

The Plattsmouth Journal

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Get out your garden seed.
Drag the roads.
The Easter lid will soon be on.
The one date in the year that the Irish never overlook is March 17.
Senator Dolliver might have added: "If this be 'hysteria' make the most of it."
The avalanches in the northwest are just a portent of the landslides coming next November.
The cost of living has increased 66 per cent and a man has to live high whether he wants to or not.
The last few days have afforded an invigorating reminder that there has been no increase in the price of balmy sunshine.
There are a lot of other men besides Senator Aldrich who think they could run the government better than it is being conducted.
No, my friend, 1910 is not a leap year. 1912 will be a leap year and the Democratic party will celebrate it by leaping into power.
We don't know on what meat Hon. J. Caesar fed that he grew so great but we'll bet it wasn't porter house steak at the present prices.
Lest we forget, let us remember that Peary has never proved that he reached the pole either. Cook may not be the only pole faker.
President Taft danced with Speaker Cannon the other night, which is a reminder that some forms of dancing are more sinful than others.
The American hens furnished 16,000,000,000 eggs to the American market every year. These figures are almost beyond cackling.
It is the old, old story. The senate organization fears to kill the postal savings bank bill outright, so resorts to the plan of amending it to death.
Secretary Ballinger's defense is that he has "violated no law." It is recalled that Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford used to make the same boast.
Colonel Gordon was able to attract more favorable notice during his 60-day term in the United States senate than most senators can get in six years.
When that Ohio law prohibiting minors from smoking in public places goes into effect an increase may be looked for in the insurance rates on barns.
The reformed reformer thinks everybody who doesn't take his advice is going to hades. If they did not no doubt they'd find the would-be reformer there.
Speaker Cannon danced a clog at the white house Thursday night. Heretofore Mr. Cannon has confined his clogging to matters of progressive legislation.
Now is the time to look out for the roads. Drag them now. Don't wait till next week—but commence the good work tomorrow, and keep it up to the end.
The west is eager to have a postal savings bank, but it routes as soon see the bill defeated as to have the deposits placed at Wall street's sole advantage.
Senator Dolliver speaks with the air of a man who would rather have an attack of "hysteria" than to be a victim of fatty degeneration of the perception.
Billy Sunday, the evangelist, cleaned up \$10,000 in 6 weeks at Youngstown, Ohio. Evidently Billy made no

mistake when he passed up the baseball diamond for the pulpit.
The sugar trust is in contempt of court in New York for failure to produce books and records demanded by the federal grand jury. The sugar trust appears, indeed, to be in contempt of everybody, excepting congress.
There are \$686,000,000 of national bank notes in circulation, backed up by government bonds. There are \$342,000,000 of the United States notes backed up by a gold reserve, and \$4,000,000 of the treasury notes, none of which circulate very extensively in the Journal office.
Don't hit, strike, assault or beat a rural mail carrier or Uncle Sam will fine you \$1000 and chuck you into prison for three years. If you want any exercise of that kind, lick an editor. He is not protected by federal statutes or game laws. He is in the same class with negroes and rabbits.
It is rumored that John A. Maguire will have opposition in Lancaster county for a renomination. We hope not, as Mr. Maguire has made a most excellent record and should have not the slightest opposition for the renomination.
It behooves Mr. Pollard to be at home looking after his congressional interests. It is said that Hayward is even making an attempt to organize Hayward clubs in Lancaster county, and it is no telling how soon he will invade Mr. Pollard's own county for the same purpose. Billy is leaving no stones unturned.
The assessors will soon be at their work and the taxpayers of the state will realize more than ever the good work of the last legislature in providing for the election of precinct assessors. It is no longer possible for the state board of equalization to arbitrarily raise or lower the assessed valuation of a county, and the precinct assessment is made more equitable by reason of the fact that the assessment is made by one thoroughly familiar with the local conditions.
Uncle Sam must be a bachelor and knows very little about woman's work. He has instructed his census enumerators in case of a woman doing housework in her own home without salary or wages and having no other employment to make the entry on the census lists as having no occupation. If Uncle will drop in on Plattsmouth, he will find that such woman have considerable of an occupation. In fact they are occupied about 16 hours out of every 24.
Lawson G. Brian, state treasurer and one of the normal school directors who prefers playing politics to the building up the educational institution of the state, has practically announced his candidacy for the Republican congressional nomination in the Third district. If intense partisanship is a recommendation or congressional office in these times, or if the "standpat" doctrine is acceptable to the Republicans of the Third district, then Mr. Brian has many things to commend him.
The normal school board law enacted by the Democratic legislature, and which was declared void by a partisan supreme court, would have made impossible such disgraceful scenes as have been witnessed in connection with the Peru institution during the past two or three months. But to take the management of that big institution out of the hands of the Republican machine did not strike the Republican machine tenders as a good political move, hence the willingness to sacrifice the educational interests of the state in order to advance the interests of the G. O. P. machine.

