

Pierre Weekly Free Press

VOL. XXIX

PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1912

NO. 28

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PIERRE, S. D.

In the matter of crops this is a \$5,000,000,000 country.

Iowa democrats will have only three seats in the next congress, but they have increased their representation by precisely 200 per cent.

Tama Jim Wilson and Philander Knox were great little forecasters when they said they would leave their cabinet positions on March 4.

Greece and Turkey made common mistake of not preparing for war in times of peace. The result is that both have very inferior navies.

It really doesn't matter, after all, whether the South Dakota presidential electors cast their ballots for Roosevelt or for Taft, so far as the result is concerned.

Senator Knute Nelson has been declared the choice of the people of Minnesota for another term in the United States senate. He has been in the senate since January, 1895.

It is ever idle to blame any administration for the price of wheat. Just remember that it is the Liverpool, England, board of trade which regulates the wheat prices of the world.

With Cuba in a state of political fermentation, Mexico showing signs of another possible disturbance, congress soon to open, and the Balkan states still in the limelight, newspaper readers should not fear a shortage of readable items.

The Fourth National Bank, of New York city, in its monthly statement of general business conditions in the United States says that the outlook is excellent in all branches of industry, commerce and agriculture.

Official returns from six South Dakota counties have been received at the office of the secretary of state. They give majorities of two to one for the Richards primary bill and seven to one for the headlight bill.

Congress will meet in joint session on the 12th of February to canvass the electoral vote for president and vice president of the United States. It is unlikely that the task will present any complications.

The Deadwood Telegram springs Theodore Roosevelt as its candidate for president in 1916. The Telegram is precipitate, and possibly unwise. There is no reason to believe the colonel will be any more popular in 1916 than he is in 1912.

That the cost of living has been increasing very rapidly the past year is shown in a special statement issued last week by the department of agriculture. According to the statement a year ago beef cattle sold for \$4.32 per 100 pounds, and now brings the farmer \$5.36, an increase of about 25 per cent. The prices of veal calves, hogs, sheep, milch cows, butter and eggs have also soared.

The colonel assures himself and the public that he has won a victory in securing second place in the race, but it is a victory that will not hurt anybody. He calls it a victory because it will enable him to perfect his new party organization and go for the republicans next time with deadly intention. Yet the bull mooses hereabouts are referring to his success in South Dakota as a republican victory. What kind of a lot are they, anyway?

Up to the present claims have been filed with the state auditor for \$13,729 on the fund for payment for horses which have been killed under orders of the state authorities on account of the animals being glandered. The total annual appropriation for settlement of such claims is fifteen thousand dollars, and as claimants have until the first of January to file claims, the total amount will no doubt be taken up before that time.

If it is true, as has been semi-officially stated, that Governor Wilson is going to appoint Bryan his secretary of state, Dr. Wiley his secretary of agriculture and Brandeis his attorney general, he is giving evidence of a good start. These selections strike the keynote of popular sentiment. Especially gratifying will it be if Dr. Wiley is given jurisdiction over his enemies, and the enemies of consumers of food, in the agricultural department. And Brandeis is something of a terror to trusts.

THE DURABLE BRYAN

As a time tested campaigner you simply have to give it to William Jennings Bryan. With Gov. Wilson and Col. Roosevelt both off the national circuit recently, Col. Bryan had no competition in ability to draw crowds. With the two presidential candidates in the competition, and with frank curiosity adding thousands to their every audience, Bryan remained in a class by himself in the essential of pleasing his audience. During the campaign Bryan was billed in the south, the west, and finally in the east. From all directions reports have been the same. Everywhere the Bryan meetings have been attended by thousands where other spellbinders draw only hundreds. And everywhere the Bryan gatherings met the specifications of what politicians call "good meetings."

It is somewhat astonishing to see Bryan keeping up the pace set by himself as a campaigner. In his case the element of curiosity long since ceased to serve as an attraction. Bryan has been on the lecture platform practically without interruption ever since 1896. The charm of his oratory was first advertised in the year when he first lost the presidency. During the years that followed Bryan, the orator, became a familiar figure in every state of the union. On the chautauqua or lyceum platform, or on the stump during political campaigns, Bryan was to be heard often, here, there and everywhere.

