

The Freeman

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Official Paper of City and County

"At 15 I had my mind bent on learning; at 30 I stood firm; at 40 I had no doubts; at 50 I knew the decrees of heaven; at 60 my ear was an obedient organ for the reception of truth; at 70 I could follow what my heart desired without transgressing what was right."—Confucius.

"Aw, go tell that to Gompers."
Fortune never helps the man whose courage fails.—Sophocles.

What will happen to the lawyers if it ever becomes cheaper to buy a jury than to hire a lawyer?

Congressman Littleton seems to be as much in earnest as a candidate for a piece of pie from the federal counter.

It's a pity that Jim McNamara's grip handle didn't break when he was sneaking up the alley back of the Los Angeles Times building.

Senator Gore is not so blind as some men who are in full possession of their eyesight. The senator can see through a "deal" about as quickly as any of them.

What could a poor, lone colonel do if his friends should insist upon nominating him for president against his will? If he were a general it would be different.

It is a slander to Honest John to say that he secured \$700,000,000 worth of iron lands for only \$500,000. John wouldn't do such a thing as that. Hasn't he often told his Sunday school class that honesty is the best policy?

Lincoln Steffens' nose seems to be out of joint and all the surgeons and specialists in the world cannot fix it. Link stuck his proboscis so far into the McNamara case that he could not get it out at the psychological moment, hence the disfigurement.

A team passed through the city yesterday hauling an old shack. At first spectators thought it was the Illinois Central Fort Dodge depot on the way to Waterloo, but investigation revealed the fact that it was a mover on his way back to Illinois from South Dakota.

The Jefferson Free Lance wants to know "what has become of the proposed presidential primary in Iowa?" Well, you see, Col. Young and Dave Brant, its most strenuous advocates at the start, became convinced that they were liable to get it unless a different tack were taken. Hence this excruciating silence.

George Bernard Shaw says there are not half a dozen real Irishmen in America. We dare George Bernard to go into any police station in America and say that.—Cedar Rapids Gazette.

Should G. B. S. accept this challenge there wouldn't be a single, solitary George Bernard Shaw left in America to tell of the tragedy.

When Samuel Gompers was telling the labor union men of the heroic sacrifices of the McNamaras, who were being persecuted in the name of labor, to give emphasis to his words he had a photograph taken of himself seated between the two brothers. Sam has been wont to exhibit this photograph upon diverse occasions, but he has suddenly withdrawn it from circulation.

People who are looking forward to the Christmas festivities should not fail to profit by disasters in the past. Many a happy Christmas time has been turned suddenly into sadness by some terrible accident that could have been easily avoided. Be very careful with fire, especially with lighted candles on the Christmas tree. Amateur Santas should not use inflammable stuff for masks and clothing and every precaution should be taken to prevent accidents. The day following Christmas is always one prolific with sad news. Let us help make the sorrow side less conspicuous this year.

The liquor men of Dubuque are alarmed, says a dispatch. If the supreme court upholds the Moon law the number of saloons in that town will be reduced from 110 to 35. Just think of it. That will be less than one in each block and the thirsty Dubuquer may have to travel three or four blocks without taking on refreshments. The cruelties of the Moon law are almost unbelievable.

Russia needs to learn that a citizen of the United States is a citizen of the United States, with all that the term implies.—Burlington Hawk-Eye.

It might be well for the United States to also learn that a citizen of the United States is a citizen of the United States, regardless of race. When the United States learns that it will be in better condition to undertake to teach it to others. The United States is a great big cowardly hypocrite on this question.

It is surprising to find some of his Colorado political opponents speaking of Senator Guggenheim respectfully, even kindly, and paying tribute to his personal qualities. It is possible to infer that if Senator Guggenheim had not made the egregious mistake of succeeding in business and politics he might now be generally regarded as a good and useful citizen whom an honest man might take by the hand without risking his own reputation.—Sioux City Journal.

Then again, and on the other hand and vice versa, if Guggenheim were not the possessor of many millions of dollars and had secured a seat in the United States senate on merit—won through battles for the people—he would be stamped a demagogue and a hypocrite, an agitator, an insurgent and, worst of all, a menace to party solidarity.

Universal suffrage in this country is coming and mere men may as well prepare for the new order of things. The injustice of permitting ignorant and vicious men to exercise a privilege having to do with government which intelligent and pure woman cannot exercise is apparent to all thinking people. The future of the country will soon be in the hands of those who are now boys and girls and it rests upon the mothers of the country, more than upon anyone else, to direct those boys and girls in the ways that make for good citizenship. The hand that rocks the cradle and the mind that directs the future footsteps of the toddling infant are, above all others, interested in good government. The time has come for that hand to put the ballot in the box as directed by that mind.