The oil rate law passed by the Democratic legislature of 1909, has saved to the oil consumers of the state many thousands of dollars, and has worked to the advantage of the independent refineries of Kansas and Oklahoma. All attempts of the G. O. P. managers to deprecate the good effects of this law have been thwarted by the evident fact that oil is cheaper, the freight rate less and the quality of the oil consumed better. The G. O. P. organs that strive so faithfully to belittle the work of the Democratic legislature confine themselves to mere assertions, but always carefully avoid any appearance of dealing with the real facts.
The trouble at the Peru Normal school caused by partisan Republican members of the normal school board, has reached an acute stage. Employees are resigning in disgust, claiming that the resident director (Shellhorn) is insisting that they play politics instead of attending strictly to their duties. The other day the engineer and two or three others threw up their jobs rather than submit to the Shellhorn political demands, so it is alleged, and as a result the electrical plant was "dead," and the school would have been without light had not Principal Crabtree induced a man to run the dynamo until an engineer could be secured. Politico-Preacher Ludden, who has long drawn illegally a salary as secretary of the board, has not yet made good his threat to "expose Crabtree." The secretary is confining his rebuttal to loud and vociferous noise, the one thing that has made him famous in Republican conventions.
Taft's Loss of Prestige.
The Sun recently called attention to the failure of President Taft to meet the expectations of the public in this, the first year of his administration. At the beginning of his term in the white house he was believed to be an of broad views, with the courage of his convictions, but many of his best friends now admit that he has disappointed them. He began with an apparent intention of reforming the tariff downward, but when the standpatters had had everything their own way with the Payne bill he commended it, instead of denouncing it. In so acting he fell below the standard set up by a Democratic predecessor. When unfaithful Democratic senators failed to make the rates of the Wilson tariff bill accord with ante-election promises President Cleveland signified plainly his disapproval and refused to sign the bill. He accepted the responsibility of his position as a leader of his party and insisted upon the performance of its promises. President Taft preferred to follow and applaud where he could not approve. If, as he said in his speech at Newark, N. J., a few days ago, "all the newspapers unite in hammering the administration," it is because he has neglected a great opportunity. He is still personally popular. There is yet in the three remaining years of his term a chance to regain lost ground. This he can do by remembering that he is president of the whole country, not of a party—least of all of the greedy, selfish, ultra-protectionists section of his party. He knows, or should know, that the monopolistic "trusts" he professes to wish to reform are built up by the tariff. If he does not know this, his party is in advance of him. For him to defend a tariff which strengthens the hold of the monopolies distresses his best friends. "No amount of defense or explanation by the president or anyone else," says the St. Paul Pioneer Press, a Republican journal, "will convince the American people that the pledges of the Republican platform have been kept. The tariff law, when all defense of it has been weighed, remains as a dishonorable deception." Lawyerlike quibbles from the president as to the intent of the platform are unbecoming to his high office. His seeming insincerity in the tariff matter may throw doubt upon his directness in other measures which he is proposing to congress. He still has opportunity to regain public confidence if he will sink the partisan in the patriot, the politician in the statesman.—Baltimore Sun.

One Chicago firm bought \$60,000 worth of postage stamps last week. While the name of the firm is not given, the suspicion is unavoidable that it was one of the mail order houses.
Why not instruct the street commissioner to drag the two avenues? Now is the time to do the work. In fact, all the streets should be dragged right away. The streets are in fine shape for that kind of work.
The Kearney Commercial club has launched a boom for Kearney as the capital city of Nebraska. One of the slogans to be used will be "Kearney to be Nebraska's Capitol." We admire their grit, but feel for them in a sad disappointment that awaits them. When Nebraska's capitol is removed from Lincoln it will go to some point near the geographical center of the state. The taxpayers will favor such a move because it will be an impossibility to ever remove it from the geographical center.
Another law passed by the last legislature is deserving of more than passing notice. It is the law requiring all paints sold in the state to be accurately labeled and provides a heavy penalty for any one who sells flax seed or linseed oil that does not answer all the chemical tests for purity recognized in the United States pharmacopoeia. The pressure brought to bear to defeat this bill, and to have it vetoed after it was passed, was terrible. This, of itself, was evidence of the necessity for such a law.
Here is a record of which J. W. Crabtree should be proud, and the citizens of this great state of Nebraska regret that he should be dismissed at the time when the school was in its most prosperous condition: "President Crabtree found the school an insignificant institution with \$12 students and now leaves it six years later with an enrollment of between 1,600 and 1,700. The number of graduates annually going out of the school has been increased from 45 in 1904 to about 180 in 1910. And at the same time that the number in the school have increased the standard of the work has been steadily raised.
Good roads are the greatest blessing that can come to our people. Farmer, laborer and townsman all share in their advantages, but of all, the farmer, whether land holder or tenant, is most benefited. They enhance land values, economize time in which he can market his products when he can't work in the field and when market prices are at their best. We want good roads and believe it is in order for road overseer, precinct, district, county, state and federal government to move out in the matter of creating permanent roads such as are to be found in many of the older countries of the world. Let us rise up above the quagmire of maudlin, senseless sentiment and narrowness and welcome co-operation from any or every quarter.—Shardron Chronicle.
The men who handle the trains of Nebraska, the passengers who ride thereon, and the shippers who patronize them, should not overlook one law enacted by the last legislature—House Roll 374. This is known as the "full crew bill," and it not only makes for the safety of railroad men, but for the safety of the traveling and shipping trade. This law compels all passenger trains over five cars in length to have a crew consisting of an engineer, a fireman, a conductor, one brakeman and one flagman. The necessity of a flagman in these days of intensive railroading will be recognized by every traveler. Freight trains must have an equally large crew, and main line local freights carrying passengers, doing switching and carrying merchandise must have three brakemen. Not only does this make for the safety of the public and the employees, but it increases the opportunities for the employment of railroad men.
L. C. Sharpe is looking after his business in Omaha today, going to that city on the morning train.

