

Fergus County Democrat

TOM STOUT, Publisher and Prop.

Entered at the postoffice at Lewistown, Montana, as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION:

One year\$2.50
Six months 1.25
Three months75

Lewistown, Montana, Aug. 25, 1908.

Democratic Ticket

For President:
WILLIAM J. BRYAN
of Nebraska

For Vice President:
JOHN W. KERN
of Indiana

DON'T PLATFORMS COUNT?

St. Louis Republic: From his vantage ground in New York, Henry Watterson has been looking over the political field with eyes of experience. One of his regrets, after the survey, is that the 7,000,000 votes of the South and West have no newspaper in the metropolis to represent them. In most of the metropolitan newspapers, he says, where these voters are not misreported they are black-listed.

Even a cursory reading of the Eastern newspapers brings confirmation of the correctness of this view. The Eastern press professes admiration for Taft. In his support papers of honesty, integrity and influence have resorted to the most debasing means of self-deception. Skilled writers, trained to defend the people against rapacity and greed, and, therefore, normally worshippers at the shrine of democratic principles, are engaged in producing the weirdest lot of arguments that ever came from editorial pens. eDprived of the incentive of honest conviction, they are sophistical where they were once logical and listless where they were once vigorous. They bandy words, turn fine phrases, grow ironical and witty, and when they find what may pass for a point they rally round it and pick it bare with desperate eagerness.

Their latest point is that platforms are of no importance. "Especially noticeable, just now, is lack of sharp distinctions between the two parties," says the Brooklyn Eagle. "The tendencies of persons are more remarked than the differences between platforms. With a few exceptions of declaration Mr. Taft could stand on the Denver platform and Mr. Bryan on the Chicago platform," and so on to a laudable conclusion that the voter should wave aside platforms and consider men.

The Taft supporters are willing to abide by a decision which fixes the choice between Taft and Bryan as two men. They don't want platforms injected into the discussion at all. There is no objections to the personal test, but issues of a presidential campaign have never been fought out in that manner and they never will be. The fact of the matter is that Mr. Taft, on the wabbling foundation of Chicago subterfuges, is at such a disadvantage that the inclination to abandon consideration of platforms is easily understood.

The republican platform consists of what was adopted at Chicago as a matter of fact. The Taft platform consists of the Chicago affair as he supplemented and explained it in his letter of acceptance. But the thoughtful voter must go behind and beyond both to find, as Mr. Watterson pointed out, "that every abuse stigmatized by Roosevelt is of republican origination"; that Taft's "sole claim upon the vote of the commonalty is the pretense that he will carry forward the Roosevelt policies; his sole hold upon the vote and the purse of the favored few is that he will not."

Is it any wonder the eastern papers are embarrassed? Is it surprising that they deny themselves the privilege of analysis and sink their maunders in oceans of words?

The Argus is running a serial defense of "Sunny Jim" Sherman, the republican candidate for vice president. In the near future, we expect our esteemed contemporary to tell how Sherman has always been the right hand man of Speaker Cannon and Aldrich in Congress; how he "fried the fat" out of the trusts during the last national campaign; how he formed a little ice trust and boosted the price of that necessity to an extortionate rate in his home town of

Utica; how he has ever been classed as one of the most determined, unyielding reactionaries and a stumbling block to such reforms as were recommended by President Roosevelt during the last congress. The Argus will further enlighten its readers where Mr. Sherman would stand, with the common people or the monopolists and trust owners with whom he associates and whom he so assiduously serves, in case he should, through the death of Taft, be elevated to the office of president of the United States.

Republican papers are making much of an obscure report that Secretary Hitchcock has sent back some money contributed by a trust. In the first place, why are there any such things as trusts in existence since the republican party, the "Grand Old Party" be it remembered, has had control of the machinery of government since a time when such a thing as a trust was unknown? In the second place, it may be observed that the democratic party is not on sufficiently friendly terms with a trust to be even the recipient of a proffer of campaign funds. It is only natural that the trusts should have a desire to help those who have so signally helped them throughout all these years.

