

Dwight Star and Herald

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WM. G. DUSTIN, Editor.
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The White House will be dry for four years, so says the Washington correspondent. A season of dryness will not hurt Washington.

The inauguration is over and now base ball has a clear field and even the scores from southland attract lots of attention. The season opens in April.

Congressman Mann, of Chicago, seems to have the suffragettes after him with his slippers. It was said in the House at Washington that one of the suffragettes in the line of march, March 3, was insulted by some street tough. Mr. Mann remarked that "the lady should have been home attending to her business." And now the "army" is after his scalp, and say they will organize and defeat him at the polls. If the women who don't march or bother their heads about voting should organize the suffragettes would be in a very small minority.

There has been considerable excitement about town regarding gambling since Sunday. There has been one thing demonstrated beyond a doubt and that is that advertising pays. Saturday a circular was distributed about the city inviting everyone to attend evening services at M. E. church and hear all about gambling in Dwight from one who knew all about it. The outcome was that the church was full and standing room at a premium. And while there were no places named outright most of the audience understood where they were, and were not much surprised that there was gambling in town, and while there was only one name mentioned it was also understood who most of the keepers and owners of buildings are, and the people present got about what they went for. Now that the matter is up why not the grand jury take it up and put the responsibility where it belongs. If the

laws are being broken prosecutions should follow, no matter who is hit or how hard. A question was asked a representative of this paper where we stood on this question? That is easy to answer. This paper stands for law and order and for the conviction of anyone, no matter who, who breaks the law. We, personally, do not know anything about gambling in Dwight, any more than what came out Sunday night, and street talk, but the columns of this paper are open to any reputable citizen who will furnish the information and sign his name to it. This paper attacked gambling several years ago because it had information which led the editor to believe that boys under age were gambling, and the places were closed. Now if there are those who are willing to go on record in this matter we welcome them and will give them space in this paper. We wish to be fair with all and anyone who has defence to make will be accorded the same privilege. It should be remembered that facts must be had and no vicious personalities will be allowed.

We clip the following from the Des Moines (Iowa) Register and Leader, regarding good roads in that state. The conditions are similar to Illinois and the Minnesota people seem to have passed the right kind of a law. Following is the article:

WHY WE FAIL.

We have heard occasionally in the good roads debate that Iowa is not ready for permanent roads.

How many of those who make this statement know that four years ago Iowa enacted a permanent road law.

Iowa and Minnesota both recognized the situation at the same time. Minnesota took the state aid plan, Iowa the county board plan. Minnesota has been building permanent roads for four years, and now by popular vote is greatly extending the work. Iowa has built nothing, and has forgotten that such a law was on the books.

During the four years of this law Iowa has expended not less than \$20,000,000 on roads and bridges. Does anybody doubt that one-fourth of that amount might have been diverted to permanent road work without in any way impairing the general road conditions of the state?

What would \$5,000,000 have done in the past four years? It would have demonstrated in every county the possibilities of a permanent road system. That is about what Minnesota has spent, and it is on the showing made that the people have voted a 1 mill state tax of nearly \$1,400,000 a year for state aid.

But Iowa went about it wrong. The county board is not the unit of permanent road building, and so long as the state sticks to this modification of the local sovereignty idea it will fail of accomplishing state results. Every state that is doing anything now has come to state aid and state supervision.

Why should Iowa be so insistent on local sovereignty? That is not the doctrine that in a large way has ever appealed to the state. In national affairs Iowa has always been for national supervision of things national in extent. Why should the township trustee be given duties in Iowa that he will never perform, and that he ought not to be expected to perform? Why should things that concern the state be so zealously held for the county boards?

Consider the new law proposed by the roads committees. It provides that the county board shall set aside 10 per cent of the roads for permanent improvement. "If" anything is to be done on these roads it must be done with reference to permanent improvement. But under what obligation is the county board to divert the county road fund to the permanent improvement of 10 per cent of the highways, and in what county will the county board so divert the county road fund?

Or, supposing that in one county the board should be in earnest and should permanently improve certain of the main traveled roads. What assurance is there that the adjoining county would lift a finger?

On the other hand, what has been the universal experience with state aid? The demand for the state money to be spent under state supervision has far outrun the ability of the state to meet, and systematic road work has been undertaken in every county with the cheerful acquiescence of the local taxpayer.

The permanent road law of four years ago was well intended. But it has not worked. The weed law of four years ago was well intended. But it has not worked. Is it not about time that we learned a lesson as a state and quit trying to do things in a way experience shows they cannot be done?

There is not a township trustee in Iowa who will serve if he is forced to do the things the road drag law and the weed law, and several other recent laws, demand of him. These laws will never be anything but dead letters so long as they are left to him. There are not ten county boards in Iowa that will undertake permanent road improvement on a few main traveled roads under the law that is

now before the legislature, any more than they will attempt permanent road building under the law enacted four years ago.

