

BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT

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Have You Heard Where the New Government Building is to be Located? We Have't.

AS TO TAFT'S RELIGION

President Roosevelt Answers Religious Critics.

During the recent campaign there was considerable said and written concerning the religious views of Judge Taft. In all the political matter published in the Democrat bearing on the campaign, we absolutely refrained from this class of stuff, feeling that a man's religious views were his own business. Not only has the religion of candidates for high places been brought into politics, but the same thing was done clear down the line. Since the election, President Roosevelt has written a letter which is a severe rebuke to such people, and is so to the point that we publish it in full. We commend it to those in this community who find fault with a man's religious views. The letter in full is as follows:

Washington, Nov. 8.—"Secretary Taft's religious faith is purely his own private concern and not a matter for general discussion and political discrimination," says President Roosevelt in a letter to J. C. Martin of Dayton, O. The letter in which he answers numerous correspondents, was made public to-night. The President says he deferred the publication of the letter until now to avoid any agitation likely to influence the election. The letter follows:

"My Dear Sir: I have received your letter, running in part as follows: 'While it is claimed as almost universally that religion should not enter into politics, yet there is no denying that it does, and the mass of voters that are not Catholics, will not support a man for any office especially for President of the United States, who is a Roman Catholic.'"

"Since Taft has been nominated for President by the Republican party it is being circulated and is constantly urged as a reason for not voting for Taft that he is an infidel (Unitarian) and his wife and brother Roman Catholics. If his feelings are in sympathy with the Roman Catholic church on account of the wife and brother being Catholics, that would be objectionable to a sufficient number of voters to defeat him. On the other hand, if he is an infidel that would be sure to mean defeat. I am writing this letter for the sole purpose of giving Mr. Taft an opportunity to let the world know what his religious belief is."

"I have received many such letters as yours in the campaign, expressing dissatisfaction with Mr. Taft on religious grounds; some of them on the ground that he was a Unitarian and others on the ground that he was suspected to be in sympathy with Catholics. I did not answer any of these letters in the campaign because I regarded it as an outrage even to agitate such a question as a man's religious convictions with the purpose of influencing a political election. But now that the campaign is over, when there is opportunity for men, calmly to consider whether such propositions as those you make in your letter would lead I wish to invite them to consider them and I have selected your letter to answer because you advance both the objections commonly urged against Mr. Taft, namely; that he is a Unitarian and also that he is suspected of sympathy with the Catholics."

"You ask that Mr. Taft shall let the world know what his religious belief is. This is purely his own private concern, and it is a matter between him and his Maker, a matter for his own conscience. And to require it to be made public under penalty of political discrimination is to negate the first principles of our government, which guaranteed complete religious liberty and the right of each man to act in religious affairs as his conscience dictates. Mr. Taft never asked my advice in the matter, but if he had asked it I should have emphatically advised him against thus stating publicly his religious belief."

"The demand for a statement of a candidate's religious belief can have no meaning except that there may be discrimination for or against him because of that belief. Discrimination means the holder of one faith means retaliatory discrimination against men of other faiths. The inevitable result of entering upon such a practice would be an abandonment of our real freedom of conscience and a reversion to the dreadful conditions of religious persecutions which in so many lands have proved fatal to true liberty, to true religion and to all advance in civilization."

"To discriminate against a the-

oroughly upright citizen because he belongs to some particular church, or because, like Abraham Lincoln, he has not avowed his allegiance to any church, is an outrage against that liberty of conscience which is one of the foundations of American life. You are entitled to know whether a man seeking your suffrage is a man of clean and upright life, honorable in all his dealings with his fellows, and fit by qualification and purpose to do well in the great office for which he is a candidate; but you are not entitled to know matters which lie purely between himself and his Maker.

"If it is proper or legitimate to oppose a man for being a Unitarian, as was John Quincy Adams, for instance, as is the Rev. Edward Everett Hale, at the present moment chaplain of the Senate, and an American of whose life all good Americans are proud—then it would be equally proper to support or oppose a man because of his views on justification by faith, or the method of administering the sacrament, or the gospel of salvation by works. If you once enter on such a career there is absolutely no limit at which you can legitimately stop."

"So much for objections to Mr. Taft because he is a Unitarian. Now for your objections to him because you think his wife and brother to be Roman Catholics. As it happens, they are not; but if they were, or if he were a Roman Catholic himself, it ought not to affect in the slightest degree any man's supporting him for the position of President. You say that the mass of the voters that are not Catholics will not support a man for any office, especially for President of the United States, who is a Roman Catholic."

"I believe that when you say this you foully slander your fellow countrymen. I do not for one moment believe that the mass of our fellow citizens, or that any considerable number of our fellow citizens, can be influenced by such narrow bigotry as to refuse to vote for any thoroughly upright and fit man because he happens to have a particular religious creed."