A law that would send dishonest contractors to the penitentiary would not be a bad law. The contractor who willfully "cheats" in construction is one of the worst of thieves. If the specifications call for structural steel of certain size and the contractor puts in something smaller and weaker he not only steals from his employer, but oftentimes jeopardizes public safety. Or if the man who is erecting a concrete bridge fails to put in the ingredients called for, but substitutes something inferior and cheaper, thus weakening the structure, he is a menace to public safety and ought to be harshly dealt with. There is altogether too much of this sort of thing going on, and some men wink at it, calling it "shrewdness," or one of the "tricks of the trade." It is downright thievery and may be approaching something much worse.

If Mike Healy should be nominated by Tenth district democrats for congress, as has been suggested, there would be a lively campaign and the republican nominee would have to go some. Wouldn't Mike have the time of his life in discussing the issues with Hon. Frank P. Woods? If Mike gets into the game it is up to the dominant party in the district to match him if they can. He is one of the best speakers in the state and probably no democrat in the district is as popular before the people. The republican majority is better than two to one, but it would be no place near that in a contest against Mike Healy unless the republicans should nominate a man big enough for the job and one who could meet Mr. Healy in debate.

This is one of the biggest districts in the United States, numerically speaking, and is entitled to be represented in congress by a leader—by a republican leader.

And now they are saying that the Iowa delegation "put up a job." That it was planned, "for effect," that there should be a tie in the vote upon the proposition to dispose of the question of federal patronage. It beats all what interest attaches to "patronage," yet not one man in a thousand cares anything about it, further than the effect upon the service. The people want honest and capable officials and they are becoming more insistent upon that with each recurring year. Better keep a good man in office forty years, and then some, than to turn him out to give place to a bad man.

Capital punishment in California has proven a blessing. Darrow would never have advised the McNamaras to plead guilty except to save their necks. He has said so. Had he known that only life sentences could be imposed upon the monsters he would have fought to the end to establish their innocence in the minds of the jury and the public, though knowing himself they were guilty. This conclusion is not only justified by Darrow's own statement, but it is forced. Murderers of the type of the McNamaras have been made martyrs of in the past. Organized labor has held them up as examples of men who were being persecuted for a principle, and whenever they were in a crowd of labor union men they were made to feel their importance and their supposed superiority. Moreover, they believed that if arrested for crimes the best lawyers in the country would be at their command and organized labor would supply a purse of sufficient magnitude to defeat the ends of justice. It is therefore well that capital punishment remain upon the statute books. It may induce other scoundrels like the McNamaras to plead guilty upon the advice of a lawyer like Darrow. It will not be so easy hereafter for men of the McNamara and Darrow type to impose upon honest labor.

Iowa republicans may think they amount to something, and they do in certain directions, but when it comes to the nomination of a candidate for president of the United States they cut little figure when compared with one of the lordly republicans of Mississippi, Louisiana, South Carolina, Texas and other southern states. It takes from six to eight Iowa republicans to offset one southern republican in a national convention of the party. Here is the popular republican vote, together with the number of delegates to the national convention of eight southern states:

Delegates.	Vote for Taft
Mississippi	20 4,366
Alabama	22 25,308
Louisiana	18 8,958
South Carolina	18 3,968
Florida	10 10,654
Georgia	26 41,697
Texas	36 65,666
Arkansas	18 56,760
	168 217,367

Iowa gave Taft at the election in 1908, 275,000 votes and the state will have twenty-six delegates in the next national convention. From this it will be seen that more than 15,000 Iowa republicans are required to one delegate from this state, while 250 republicans in Mississippi exercise the same power. The Iowa republican is a rather small proposition when stood up alongside of the great, big, incomparable republican of the state of John Sharp Williams. Doesn't this make you feel rather small, Mr. Iowa republican? Well, it ought to. You have suffered this thing for fifty years and you have never had the gumption to protest. The Freeman-Tribune has complained of it for ten years, but not another republican, save Senator Cummins when he was a member of the national committee, became greatly interested in the proposition.

These eight southern states in the national convention will have 168 delegates to 26 for Iowa. They gave Taft 217,000 votes, while Iowa

gave him 275,000. Isn't it about time for the republicans of Iowa, and of every other northern state, to protest against this outrage and to protest in a manner that will be effective? Talk about the square deal. The republican party hasn't got the spunk to enforce it even within its own organization.

"FEELINGS."
It is too bad that anyone should be mean enough to print anything that will hurt the feelings of Woodrow Wilson. It is all right, of course, to print things that sizzle about Uncle Joe Cannon. Uncle Joe is a seasoned old campaigner and isn't supposed to have any feelings.—Sioux City Journal.

Senator LaFollette and Cummins are also supposed to be feeling proof against the poisoned shafts continually fired at them. Hence such slurs as the following from the Sioux City paper are permissible:

The LaFollette boom seems to have more cash on hand now than in the good old days when Uncle Ike Stephenson's barrel was financial headquarters. It is suspected that the Spreckels, McCormick and Pinchot barrels must be suffering.

