

# The Freeman

The Freeman and Tribune, both papers, per year .....\$1.50  
The Daily Freeman-Tribune by mail, per year .....\$4.00  
Delivered in city, per year...\$5.00

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Official Paper of City and County.

Had he been happy and faultless. I would not have loved him as I did. There is a degree of pity in all our friendships. Misfortune has an attraction for certain souls. The cement of our hearts is mixed with tears, and nearly all our deep affections have their beginning in some sorrowful emotion.—Lamartine.

Teddy is still speechless or speechless still.

Are you getting ready to test your seed corn?

Wonder what happened to the Taft smile when the returns from Cleveland, Ohio, were coming in?

There is still some talk in favor of the re-nomination of President Taft. But it is only talk.

Gov. Carroll not only knows how to milk a cow but he seems to be something of an expert at sawing wood.

Judge Deemer is very lucky in being "suggested" for various promotions, but not so lucky in securing them.

If Gov. Carroll would enter the senatorial primary, as is hinted by friends, what would become of Col. Young's boomlet?

Prof. Holden would probably make a good governor, but he is worth more to the state in the position he now occupies—and fills to the brim.

Taft feels as good over the republican success in New York this year as Aldrich and Cannon and Jim Sherman did over the democratic victory of last year.

Sixty bushels to the acre is not bad, especially when it is selling at better than fifty cents per bushel—making \$30 per acre. What is land worth that can show such results?

Champ Clark says he would like nothing better than being a candidate for president against Taft. Millions of other democrats are in the same boat. They all seem to regard Taft as a puddin'.

The man who can make fifty bushels of corn grow on an acre of ground where only forty-nine bushels grew the year before is a public benefactor, as well as a prospective bank depositor.

They say Doctor Cook is going to locate in Walla Walla, Wash. He would find the surroundings more congenial in Des Moines and the closer he could get to the Capital office the more at home would he feel.

The Des Moines Capital of a few days ago indulged in another ill-natured jab at the Freeman-Tribune, and, as impossible as it might seem, the Herald did not copy it. "Our Cady" must have mislaid his specks or his paste pot.

It appears now that Champ Clark did mean just what he said last summer about Canadian annexation, a denial to the contrary notwithstanding. He now declares he would like to run for president upon an annexation platform.

Senator Cummins is on his way home from Panama, where he has been with a party of congressmen and senators. Report has it that the visitors were more than pleased with conditions on the canal and that they think it will be completed in 1918.

Some of the papers of Iowa, notably the Cedar Rapids Republican, Iowa City Republican and Burlington Hawk-Eye, are fearful lest Senator Lorimer is not getting a fair deal. In the public mind there is no doubt of Lorimer's guilt, but in such instances it is difficult to get the evidence. There are probably a thousand and guilty men escape to one convicted in bribery cases. The sympathy displayed by some papers for such chronic offenders as Lorimer, Rockefeller, Morgan and men of that stripe is indeed heartrending.

Who was it that helped defeat the progressive candidate for congress in the Second Kansas district, where a nominal republican majority of more than 3,000 was turned into a democratic majority of some 2,000? It is about time for the "real republicans" of the Second to issue a new manifesto on "party solidarity" and "party regularity."

What would happen if congress at the coming session should pass a presidential preference primary law? Such a thing is possible and it is possible that the machinery could be in working order in time to nominate a successor to President Taft. Of course the president could put a quietus upon the thing by vetoing any bill of that character, but it is not likely he would do it.

They recently had a school election in Albia and the proposition to bond the district for \$75,000 for funds for a new school house carried by a large majority. 611 men and 215 women voted. The men spoiled seventeen ballots and the women spoiled but one. Bet every man who didn't know enough to vote at that election is opposed to universal suffrage.

Is it a more serious offense against the state to accept a money bribe for voting for a United States senator than to accept another form of bribe? Or is it a more serious offense for a candidate for senator to offer a bribe than it is for a member of the legislature to offer to deliver a vote in exchange for a consideration? These are small questions but they have large bearings.

According to the viewpoint of the Sioux City Tribune "Gov. Foss' reelection in Massachusetts ought to relieve the republican party of Taft as a candidate for re-nomination." But it will do nothing of the kind. The friends of the president are able—by some mental process known only to themselves—to extract encouragement from that result. You see Gov. Foss' majority was reduced.

The late Jefferson S. Polk, millionaire, who died not long ago in Des Moines, left five heirs—a widow, two sons and two daughters. His estate was valued at two and a half million of dollars. This property was divided into five divisions valued at half a million each. The deeds, stocks, bonds, etc., were then placed in five envelopes and the heirs drew by lot. Each seemed satisfied with results. This is much better than going to court—for the heirs—but not so good for the lawyers and newspapers.

An exchange says there is at least one minister who appreciates the efforts of the country editor. At a recent editorial convention he offered the following toast: "To save an editor from starvation, take his paper and pay for it promptly. To save him from bankruptcy advertise in his paper liberally. To save him from despair, send him every item of news of which you can get hold. To save him from profanity write your correspondence plainly on one side of the sheet and send it in as soon as possible. To save him from mistakes, bury him. Dead people are the only ones who never make mistakes."