"Such a consideration should never be treated as a reason for either supporting or opposing a candidate for a political office. Are you aware that there are several states in this Union where the majority of the people are now Catholics? I should reprobate in the severest terms the Catholics in those states, or in any other state, who refused to vote for the most fit man because he happened to be a Protestant; and my condemnation would be exactly as severe for Protestants who, under reversed circumstances, refused to vote for a Catholic."

"In public life I am happy to say that I have known many men who were elected, and constantly re-elected, to office in districts where the great majority of their constituents were of a different religious belief. I know Catholics who have for many years represented constituencies mainly Protestant, and Protestants who have for many years represented constituencies mainly Catholics. And among the congressmen whom I know particularly well was one man of Jewish faith who represented a district in which there were hardly any Jews at all. All of these men, by their very existence in political life, refute the slander you have uttered against your fellow Americans."

"I believe that this republic will endure for many centuries. If so there will doubtless be among its President Protestants and Catholics, and, very probably at some time, Jews. I have consistently tried while President to act in relation to my fellow Americans of Catholic faith as I hope that any future President who happens to be a Catholic will act toward his fellow Americans of Protestant faith. Had I followed any other course I should have felt that I was unfit to represent the American people."

"In my Cabinet at the present moment there sit side by side Catholic and Protestant, Christian and Jew, each man chosen because in my belief he is particularly fit to exercise on behalf of all our people the duties of the office to which I have appointed him. In no case does the man's religious belief in any way influence his discharge of his duties, save as it makes him more eager to act justly and uprightly in his relations to all men. The same principles that have obtained in appointing the members of my Cabinet, the highest officials under me, the officials to whom is entrusted the work of carrying out all the important policies of

Will They Revise the Tariff

Washington, Nov. 11.—According to programme and party promise, President Taft shortly after his inauguration will have Congress assembled in extra session for tariff revision. In anticipation a commission constituted by Congress at the last session has been at work collecting data to be used in making up the new schedules. The commission consists of members of the House ways and means committee and the Senate committee on finance, the two committees which will have jurisdiction over the tariff bill.

Until the outcome of the congressional contest in certain districts became known some hope was entertained that the House at least might respond to the growing demand for real tariff revision.

The re-election of Mr. Cannon is taken here to mean his election again as speaker. If he organizes the House committees he will place at the head of ways and means, Mr. Payne of New York, and in second place Mr. Dalzell of Pennsylvania, his able standpat lieutenants.

Unless the unexpected happens, this tariff bill as framed and sent to the Senate will be a maximum and minimum affair, retaining the present rates, with substantially no change, as the minimum, and making the maximum rates retaliatory, to be imposed upon the products of other countries which discriminate against us. It is thought that here and there some rates will be lowered, but no one well informed looks for any material reduction in rates, even in the steel schedule.

Should the stand-patters encounter an insurrection among the Republican majority in the House with the result that real tariff revision is forced through that body, the stand-patters are amply entrenched in the Senate, where they are in control and do not fear the entrance of the new radical Republican senators from the West. The outlook is not considered good for anything in the form of actual revision.

Fire at Ellinwood

The old frame store building on the south side of the track at Ellinwood, belonging to Mat Dick, and occupied by Geo. Helm as an implement warehouse was burned to the ground early Sunday morning. The fire was discovered in time to have been stopped without great damage had the town had the benefit of the water service which it is installing but as a result of its absence the loss is particularly heavy. Aid was telegraphed to this city but the fire department here at the time of receiving the message was busily engaged in fighting the Marx & Bercheldt fire and was unable to respond.

The loss on stock is about \$14,000, and \$1500 on the building. There is about \$10,500 insurance.

This fire has removed one of the old landmarks of Ellinwood. For years it was the only thing in the way of an opera house or hall for dancing purposes in the city and more than twenty years ago when the roller skating craze was on, it was used for that purpose. Like other old time buildings in western towns, if it could have spoken, some great stories it could have told. We sincerely hope that Ellinwood will not be visited by the fire demon again for some time, and at least not until their water plant is installed.

Mrs. C. P. Townsley is visiting Mrs. John Tilton up in Greeley county.

A. G. Langham and family leave this week for Milwaukee, where they will make their future home.

The Barton County Sunday School convention was held in this city yesterday and today. An excellent program was carried out and a good session held.

Work at the Missouri Pacific station has been very brisk this season, necessitating more help. The recently has been filled by the arrival of a fine boy at the home of Agent McInnes and wife.

my administration, and the principles upon which all good Americans should act in choosing, whether by election or appointment, the men to fill any office from the highest to the lowest in the land. Yours truly,
(Signed) Theodore Roosevelt.
Mr. J. C. Martin, Dayton, Ohio.