"Sunny Jim" Sherman, in his speech of acceptance, says that there is nothing in the issue, "Shall the people rule." "Sunny Jim" says that "the people" have always ruled this country. It is not denied that Mr. Sherman's "people" who are the heads of the trusts of this country, have ruled all right all right. There are people and people but the republican vice-presidential candidate knows little and cares less about the eighty millions who are generally meant to be included by that term.

In all of the crucial states, the republican party is torn wide open by dissensions. The Hughes and anti-Hughes men in New York expect to carry their differences to the polls. In Ohio, Joe Benson Foraker announces that he will not tamely submit to the indignities of the Taft machine. In Illinois, Yates and Deeney are whetting up their knives. In Iowa, it is the standpaters against the Cummins men. Oh, what a merry bit of slashing there will be in November!

Livingston Post: The Lewistown Democrat this week celebrated its fourth birthday. Under the management of Tom Stout, the Democrat has become a splendid newspaper, a credit to the city in which it is published, and to the publisher, and the fact that it is at all times a sturdy representative of democratic principles is a cause for congratulation by the party in Montana.

Also, Mr. Sherman, as one of the two all powerful members of the rules committee in the house of representatives, is very largely responsible for the despotic sway which Speaker Cannon has held over our national congress. He has worked hand in glove with Joe Cannon and to condemn Cannon is to condemn Sherman.

Mr. Taft says that he is going to carry out the policies of Roosevelt and his campaign managers tell the owners of predatory wealth to be not afraid, but come through for Taft, it is not going to do anything to "disturb" business. Oh, the utter hypocrisy of it all!

E. W. Chafin's troubles are many. Almost drowned in a swimming pool, beaten over the head with a brickbat, he is now to be notified that he must run for president on the prohibition ticket.—Louisville-Courier Journal.

A dozen or fifteen new elevators will have been erected in Fergus county before the wheat crop of 1908 is threshed and there will be enough wheat raised in the Judith Basin next year to fill every one of them a dozen or fifteen times.

The republican leaders will confer a favor on a curious people if they will show, after seven years of "big sticking" around, where one trust has been put out of business or even seriously crippled from being fined.

While mentioning the name of no

political party, the Montana Federation of Labor indorses the political attitude of Samuel Gompers and there is no doubt as to where Gompers stands.

With Ed Norris as the candidate for governor and Dave Hilger the candidate for lieutenant governor, there will be no room for doubt concerning the result in this state next November.

The loud claims which the republican papers are making are based on about the same sort of reasoning that impels the small boy to whistle in the dark. It's just to keep up courage.

We do not wish to appear sceptical, but that story of the republican campaign committee returning campaign money contributed by a trust listens very much fairy taleish.

James School Graft Sherman says the old ship of state is all right with your Uncle Joe Cannon at the wheel and Jimmy himself collecting the fares. But is she?

Afraid to praise and finding nothing to condemn, Mr. Taft very naturally had nothing to say about Bryan's speech of acceptance.

Honesty may be the best policy but we have not heard of any railroad company naming any towns Lindsay or Hedges.

If you are living in a town which you cannot boost, it would be a good idea to go to a town which you can boost.

Get ready for the old timers.

Boost for the county fair.

ELEVATORS FOR FERGUS.

Minneapolis Concern Will Erect String Through Judith Basin.

Helena will be the clearing house for the cash grain business of Montana, and will be the headquarters of the Pacific northwest of the McCaull-Webster Elevator company, the Hawkeye Elevator company, and the McCaull-Dinsmore company, old established Minneapolis firms which have entered the Montana field and now are erecting elevators and lumber depots in various parts of the state preparatory to carrying on a general cash grain business and to dealing in lumber, coal and hay. The office is in the Power block, says the Montana Daily Record.

"Wherever in the northwest we find the acreage is large enough to justify the putting in of an elevator which can be operated for six months in the year, we will erect it," said E. E. Calmer, office manager of the company, this morning.