COUNTY SEAT CONTESTS

Bison wins the permanent county seat of Perkins county by a plurality of 450 over Lemmon and a clear majority over all of about 300, in a total vote of about 2400.

The voters of Corson county voted against division.

In Ziebach county Dupree won out as permanent county seat by 88 majority, and in Dewey county Timber Lake retains the county seat by a plurality of 26 over Isabel, but as it did not get a majority vote, the county capital is not permanently located there.

RECEIVER BESANCON.

Rapid City, S. D., Nov. 11.—On request of Ben M. Wood, one of the owners of the Gate City Guide, democratic weekly paper published here, a receiver was appointed who now has charge of the office. In the petition for a receiver, allegations are made that W. J. Todd, the other owner of the paper, who has had charge of the business, has not made accounting to his partner as agreed.

Judge McGee appointed E. E. Besancon, publisher of the Advocate at Blunt, receiver for the firm. He has given a bond of \$1,000 for the proper performance of his duty, and a further undertaking of \$500 to indemnify W. J. Todd against loss should he be able to show that his partner's action was not justified. He is given thirty days in which to answer the complaint.

NOTED SOCIALIST DEAD

Girard, Kan., Nov. 11.—Julius A. Wayland, owner of the Appeal to Reason, the leading Socialist paper in the United States, committed suicide in his home here by discharging an automatic revolver in his mouth. He left a note saying: "The struggle under the competitive system is not worth while."

Mrs. Wayland was killed in an automobile accident a year ago, and since then Wayland had been melancholy at times.

ROOSEVELT LEAD 9144

With the counties of Tripp and Perkins yet to report, the Byrne majority for governor is 3,487, the Byrne vote getting close to the total vote for Vessey two years ago.

The Roosevelt lead with the same counties yet out is 9,144.

The vote shows that there were 3,505 more votes cast for the office of governor than for president on the two leading tickets, showing that a number who voted for governor failed to vote for president, or voted for some of the minority candidates.

TEMPTATION

Louisville Courier-Journal: Persons who never had the slightest hankering for political honors are tempted by the investigating committee's revelations to run for office in the hope that George Perkins will send 'em \$50,000 or so. He's so general in his generous attentions.

REPUBLICANS TO ORGANIZE.

Huron Huronite: "I am gratified at the state returns, as I desired to see the whole republican ticket elected," said Governor Vessey to a newspaper interviewer. The governor is the South Dakota member of national bull moose committee, appointed during the progress of the bolters' convention at Chicago.

The Sioux Falls Press says that "South Dakota is one of the few states of the union now entirely republican". Just after having elected five bull moose presidential electors, bolters from the republican party.

The Mitchell Republican assumes that it is strongly entrenched in the republican party, after giving support through the campaign to the nominees who bolted the republican party at Chicago, and that the newspapers that opposed the election of the candidate of the bolters are out of the party.

Thus it appears to be design of the bull mooses to officiate as members of two political parties and to control the organization of two parties, through appointment at Chicago and through theft at Huron.

Under these conditions, it becomes an imperative duty on the part of the republicans of the state to come together in a representative capacity and create an organization around which party the republicans can group itself for business purposes and cast out the men who have affiliated with another party.

Mr. Roosevelt, their leader, has said that his defeat of Taft at the late election gave his party a standing in the political family and that it could now perfect and maintain its organization and defeat the republican party at the next election.

Mr. Roosevelt's running mate, Mr. Johnson, declared, a day or two ago, that a result of the election was "a new party in the nation that has come to stay—a new life in politics that marks a better national existence."

All declarations tend to the perpetuation of the party to which Mr. Vessey, the Sioux Falls Press and Mitchell Republican belong. Through usurpation of authority, it has taken possession of the machinery of the republican party and has announced that it intends to direct the destinies of that party, while admitting allegiance to the Roosevelt party.

Republicans can do nothing more nor less than take over that which belongs to them.

DAKOTA MAN LYNCHED

Steele, N. D., Nov. 9.—A mob of 50 men took George Baker, charged with the murder of his wife and father-in-law, from the jail here and hanged him within the city limits. Baker shot his wife and father-in-law at Dawson just after returning from California. Feeling against him was high and every effort made to protect him from mob violence, and it was for this reason that he was brought here.