An old soldier at Eldon, Iowa, J. E. Houghland by name, insists that a soldier should be elected governor of Iowa next year and suggests Col. David J. Palmer. He points out that "the boys are passing away at the rate of 40,000 per year" and if another soldier of the civil war is ever to occupy the governor's chair he must be elected next year. The Freeman-Tribune believes that if the old soldiers are going to insist upon having a comrade for governor they ought to recognize the northern and western part of the state. In fact, Webster City would not object to furnishing the material. We have a progressive republican-soldier here who has served the people well in various capacities and who was one of the best soldiers the state ever gave to the services of the government. We have reference to Col. Geo. W. Crosley. The colonel is a man of character and convictions and of courage and would

make a governor of whom the state would be proud.

Senator Bourne is bitterly opposed to having a republican party convention constructed on a basis of democratic representation in the southern states. He is not opposed, however, to the idea of having the republican platform loaded down with democratic and populist theories of government.—Des Moines Capital.

Does the Capital agree with Senator Bourne upon the first proposition? If so, why not add a word in favor of it? The Capital has been known to denounce its own teachings, after they became cold, as democratic and populist, hence it will probably in due time be supporting Senator Bourne upon the second proposition. Be that as it may, every republican ought to stand shoulder to shoulder for fair and equitable representation in the national conventions of the party.

The big daily papers have lots of fun making light of some of the things published by the country press. When the Podunk Pill announces that Ike Johnson has built a new barn and that Jim Crow has just erected a hen house, the big daily papers have several fits of more or less severity. Yet when Miss Anna Morgan, daughter of J. P. Morgan, ate a meal in a New York restaurant the other day, the big daily papers featured the affair under a scare headline. For instance, the Chicago Tribune furnishes this bit of valuable information concerning that wonderful event: "Her meal consisted of a large plate of corned beef and cabbage. For desert she had an apple dumpling. Miss Morgan was stylishly attired and attracted considerable attention when she sat down and gave her order. She apparently had a keen appetite and her plate was clean when the waiter took it away and brought her the dumpling." It will appear to some people that Ike Johnson's barn and Jim Crow's hen house are of as much value as news items as is Miss Morgan's corned beef and cabbage.

If some legislator would prepare a bill and push it through the Iowa legislature permitting towns to build their own sewers and lay their own paving it would be something worth while. Under present laws city councils must let by contract and must let to the lowest bidder. But there is nothing in the law to prevent the promulgation of plans and specifications that substantially result in a monopoly. A certain kind of brick or a particular kind of sewer pipe must be used, according to the specifications, and it oftentimes happens that but one firm makes the kind of material specified. These specifications are not drawn by accident. There is a controlling interest behind them, but the council may be innocent of any intended wrong. In some states cities can lay their own pavements, hiring labor by the day and buying the material where they can do the best. Michigan has such a law and Ann Arbor has laid good concrete pavements at eighty-five cents per square yard. Where is the law-maker who will take it upon himself to give the cities of this state permission to do such work themselves when it appears to their interest? Fathering such a law as this, and pushing it to a successful issue, is far more assuring than the frequent and oft-repeated assertion of the legislator that he is the friend of the downtrodden peepul and the guardian of the interests of the hardfisted laboring man.

Progressive republicans, standpat republicans, progressive democrats, standpat democrats and socialists are all able to extract a lot of comfort from the recent elections. The standpat republicans insist that the result in New York, New Jersey and Maryland indicate a return to sanity and portend the re-election of Taft. Progressive republicans see in the result in Philadelphia, Cleveland and other cities a disposition to knock out machine politics and conclude this will aid LaFollette in his campaign for the republican nomination for president. The democrats—standpatters and pro-

gressives, as a democrat is a democrat first, last and all the time—scent victory next year because the democrats elected the governor of Massachusetts, redeemed Kentucky and made gains in many of the cities where city elections were held. The socialists are elated because they carried Schenectady, New York, and a number of Ohio towns. The Freeman-Tribune sees little advantage in the returns to any party. The victories are mixed. If there is any consolation to republicans it is found in New York, where the democratic legislature is displaced by a republican legislature. On the whole, republicans made large gains, but with Taft or LaFollette as the standard bearer there is no telling what would happen.

**THE CHALK LINE.**  
Dubuque Times-Journal: No trust should be allowed to split up into competing companies merely by drawing chalk lines across the floors of its office.

**A REMEDY NEEDED.**  
Insanity court was held at the office of the county clerk yesterday. The authorities of Grand Junction brought from there a little hunchbacked Italian who was picked up on the main road a few miles east of Malcolm's. He was noticed by school children and upon investigation was found to have been there about twenty-four hours with no food or shelter. He was taken to Grand Junction and lodged in jail where he became violent and would neither eat nor talk. Yesterday morning he was brought to Jefferson and nothing could be learned from him except that he wanted to go to Italy. He was given his breakfast and sent on to Boone. Physicians believe that he was a member of some disbanded railroad gang and was stricken with epilepsy.—Jefferson Free Lance.