"Where elevators are not located and grain is for sale we will buy directly from the farmers and will pay cash. We will receive the quotations daily of the Minneapolis and Chicago grain markets. "At present we are putting in two elevators, one at Townsend and the other at Red Lodge. The lumber for these structures has arrived and the work of construction will begin immediately. We are going to build a considerable number of elevators along the St. Paul road in the Judith basin and at other points and will also have elevators along the line of the Great Northern."

Head offices of the concern are in Minneapolis and they have branches in the Dakotas, but up to the present the grain business of the northwest has not been considered of sufficient importance to be closely looked after. The heavy purchases in Fergus county and other parts of the state last fall by eastern concerns has brought to the attention of the eastern firms the rapidly growing grain acreage in Montana and this year there will be more competition for the crop.

The McCaull companies will transact all business west of the Dakotas, through the Helena office, this being practically a clearing house. The concerns will also operate extensively in Idaho and Washington but will maintain their western office here.

J. E. Ehrle is the general western manager. He is now out looking after the construction of elevators and the location of sites.

PRESS COMMENT.

Red Lodge Picket: The verbosity of Jeff and Ira is unlimited, which will be generally conceded. In view of this fact then The Picket would be pleased to have either or both explain the whyfore of the abrupt termination of the Forsyth "war of words" that has been going on for weeks. Both editors are as docile as a pair of new kittens this week. An explanation might make interesting reading.

Anaconda Standard: Fighting Bob Evans has retired, but the country has its Fighting Stanley Ketchel and the government at Washington still lives.

GOVERNOR NORRIS APPOINTS HILGER

FERGUS COUNTY MAN HEADS A VERY IMPORTANT COMMISSION.

David Hilger, of this city, has been appointed by Governor Norris the ranking member of one of the most important commissions ever chosen in this state. This committee which is made up of Mr. Hilger, Hon. C. S. Hartman, of Bozeman, and B. F. White, of Dillon, will meet in Helena October 2, to consider the conservation of the state's natural resources. The commission are to outline a plan which shall be recommended to the state legislature next winter.

Governor Norris' proclamation is as follows: The question of the preservation of national resources has lately been and is now receiving the most thorough consideration.

The conference of governors called by the president and held at the White house during the month of May made among others the following declarations:

"We agree that further action is advisable to ascertain the present condition of the national resources and to promote the preservation of the same; and to that end do we recommend the appointment by each state of a commission on the conservation of national resources to cooperate with each other and with any similar commission of the federal government." This declaration was made to awaken public sentiment and to bring about such action as would produce beneficial results.

Possessing more extensive, diversified and valuable resources than any other state, the people of Montana are especially interested in the proper development, use and conservatism of th natural resources of this state.

Mining Industry. The coal area is known to be very large and future work and discoveries will prove the greatness of our coal measures.

The iron deposits are practically untouched and future activity will make the production of iron a most important industry.

Other minerals of no present known value exist in large quantities, and it is not visionary to presume that some genius may discover their worth and that the same may become subjects of commercial activity.

Stock raising, which has ever been a source of profit, will not become less important with the coming of new settlers. Large herds and flocks will become the exception and smaller holdings on the part of large numbers will become the rule, and the total numbers will be larger than smaller.

Timber Interests. Our timber interests are extensive and very valuable.

In the semi-arid climate of Montana, water must be used for irrigation purposes to produce the best results. The supply of water for irrigation purposes and also for power development is intimately connected and associated with the timber question, and will be considered especially by the forestry commission heretofore named by me.

Other resources could be named but those mentioned will serve to illustrate the idea intended to be conveyed.

To each of the above named resources, except that of the forests and water power, and which have received the least well considered attention, more or less thought has been given and laws for the administration of same, in a measure satisfactory, have been enacted.

Land Most Important.

The most important of all resources, however, of this or any other state is the land, and this merits more careful thought and intelligent consideration than has heretofore been given. Upon the proper development, holding distribution and preservation of the soil, the prosperity and material interests of a people most largely depend. Erosion of the soil is not with us such a serious problem as in less favored sections.

The proper administration of the generous gift of lands by the federal government to the state for educational purposes, is a matter of the greatest moment and concern.

Those most familiar with the facts realize that our land laws are very defective and largely insufficient. I shall, however, make but one reference, as illustrative of the statement, that a revision is necessary.