Iowa has gone about state building just as John C. Calhoun tried to persuade the nation to go about nation building. In the national struggle Iowa was for national supervision and control. Is it not about time that the logic of the national situation should influence us in the conduct of our domestic affairs?

Have we not made enough failures of local sovereignty in the things that other states are doing with state money and under state authority?

A REASON FOR STATE AID.

Iowa City Citizen: Consider what is involved in the proposition for state aid and state supervision of permanent roads in Iowa.

One—The levy of a one-mill road tax, the proceeds of which, with the state automobile tax, are to be expended under regulations adopted by a state highway commission.

Two—The fund thus created to be equitably apportioned among the several counties of the state, to be used for a part of the cost of building so-called permanent roads, of either gravel or some other more expensive surfacing, on condition that a somewhat larger percentage of the cost be paid by the county and some, perhaps, by the property owners directly benefited.

Three—The plans for the roads thus constructed to be approved by the state highway commission, and the work of construction be supervised by a competent engineer.

Objection is raised to the supervision by the state commission. Some would have the matter put wholly under the control of the counties. They ask why we should pay a tax into the state treasury and then be compelled to follow the instruction of the state as to how we shall spend our own local affairs is dear to us. We dislike to turn any part of our power over to the state.

But experience shows that there will be no uniformity of action by the counties if it is left to them. How many townships in the state appointed one highway superintendent for the township after the legislature passed the law providing for that? How many counties enforce the compulsory dragging law? How many have a thorough going system of working the roads, such as is contemplated in our present law?

The fact is that we will never get at a real system of roads to cover the state of Iowa until we adopt a plan

for giving a premium to ourselves to induce a uniformity of procedure. This is the substance of the state aid plan.

We are to put our money into the state treasury and agree that we are not to have it back again until we are ready to put some more with it and expend the whole sum under some uniform system adopted for the whole state.

The country is full of colleges that have raised handsome endowment funds because some philanthropists have said they would give a thousand dollars for every two or three thousand raised locally.

Carnegie libraries are more numerous than city halls because a canny Scotchman offered to furnish the money if the cities and towns would agree to put in for operating expenses every ten years as much as he would give for the buildings.

When we put the state in the position of being able to offer our counties one-third of the amount necessary to build a number of miles of road, on condition that the state's plan of construction be followed, every county in the state will be ready to take up the uniform system. Iowa will then be making the same kind of progress that other and similar states are making toward good roads.

This is the big reason for state aid, as against exclusive local supervision.

Passion Week Services at the Congregational Church.

Next week there will be Passion Week services in the Congregational Church each night, except Saturday. The subjects are as follows:

Sunday: Friends in Triumph—The Disciples.

Monday: Friends in Sympathy—Mary and Martha.

Tuesday: Friends in Action—Andrew and Philip.

Wednesday: A Friend in Denial—Peter.

Thursday: A Friend in Deceit—Judas.

Friday: Friends in Defeat.

To Woodmen and Royal Neighbors.

The Woodmen and Royal Neighbors and their families will enjoy a social time at their rooms in the Larsen Block Tuesday evening, March 25, 1913. It will be in the nature of a hard times party as to dress and menu. A good program is being prepared. Fines will be imposed from a penny to ten cents.—COMMITTEE.

Adv. 11-2w

Love's Flight Alone Visible.
Love comes unseen; we only see it go.—Austin Dobson.

PRIMARY ELECTION.

Draws Light Vote.—List of Candidates Chosen.

The primary election for the city of Dwight was held in the Town House Tuesday and attracted a very small vote. There was only one ticket in the field and that created very little interest. The total vote cast was 163 and the following were nominated: For president of the board of trustees, James Kelagher; for members of the board of trustees, G. T. Matzen, P. D. Kern and H. C. Rosendall. E. O. Welch was nominated for police magistrate.

Annual Town Meeting and Election.

Notice is hereby given to the citizens, legal voters of the Township of Dwight, in the County of Livingston, and State of Illinois, that the Annual Township Meeting and Election for said town will be held on Tuesday, the First day of April, next, being the first Tuesday in said month. The election will begin at the hour of 7:00 a. m., and close at 5 p. m., in the places designated as follows:

Precinct No. 1, Town House, Village of Dwight.

Precinct No. 2, Opera House, Village of Dwight.

The officers to be elected are: One Commissioner of Highways in Highway District No. 1.

Two Justices of the Peace.

Two Constables.

One School Trustee.

The Town Meeting will open in Town House, Village of Dwight, at the hour of 2:00 p. m., and after choosing a Moderator, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, to appropriate money to defray the necessary expenses of the township, and to deliberate and decide on such measures, as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting.

Given under my hand, at Dwight, this 12th day of March, A. D. 1913.

Geo. S. BAKER,
Town Clerk.

Silenced the Tourist.

"Have you resided long in this town?" asked a tourist of the oldest inhabitant. "Yes," he replied, "a long time. D'ye see that mountain over yonder? Well, that was there when I came here." The tourist traveled on.

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