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VERY AMUSING PERFORMANCE

In Which Some of the Citizens Took an Important and Painful Part.

Considerable amusement was created yesterday afternoon by the antics of a large number of usually staid and quiet Plattsmouth people who sat down on a settee which stood in front of August Gorder's harness shop and implement store. People who are usually very dignified and who seldom ever indulge in anything out of the ordinary would come down the street, set on the bench and suddenly rise with a convulsive start that surprised and amused those who witnessed the move.

Chief Amick was among those who came down the street and engaged Frank Wheeler in conversation, the latter inviting him to take a seat on the settee. The chief who is a quiet, confiding man, sat down and Mr. Wheeler told him very mysteriously that "something is about to happen" and sure enough it did. The chief rose suddenly from his seat with a pained and surprised look on his face and made a bee line down the street toward the Missouri river. What he said is quite unnecessary to repeat.

J. C. York, the barber came along and sat down with Mr. Wheeler only to suddenly remember that his razors needed honing or something equally vital was wrong, and he, too, also left with some expressions on his lips not heard of in Sunday school books.

Sheriff Quinton came down the street and like the others, espied the inviting seat which he at once proceeded to occupy. Like the rest, he suddenly came to the conclusion that he was needed some where else and left.

John Thomas was another who did a ground and lofty tumbling stunt which threatened to break Gorder's window into a thousand pieces. He sat down and suddenly went over backward narrowly missing going through the window. Like the others he then left the scene.

Wm. Hohishuh also did a tumbling act which served to tickle Herman Spies and other spectators, he moving suddenly with a surprising alacrity.

There were a good many others who went through some strange and amusing performances, and some of whom got real mad at the trick which was played on them. One man in particular was so mad that he wanted to fight but Frank Wheeler is a pretty big man and the pugilist thought better of his intentions.

The secret of all these strange actions is found in the fact that Mr. Wheeler had nailed some strips of zinc across the settee and connected them up with a small battery which was stored inside the store. At the proper time, the current would be turned on and the man setting on the chair would get a shock which would start his back teeth. There was a great deal of sport going on all afternoon with the settee and those who were loafing around in that locality had much fun watching the antics of the victims. Some of them simply got a good shock and left at once. Others were all tagged up by the shock and were unable to move, being held helpless by the current. It was fine fun and those who stood across the street in Herman Spies' had some fun over it.

Telegraph Office at Platte River.
The Missouri Pacific is preparing to commence work at once on their new bridge over the Platte river and also to do bank widening and cut widening. To facilitate this work they have opened a new telegraph station at the river and installed a day and a night operator there. Jimmy Norton has been given the place of day operator while Joe Stakata will hold down the night end of the job. Both these young men are Plattsmouth boys and have learned the business in this city. They are excellent selections for the jobs and will acquire themselves with credit in their new capacities. The object of the office at the bridge is that the trainmen and work trains may be kept in closer touch with train movement over the road and to prevent delay to through trains. As the building of the new bridge will take some eight to ten months and the work on the cuts and banks will also take some time, the office is likely to be in service for a year at least. The office was opened Sunday when the instruments were cut in on account of the ice gorge.

Fully nine out of every ten cases of rheumatism is simply rheumatism of the muscles due to cold or damp, or chronic rheumatism, neither of which require any internal treatment. All that is needed to afford relief is the free application of Chamberlain's Liniment. Give it a trial. You are certain to be pleased with the quick relief which it affords. Sold by all dealers.

Mrs. E. S. Barstow of Omaha is spending several days in the city making a visit with Mrs. C. S. Forbes.

The Doctor's First Question

"How are your bowels?" This is generally the first question the doctor asks. He knows what a sluggish liver means. He knows what a long list of distressing complaints result from constipation. He knows that headaches, bilious attacks, indigestion, impure blood, and general debility are often promptly relieved by a good liver pill. We wish you would talk with your own doctor about this subject. Ask him at the same time if he approves of Ayer's Pills. Do as he says. J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.