There is altogether too much of this sort of thing being done in Iowa and it is responsible for more crime than many may believe. Why was that hunchback turned loose? Was he fit to go free and to meet women and children upon the public highway. He had been violent in Grand Junction. What if he should become violent out in the country and slaughter a lot of people? Who would be responsible? There ought to be a state law dealing with such cases. A town has no right to turn such characters loose upon the public to commit rapine, arson and other crimes. This thing is practiced by all towns in Iowa and other states, but it should be stopped. Possibly the situation could be best handled by federal statute.

**CLEAN MEN WANTED.**  
Under present usages and customs the president is supposed to appoint to certain offices men recommended by a member of congress or by the congressional delegation from a certain state, as the case may be. This being the situation it is incumbent upon those having the authority to recommend to treat that power with discretion and in the interest of the public service. Yet there is some desire to parcel out these places in return for personal services or to pay a debt of gratitude. There can be no objection to a member of congress favoring his friends when other things are equal, but there is objection, and the objection ought to be carried to the extent of opposing the offender at the polls, when an incompetent or unworthy person is recommended over the heads of competent and deserving candidates. Moreover, in the event of the recommending power disregarding the public service in the interest of personal considerations, or at the cost of the service, the president ought to ignore the recommendations and insist upon the recommendation of clean and capable men, or he should take the matter entirely into his own hands and make an appointment that meets public demands for good service and one that can be conscientiously defended and commended. The policy of appointing "lame ducks," whether said ducks have been fired bodily or forced to resign for the "good of the service," should be frowned down. Especially is it a duty enjoined upon progressive republicans to endorse only capable and worthy men. The progressive movement is a movement

toward better things in government and when a professed progressive—whether in or out of congress—countenances the debasement of the service in his own personal interest he is a demagogue and a hypocrite.

**FINALLY LOCATED.**  
Sioux City Journal: Where does Woods stand? He is standing for reelection, isn't he?

**A GREAT INJUSTICE.**  
As soon as Senator Bourne succeeds in getting the method of apportioning delegates to the republican national convention grounded in right and justice, it is to be hoped he will attack that other and greater evil—the one permitting representation in congress and the electoral college based upon a vote not allowed to be exercised. The south insists this is a white man's government and that only white men should be allowed to vote. If that principle is going to be recognized and enforced so far as voting is concerned it ought to be recognized and enforced in apportioning representation. Take the state of Mississippi, for instance, and see how "the white man's government" would fare under strict application of what that implies. According to the 1910 census Mississippi has a white population of 786,119 and a colored population of 1,000,487, a total of 1,786,606. Mississippi has eight members of the lower house of congress and 20 votes in the electoral college. In these matters Mississippi is granted more because of the colored population than because of the white population. Iowa, with a white population of more than 2,200,000, has only three more members of congress than Mississippi has with a white population of only 786,119. At the presidential election in 1908 Mississippi cast 64,680 votes, giving Bryan twenty votes in the electoral college—one vote for every 3,400 voters. Iowa cast in 1908, 475,982 votes, giving Taft twenty-six in the electoral college—one electoral vote for every 18,300 voters. Is there anybody who thinks this is a square deal? Is there any democrat in Iowa who has the hardihood to defend the suppression of the Negro vote and then insist upon counting the negro population in apportioning representation in congress and the electoral college? To the credit of the democratic party of the north it can be said that no defense of this situation has been attempted, but to the discredit of the democratic party everywhere no democrat of prominence has yet appeared upon the scene with the honesty and courage to denounce the outrage. It is equally to the disgrace of the republican party that the party has not the moral courage and the inclination to attack this evil and correct it, notwithstanding the fact the party is in power, pledged to enforce the constitution of the United States.

Mississippi is by no means an exceptional southern state in this respect. Take Georgia, for instance, and compare it with Iowa. The white population of Georgia is 1,431,816 and the colored population is 1,176,897, a total of 2,608,713. In 1908 Georgia cast 114,106 votes, giving Bryan twenty-six—the same number Iowa gave Taft—in the electoral college. One vote in Georgia counts as much as four votes in Iowa in the election of a president of the United States. Under the new apportionment, based upon the 1910 census, Georgia will have greater representation than Iowa in congress and the electoral college. Democrats who are continually looking for something to denounce ought to tackle this evil. It is a condition that cannot continue indefinitely under a government of, by and for the people. It is contrary to the interests of a free people. It is contrary to the provisions of the constitution and is unfair, unjust and indefensible. Where is the public man of prominence who dare attack this festering sore and keep up the attack until the knife is applied and it is cut out root and branch? If the negro population of the south are to be treated as cattle at the ballot box they ought to be treated in the same way in regard

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