SOME FUN AHEAD.

Argus-Leader: Republicans members of the legislature who voted for Dean Sterling for senator will be helping to continue the fight against the republican party. The time for the separation has come—in South Dakota, as elsewhere. It will not hereafter be possible to use the republican name and the republican votes to elect the candidates of another party. The first test in South Dakota will come on the election of a United States senator. No republican member of the legislature feels bound to vote for Sterling who has left the republican party unless he favors the third party. That at least should seem very clear.

THE PRIMARY SUSTAINED

The returns, as far as they are officially reported, give robust majorities for the Richards primary bill, not a county failing to support the measure that the legislature refused to enact.

Herein is shown the value of the referendum privilege. Guided by a vicious machine, the legislative body set its face against a reform that those who elected them were calling for. Against the people, also, was the state and federal official combination.

The opposition was strong in influence and in dogged determination to thwart the popular demand. But the little ballot has destroyed the opposition. The voters of the state have enacted a good law.

HON. E. S. JOHNSON

Whether or no Hon. E. S. Johnson is finally declared elected next governor of South Dakota all must admit that the campaign he made was a wonderful one. Starting with the assertion that he was more interested in the success of the national democratic ticket than he was in his own, he lent every endeavor to that end both in his personal work and in the activities of his headquarters. The unselfishness of it appealed, as did also the sterling qualities of the man, and voters by thousands in every section of the state scratched their ballots to put an X before his name and to vote for the national ticket for which he fought so hard and so cleanly.

Other things, of course, contributed to his wonderful vote getting, notably treachery of the bull moose movement in the state as initiated at Huron—but Johnson was able to profit by every advantage that came to him as few men could have done. Because of his personality, his ability and, most of all, his record, he was able to unite and use to the fullest every particle of opposition to Mr. Byrne or the party he represented and to combine it into an organization that has wiped out a normal republican majority in this state that was believed to be too large to be overcome.

It was a big thing to do and it was done fairly and in a big way. It marks Mr. Johnson as a big man and he will and must be considered in the big public affairs of South Dakota and of the nation from this time.—Yankton Press and Dakotan. (Rep.)

TRUSTS OPPOSE TO LAW

Former Attorney General S. W. Clark has gone to Washington where he will appear before the United States supreme court on behalf of the state of South Dakota, to argue the case of the State vs. The Central Lumber Co. This case involves the constitutionality of the anti-discrimination law enacted by the state legislature in 1907. This law was enacted for the protection of independent dealers in lumber, coal and petroleum products. This law provides that dealers in these products who have a number of retail yards or distributing stations throughout the state, must charge the same price for their products at all of such distributing stations, taking into consideration the difference in freight charges. The case was started on the complaint of an independent lumber dealer at Leola, who alleged that the Central Lumber Co., was endeavoring to force him out of business by ruinous competition of Leola while charging extortionate prices in yards at other points within the state.

OREGON SETTLES IT

Washington, Nov. 11.—The positive announcement of the success of Harry Lane, the democratic candidate for the senate in Oregon assures democratic control of the upper house of congress and places both branches of the legislature and the presidency in their hands for the first time in 18 years. The addition of Oregon to the democratic list gives that party 49 senators, or a majority of two.

In addition to the election of successors democratic senators now sitting, democrats will displace republican senators from Oregon, New Jersey, Kansas, Colorado, Montana, Delaware and Nevada and will fill the vacancy in Colorado with a man of their choosing.

The contest in Illinois where two senators are to be chosen and in Tennessee and Michigan remain to be decided. The democrats make positive claims concerning some of these states, but whatever the result in any or all of them, democratic control of the senate is assured and the democrats will be able to shape legislation if harmony prevails among them.

FOR EQUAL SUFFRAGE

The results of the recent campaign gave a big boost to the cause of suffrage for women. Three states Arizona, Oregon and Kansas have surely been added to the list of those giving full suffrage to women, making nine in all. The result in Michigan is very close, and they may win out there also. There surely is rejoicing in the suffrage camp.

It will be but a matter of a few years until practically all the states will grant women their right to vote. With the leverage obtained already they will be able to move things more rapidly hereafter.