A Bad Fire

The Marx & Bercheldt stock of men's furnishings was badly damaged by fire Sunday morning. Night Marshal Hitchcock while making his rounds discovered the fire through the flames reflecting through a skylight in the building. He immediately turned in an alarm but by this time the flames had burst through the roof and by the time the fire company arrived the conflagration had assumed such proportions that it was thought adjoining buildings were doomed. The company managed to keep the blaze confined largely to the top floor of the building and the main floor stock was chiefly damaged by smoke and water. The firm carried a heavy stock but are fairly well covered by insurance.

The offices of Raffington & Lewis, on the second floor of the buildings were burned out and very little saved by this firm.

The building was erected last year by Fred Miller. The damage to the same will be about \$1,500, covered by insurance. It will be repaired at once.

The cause of the fire is an unsolved proposition. The most plausible reason being spontaneous combustion.

The fire boys worked like Trojans, doing good work, and the water pressure was excellent. Firemen Malla and Fankhauser came near meeting with bad accidents.

This fire brought to the attention of our people the need of a hook and ladder wagon, and we understand steps have been taken to supply this want.

As soon as the adjustors for the various insurance companies can perform their work of adjusting, Marx & Bercheldt will begin to get shaped up to do business again. While their loss in stock is pretty well covered, their loss in business in the meantime, will be considerable, and our people regret that this should be the case, especially as they are practically a young firm in business here. However, they will be ready for business again in short order.

Added to the Antiered Bunch Great Bend lodge, B. P. O. E. at their session Monday evening, added twenty-one new members. The initiatory work was put on by the officers of the local lodge and although they have been members themselves for only three weeks, the work was done in a very pleasing and efficient manner. Following the meeting an oyster supper was served in the banquet room. More new members will be taken in next week.

Mrs. H. M. Sanderson and daughter visited at Heizer Sunday.

Miss Nina Frazier is visiting her aunt, Mrs. W. L. Condit, at Pratt.

Mrs. George Everett has returned from a visit with relatives at Ellinwood.

Miss Florence Wildgen of Hoisington visited the family of P. E. Murphy this week.

Ben Jacobs of Hoisington attended the dance given at the skating rink Tuesday evening.

Miss Lenora Baier was up from Sterling Sunday visiting. She is attending Cooper College this year.

Mrs. W. O. Smith and children of Eureka township visited the Shaw family in Hutchinson Sunday.

Miss Lilah Smith has returned to Newton, after a pleasant visit with Miss Grace Groaty and other friends.

Mrs. M. J. Hopp has returned to her home in St. Louis, after a very pleasant visit with Dr. R. H. Meade.

Henry Everett and son George have returned from a land seeking expedition to Kiowa and Barber counties.

Mrs. Fred Steuri, who recently underwent an operation at the hospital, has recovered sufficiently to return to her home.

Dr. E. E. Morrison has gone to New York to take a post graduate course for the next six weeks. Mrs. Morrison accompanied him.

J. W. Soderstrom left Monday evening for Washoe, Nevada, where he will again be in the service of the Harris Mine people, a Great Bend institution. He was accompanied by Mrs. Soderstrom and daughter Winifred.

What Next?

The Kansas City Star, which in a recent issue comes out in favor of electing United States Senators by a direct vote of the people, as being in the right direction, takes an opposite step in the following:

The only federal executive officers elected by the people of the United States are the President and Vice President, and it is generally agreed that the Vice President is superfluous. The people do not vote on Attorney General or Secretary of the Treasury or Secretary of State. It is rightly held that the President, who has the greatest possible concern in making the administration a success, is better qualified than the electorate to pick men with whom he can work most effectively.

Why should the people of the states elect the Governor's cabinet? Why shouldn't he have the President's chance to make good?

It occurs to us that this would extend the pernicious patronage system instead of checking it.

Cured Rheumatism

Nearly everybody is susceptible to a twinge of rheumatism, sciatica, toothache, headache or neuralgia, and its never safe to be without a good remedy for an emergency of this kind.

No matter what kind of pain you have the beneficial effect of Sloan's Liniment is immediate. You lay it on lightly—no rubbing whatever and a pleasant warmth is felt at once. The Liniment penetrates right to the bone and quickly stops the pain.

Mr. Chas. J. Budlong of Anthony, R. I., Box 125, writes: "For many years I was a great sufferer from rheumatism. My hips would swell to enormous proportions and my knee joints would pain me in the most excruciating, awful manner imaginable. I used often to have to fall from the bed into a chair and thence to the floor, when I wanted to get from my bed. I used only some six or eight bottles of your celebrated Liniment and was cured. I cheerfully recommend its use to all rheumatic sufferers. Refer to me if you so desire. All letters answered."