According to the law in force, no more than 160 acres of agricultural lands shall be sold to one person. It was evidently the intention of the legislature to prevent the vesting of title to large tracts of agricultural lands in any one person, association or corporation. The same act further provides that upon issuance of the certificate of purchase, the purchaser may immediately assign the certificate and patent will issue to the assignee. It is therefore, by means of this provision to defeat the evident purpose of the law and vest in one person, association or corporation, title to large tracts of agricultural lands.

To Encourage Settlers. I do not believe it to be for the best interests of the state that large

tracts of agricultural lands should pass only to actual settlers: If these conclusions are correct and it is desired that such policies should be adopted, then there is urgent necessity for a revision of our land laws.

Believing that there is a necessity for such revision and realizing that such revision will require more investigation and consideration than the time of the legislative session will

permit to the legislators, I have concluded to, and do hereby appoint Honorable David Hilger, of Fergus county, Honorable Charles S. Hartman, of Gallatin county and Honorable B. F. White, of Beaverhead county, as a commission to investigate, formulate and recommend for the consideration of the next legislature.

(Continued on page 7.)

65c EAGH Chairs 65c EAGH

By knowing where to buy and at the right price we are enabled to offer our customers a well built, strongly constructed, splint seat, dining chair at the heretofore unheard of price of 65c each. Just the thing for a good chair at a competition defying price.

A splendidly finished, well built, chair, from kiln dried elm stock, golden oak finish, back bolted to seat with "T" bolt. The best chair for the money ever made. Our price, each

\$1.40

We prepay freight. We can save you money. Our rocker line excels.

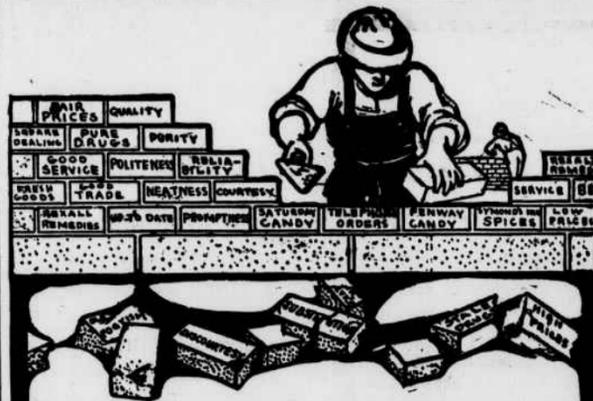


This is a splendid chair for offices, hotels, and other public places where great strength is required in a chair. Continuous back post, 9 stretches in back, arm brace bolted, both back and seat, large roomy seat, made of tough, seasoned elm. Price,

\$2.50

LEWISTOWN FUR. CO.

"If You Don't Buy of Us We Both Lose Money."



The Building of a Drug Business. Square Dealing.

Why is it that this store deserves and wins your preference? Here is the answer in a nutshell. Because we give you a square deal in everything you buy—because we look at Drug Store keeping from your standpoint. You find that out every time you trade here. We believe in doing things a little bit better than ordinary, and it is by doing things a little bit better than ordinary that our business building is accomplished. There's a difference between the ordinary and better-than-ordinary store, just as there is a difference between the "cheap" drug store and the "fair priced" drug store. The "cheap" store or the ordinary store is a dangerous store to patronize, especially if it is a drug store. Your doctor knows that, and your doctor also knows that this store is a bit better than the ordinary drug store—that it is reliable—that we will sell only drugs and medicines that are pure and fresh, and at the same time we sell everything at a fair price.

WILSON & SEIDEN

Progressive Druggists

J. E. Phelan, President. David Hilger, Vice President. C. J. Phelan, General Manager. **WESTERN LUMBER & GRAIN CO. OF MONTANA**

A COMPLETE stock of the best Western lumber is now enroute to Lewistown for this new yard located on 1st Ave. near Water St. The fourth and best lumber yard established in Lewistown. Prices to suit the times. A modern grain elevator will be erected and ready before harvest time this season. :: ::

Watch For Further Announcements