HOW ABOUT THIS?
J. B. Johnston was over at Forest City Friday and had the pleasure of attending a fine booster meeting. Among the speakers was Ex-Senator Lafe Young, who gave a splendid talk on the progress and development of Iowa. On his way home the next morning Mr. Johnston had a pleasant chat with Senator Young over the political situation and says that Lafe said that he was afraid the party might "nominate Taft for president, but they can't elect him." It was evident to Mr. Johnston that Lafe Young was no standpatter, or else he was making it appear so to further his interests in the campaign against Kenyon for the senatorship, over which there is no doubt Mr. Young is preparing to make a desperate fight.—Algona Upper Des Moines Republican.

Can it be possible that Col. Young has come to the conclusion that it will help his senatorial candidacy to repudiate the president? That is the only explanation of his observation that the president cannot be re-elected if re-nominated. Of course the colonel would not hesitate to throw down Taft or anybody else who stood in the way of his personal ambition, but that he should think such a proceeding advisable is somewhat surprising.

FRUITS OF INSANITY.
Sioux City Journal; Inflammatory appeal to prejudice and passion ought to be cried down by responsible public sentiment. The people of the United States are better qualified for self government than ever before in the history of the republic. What they need is fair statement. They need leadership that will trust them with the facts. There has been much talk of trusting the people, and there has been passionate struggle to take away from the people opportunity to pass intelligent and honest judgment. There are always those in time of excitement who lose their heads and some of these, under the penalties of the law, suffer in a literal way the extreme penalty. The misguided, the foolish, the actual criminal, are quickly enough detected when guilt is established against them. The assassin, the incendiary and the dynamiter are not alone responsible. They have been appealed to in the name of justice. The wrongs of classes have been ground into them. They have been made drunk with retaliation and revenge. But they count on backing under exposure. Capital and labor join hands in defense, and together the crimes of the guilty are denounced. What is needed is healthful public sentiment—sentiment that will place a gag in the mouth of the barn-stormer willing to incite the weak to heinous crime if thereby he may make a point in the reckless game he plays. The offense of the inflammatory appeal in time of peace and orderly government stands forth hideously in a time of revelation of its victims. Instead of making government better, the result is to shock the moral sensibilities of mankind. It is pitiful when the victims in possession of the strong arm of the law plead that they thought they were doing right. The record of crime made up in recent weeks is appalling. Men have been taught to believe in the impotency of law, and they have been taught that powerful influences were in league to rob the poor. Disordered minds have added exaggeration and they have been made blind to every interest intimately associated with their lives. The time is now when moderation should

have ruled. The time is now for many teachers and leaders to reform.

ECHO ANSWERS, "WHERE?"
Jefferson Free Lance: By the way, what has become of the experiment station Congressman Woods was to secure for Boone last summer, at a cost of \$30,000, to be paid for by the government of course. It was proposed to try out the attempt to make paper from corn-stalks, as readers of this paper will recall. Can it be that the whole thing is merely a device to make Boone republicans feel good for some veiled purpose?

IOWA PRESS COMMENT.
"Of course nearly every one wants the McNamaras hanged without any unnecessary delay," says the Des Moines Capital, "but how will it be six months from now when the petition for a pardon is shoved under the public nose?"

The Des Moines Tribune says that Mr. Darrow will do well if he comes out of the McNamara trial without a long question mark, both as a citizen and as a lawyer.

"Champ Clark," says the Waterloo Courier, "seems to be the politicians' candidate. The politicians are generally wiser."

"Who is sitting on the presidential primary project?" the Marshalltown Times-Republican inquires.

"To affirm that union labor has been harmed by the revelations in the McNamara cases is equivalent to saying that union labor cannot profit by its revealed mistakes," says the Council Bluffs Nonpareil.

The Davenport Democrat says the difference between an instructed candidate to a political or any convention and the one who is free is about this: One of them is a dummy; the other is supposed to exercise judgment when the unexpected happens, as it often does.

"Now that congress is in session, business baiting will be resumed at the old stand," says the Iowa City Republican.

"It's a shame," says the Mason City Globe-Gazette, "to let that man Leslie Shaw come back to Iowa and finance a busted railroad that every farmer in southwest Iowa wants built. But Leslie has done some things that are forgivable."

"It is a time for republicans to cool down and hope for the best," says the Shenandoah Sentinel-Post. "The course of republicans in congress this winter and of executive action will determine largely whether the republicans may be successful next fall or whether they are due for a drubbing. The party is undergoing a reorganization along more radical lines than in the past and the conservative elements of the party might as well make up their minds to it or join the conservative wing of the democratic party."

The Waterloo Times-Tribune observes that Mr. Bryan doesn't go so far as to figure out how the democrats can accomplish anything for the people or for the party by fighting among themselves.

The Jefferson Bee says that Iowa is indifferent to LaFollette. "Why should we tear off any shirts for the little pompadour statesman, or politician, of Wisconsin?" comments the Cedar Rapids Republican. "We have troubles enough, politically, without borrowing any from that state of socialistic tendencies."

Stockholders Meeting.
The annual meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank for the election of directors for the ensuing year will be held at their banking house in Webster City, Iowa, on Tuesday, Jan. 9, 1912, between 2 and 4 p. m.
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