three or four days before or after Friday, the 13th.

ON THE REPUBLICAN SIDE

From Headquarters Republican State Central Committee, Omaha.

C. C. JOHNS, Manager Publicity Bureau

If republicans are to be successful in the presidential campaign next year they must elect the full state ticket this year.

It seems to be the intention of the democrats to try to elect their state ticket this fall by endeavoring to create discord in the republican ranks rather than by presenting the merits of their candidates.

The Nebraska law insuring inspection and uniform tests in dairy products—a republican measure—benefits both country and city folks. It is another example of what has been done by the republican party.

When prominent democrats denounce their party nominee as having been a pass distributor and corporation tool, does it not appeal to you that it is rather a wise policy to vote for the republican candidate for that particular office?

The republican party has been the party to accomplish things in Nebraska for the real benefit of the people. For instance—the two-cent passenger rate law, the anti-railroad pass law, the direct primary law, legislation reducing express rates—and many other good laws that have resulted directly to the benefit of Nebraska. Vote with the party that has done so much for the state.

Republicans believe in a fair, impartial judiciary of the highest order, and they had that in mind when they chose their party nominees from the candidates at the primary. They were not named by a convention composed of a few men, but by the votes of a majority of all the republicans in the state.

The republican party has saved money for Nebraska taxpayers. Look at the legislative appropriations, as taken from the reports of the state auditor. The total amount of appropriations made by the 1907 legislature (republican), was \$4,367,257.31. Two years later the democratic legislature increased that nearly a million dollars and appropriated \$5,202,754.19. The last legislature (democratic) went still higher and the appropriations reached a total of \$6,184,559.71. This increase of nearly two million dollars under democratic management in four years certainly has not reduced your taxes. The republican party stands for economy and efficiency. Its record bears out the statement.

What assurance does Mr. Bryan wish to give the republicans whom he is asking to support the democratic ticket this fall? Does he wish us to believe that the democrats will return the favor and support the republican nominee at the next election? Or is his motive a purely selfish one of asking these republicans to desert their party ranks to assist the democrats this fall? Does Mr. Bryan feel that it is only with the aid of republican votes that his party can be victorious this year? The final analysis of Mr. Bryan's speeches is simply this: He wants republicans to vote with the democrats this fall, so that the democratic ticket may be elected, and the republican party disrupted beyond the hope of making a successful fight in the presidential campaign of next year.

In reference to the recent speeches of Mr. Bryan, the Beatrice Express remarks: "Mr. Bryan, who was instrumental in the swallowing of the populist party by the democrats, is apparently anxious to repeat the performance, using the progressive republicans as victims this time. In his Beatrice speech he was very insistent that the progressive republicans vote the democratic ticket this year as a rebuke to the stand-pat element of the republican party. He had it figured out that such action on the progressive part would greatly strengthen their cause next year, though he didn't exactly explain his process of reasoning in arriving at the conclusion. He urged progressive republicans to desert their ticket and help the democrats elect such men as Harman, candidate for railway commissioner, though it is pretty generally understood that Harman is the candidate of the railroads and that they are backing his candidacy, a condition abhorrent to all Nebraska progressives. If Mr. Bryan is working for progress without regard to party, as he claims, he is taking a mighty queer position when he makes such proposals to the progressive republicans. He would have them sacrifice the progressives on the republican ticket in Nebraska this year, simply as a means of revenge on the stand-patters—which would be a poor method of convincing the country that they are fighting for principle alone."

Men who have been tested and have made good are on the republican tickets this year—and they are entitled to the hearty support of every republican voter.

At the republican state convention the amendment to the state platform—that the republicans of Nebraska get together and stay together—was unanimously adopted; and since that time the rank and file have been doing that very thing, notwithstanding reports from the democratic camp to the contrary.

The Demons. "Critics are fine chaps," said an English actor, "but I must confess that when they condemn your play you feel annoyed."

"I wonder why we call the people in the top of the house gods? an actress asked an unsuccessful playwright once."

"We do that," the unsuccessful playwright answered, "so as to distinguish them from the people in the bottom of the house who write the criticisms."

It Depends. An actor and a retired army man were discussing the perils of their respective callings.

"How would you like to stand with shells bursting all round you?" the general demanded.

"Well," replied the actor, "it depends on the age of the egg."

Poor Venice. Friend—And were you ever in Venice? Mr. Riechquick—Yes. Slowest town I was ever in. The sewers were busted all the time we were there!—Puck.

A Warm Welcome. Supleigh—Are you positive that Miss Catter is not in? The Maid—Yes, sir, I'd lose my job if I wasn't.—Boston Transcript.

Lost—a gold gld hat-pin, Persian setting, between Lutheran church and Ninth street on September 17. Finder please leave at this office and receive reward.

Meet me at the Owl dance October 20.

Come In and See. Our line of new and second-hand furniture and stoves. Our line includes everything from a potato masher up to and including the highest grade square piano. A LARGE ASSORTMENT of stoves—cook stoves, ranges, heaters for hard or soft coal or wood. We also have in our FURNITURE DEPARTMENT a fine line of kitchen and bedroom furniture, including tables, dressers, beds and mattresses. In fact, we have the best and largest assortment in the city to select from. No matter what you are looking for we can supply you. We have one of the best and most complete assortment of mattresses at right prices to be found anywhere in this part of the state. All Statements Backed by an Absolute Guarantee. E. H. REED, Eleventh Street, Columbus, Nebr.

168 DAYS "ON TIME". A strong factor in the making of a commonwealth is reliable mail service. It will interest Western people to know something about the regularity of Burlington trains between Chicago and the west. CHICAGO-OMAHA FAST MAIL No. 7: The original fast mail train west of Chicago. The last date in 1911 this train reached the Missouri River late was March 16th (six minutes late). Since that date, to and including August 31st (the latest date given for comparison)—a period comprising one hundred and sixty-eight consecutive days, this train has arrived "on time" and has been operated 82,992 miles—more than three times the distance around the world. CHICAGO-OMAHA FAST MAIL No. 15: An exclusive mail and express train, scheduled at forty-five miles per hour, arrived at Missouri River thirty-one days in August "on time." This train has arrived "on time" every day from May 15th to August 31st inclusive—a period of one hundred and nine consecutive days. CHICAGO-NEBRASKA LIMITED No. 5: Arrived at Missouri River "on time" during August, twenty-eight days out of thirty-one; total number of minutes late twenty-five, average loss eight-tenths of a minute per day. CHICAGO-OMAHA-DENVER EXPRESS No. 3: Arrived at the Missouri River "on time" during August twenty-nine days out of thirty-one; total number of minutes late twenty-five, average loss eight-tenths of a minute per day. Such precision in operating fast trains is possible only with a simple power, perfect mechanism, a perfect roadbed and a highly developed organization. L. W. WAKELY, General Passenger Agent, Omaha, Nebr.

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