Mrs. L. Hiss visited her son Louis at Hays City this week.

Lou Buzin and Henry Nordman were down from Olmitz Tuesday.

Miss Golda McDougal of Pawnee Rock attended the dance here on Tuesday evening.

George Merritt will soon be living in a neat house of his own which he is having built on the east side.

Gene Lewis and father have gone to Kiowa county to look at some land. Gene expects to buy and move down there.

Ed Chapman of the First National bank attended the meeting of the Bankers' Association of group 5 at Hutchinson Tuesday.

Mrs. E. C. Davis entertained her uncle, Edmond Newley, of Kokomo, Ind., this week. Mr. Newley is enroute to Colorado for a visit to a chum.

Mrs. Herbert Smith of Seward died at her home Sunday morning, at the age of 29 years. Funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon.

In the recent election, Wilber Hamilton, formerly a Barton County boy, was defeated for re-election to the office of County Superintendent of Reno county.

E. R. Moses and F. A. Moses represented the Citizens' National bank at the Bankers' convention in Hutchinson this week. The former was on the program to respond to the address of welcome.

Owing to a press of other matters, no Commercial club meeting was held last Monday evening, but a meeting will be held next Monday evening. A full attendance is desired, as considerable business of importance will be up.

Rev. Anderson and family left this week for Goodland where Rev. Anderson will have charge of the Episcopal congregation. The Anderson family has been in our city for about two years, and have made hosts of friends who will regret their leaving our city, and whose best wishes follow them. We have not been advised as to who comes here.

Official Canvas

The commissioners finished canvassing the returns of the recent election last Saturday evening, and the result is published in this issue. As it is always the case when a vote is close on some candidate, there is always more or less talk of contest, recount and throwing out of townships but that is as far as it has gone here this year. Technical irregularities are reported from several places, but nothing of any consequence.

The commissioners in going over the poll of votes in the different precincts of the county found that a few more votes were cast in Liberty township than there seemed voters and the county attorney was called in to see whether the ballots could be counted or not. His advice was that the only way in which this could be done was through a contest on the part of some one interested. Another opinion offered by an outsider is that the commissioners on finding a discrepancy of this kind in any township can throw out the vote of the township in its entirety but that they have no right to open the sealed returns and count the ballots until a court so decides.

Contests and recounts only serve to widen a breach once made, and do not result in any lasting good to any candidate or party.

Leaving Barton County

This week witnessed the departure from this county for their new home at Anadarko, Oklahoma, of R. W. Emerson and family for years esteemed citizens of Liberty township. The change is being made for the benefit of Mrs. Emerson's health. In 1873, Mr. Emerson first came to Kansas settling in Edwards county, but the grasshoppers ran him out and he returned to his Wisconsin home. In 1888 he tried it again, settling in Liberty township, where he has lived ever since. Mr. Emerson has always taken a leading part in the affairs of our community and is always considered a good citizen and takes with him to his new home, wishes of their numerous Barton county friends.

Alfalfa Mills at Hutchinson

The new alfalfa mill—Hutchinson's first, began operations Wednesday. The machinery is now installed and only a few minor details need attention before the mill will be in working order. The company has already purchased a lot of hay, which has been transported to the mill, so that everything will be in readiness to start.

The capacity of the plant will be thirty tons of finished products a day, but it is so arranged that this may be increased with very little modeling when the market warrants the expansion.

Morse to Prison

Charles Morse, the millionaire banker of New York, who has been convicted of wrecking the National Bank of North America, has been sentenced to 15 years in prison. A few more doses like this will cut out this kind of business. The same medicine should be administered to convicted trust officials, if it is to be effective.

Wm. Frank, of Ellinwood, Kansas, a brother of Mrs. J. R. Zecha was out here visiting this week and the doctor showed him around the country. He is thinking of locating in this vicinity.—Cimarron Jacksonian.

The only republican member of congress who turned "rabbit" on the Cannon matter was Reeder, and he came near staying at home. Cannon's immense republican majority, in the face of the terrific fight on him, is a warning to "rabbit" members of congress.—Garden City Telegram.

We understood during the campaign that Madison of this district was also against Cannon. Must be a mile take somewhere.

Turkeys Wanted

We will pay the highest market cash price for choice Turkeys delivered to Great Bend from Saturday, November 14th, to November 19th. Must have them on these dates. Nothing but choice, fat turkeys wanted.

Hens must weigh eight pounds and over. Toms to weigh 10 pounds and over. Call and get our prices.
GROVER PRODUCE CO.
Newly-Bld. - Barton.