

The Plattsmouth Journal

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A bill for national drainage has been introduced in congress. There will be no lack of first-class opportunities for the experts trained in the great work at Panama.

England claims to be ahead of any other European country in growing crops. And yet when it compares farm results with Uncle Sam it finds itself in a lower class.

Peanut butter figured largely in the rations of a college girl who lived on 50 cents a week. In this case the graduating essay should be on the peanut view of human existence.

Georgia is the first state to elect a senator by popular vote under the new constitutional amendment. There was but one candidate, which is a good thing when a state knows exactly what it wants.

Formerly the fact that a woman had undergone an operation gave her a good deal of distinction. But operations now are so common that it is necessary to have two trained nurses to attract attention.

The coal men seize the red-hot July bargain period to urge people to lay in their next winter's supply of fuel. It may be wisdom to do so, but we doubt that it will be much heeded—unless the coal men see fit to tack on July prices.

Secretary Bryan's plan for the extension of the protecting wing of the United States over Nicaragua broached to the foreign relations committee of the senate, with the consent and approval of President Wilson, has become the absorbing topic of diplomatic and congressional consideration.

Modern advertising is nothing more than news. It is news of the stores, a word from the merchants to the customer. Advertisements now are simple, plain face to face talks. They tell the public what should be worn, when to begin to wear certain kinds of clothing and where to buy.

Complications are predicted as certain to rise over the installation of the direct election method for the selection of United States senators. Most of the trouble is expected to result from the failure of state legislatures to provide promptly appropriate methods for carrying out the recent amendment to the constitution for the direct senatorial election.

It is hoped that free sugar will mean free sugar.

Scientists believe it will soon be possible to forecast weather a year ahead. Many will regard this as a vindication of Rev. Irl R. Hicks and his celebrated almanac, and people are easily fooled in other ways.

It is a hundred years since the first locomotive got down to practical work. How fast the world moves may be judged from a comparison of the engine of 1813 with the big mountain climbers of today.

About four inches of water applied gently to the bosom of the west would be very gratefully received at the present time. Showers are little items of blessing, but a general application is desired.

"A Home-Coming" celebration is a right up-to-date proposition. The former settlers of Cass county who live in other sections of this great country would come to such a celebration, while they would not to that of any other kind.

A bachelor who died recently in Philadelphia left \$317,500 to churches and charitable institutions, and to a friend \$100,000, an automobile and \$1,500 a year for his upkeep. The last item is thoughtful and also suggests the experienced motorist.

It is indeed a gay old world that permits it to be said that "Bill" stands for William, "Jake" for Jacob, "Tom" for Thomas, "Hi" for Hiram, "Al" for Albert, "Pete" for Peter, "Moll" for Mary, "Sue" for Susan, "Beck" for Rebecca, "Nell" for Nellie, and "Hell" for Helen.

A Tulsa, Oklahoma, millionaire has adopted 300 poor children and expects to adopt 700 more as fast as he can find them. He announces that when he dies he will leave the major portion of \$5,000,000 to his adopted children. When a man shows that kind of a spirit we are liable to forget to ask, "How did he get it?"

The Wilson girls are all the rage now. Neither of them can scent her handkerchief without the metropolitan journals writing a lot of flappoodle about it. Right here in Plattsmouth we have girls much prettier than any of the Wilson girls, if we are to judge from their pictures. The Journal stands up for Plattsmouth first, last and all the time, and our pretty girls in particular.

Costa Rica protests against a treaty between the United States and Nicaragua for another inter-oceanic canal. At the present price of money this subject cannot be considered urgent.

A "Home-Coming Day" would be in order for one day at the fall festival. Many are already favorable for such a day, on which all the pioneers at home and abroad could get together in one grand review and enjoy a genuine good time.

Not satisfied with letting the senate dig into the Mulhall and other lobby charges, the house intends to do some digging also. As the special session approaches its end the end is pushed more remotely into the future. And the orchestra will play between acts.

The administration is not doing much in the way of distributing the plums just now. Perhaps the old tree will be shaken good and plenty and the fruit become riper the nearer the approach of frost. And then some of the applicants, of course, will be nipped in the bud.

There may be a few mossbacks who don't want a fall festival carnival or any other kind of amusements this fall for fear it will cost them a penny or two. Wherever you find a mossback you will find a knocker, and when you spot a knocker you spot a mossback. They are one and inseparable.

Debate on the tariff bill was to have begun yesterday, according to reports from Washington, and by agreement there will be five weeks of it. A vote, therefore, in the senate is expected by the latter part of August. The bill will be in conference about two weeks, and go to the president for his approval about September 15. It is conceded on all hands that it will be passed and approved. The act will go into effect upon approval with the exception of the provisions relating to sugar, wool and the tax of \$1.10 per proof gallon on spirits used in the fortification of sweet wines.

The farewell banquet tendered R. L. Metcalfe, civic governor of the famous canal zone, in Lincoln Thursday night was attended by a large number of the leading democrats of Nebraska. Met, in a few brief words, regretted his leave-taking, and with much feeling gracefully acknowledged his appreciation of the great honor paid him by his friends. Mr. Matthew Gering of this city was one of the number that spoke at the banquet. The Journal wishes Mr. Metcalfe and family a safe journey to the place of his future labors, and may they be blessed with happiness during their stay in Panama, and when the time comes for him to vacate his honorable position may they return in safety to their old home, where they are so highly respected and loved, is our prayer.

The Missouri editor who killed himself last week owned four newspapers, which is sufficient to explain all. Owning one newspaper is hard enough.

It would be a good idea for the city council or mayor to instruct the man who runs the street sweeper to sprinkle the streets before sweeping. The dust becomes almost unbearable, even so early in the morning. It don't cost any more to sprinkle first.

The Journal has been listening for a kick on the location of the band concerts, and it has come. If the writer of the article is a contributor to the expense of the enterprise he has a perfect right to kick; otherwise he has not. The High school park is all right, but we think if the band-stand was placed somewhat southward the people down town would be better pleased. This is simply a suggestion—not a kick.

There is still a few damphools in the country, but no one ever thought of finding them in the great moral and religious village of Lincoln, the state capital of the great state of Nebraska. But they are there all right, and they are the fellows who insist on an election this fall, and some of them have gone so far as to file for nominations, in the face of the fact that Governor Morehead has refused to issue a proclamation calling for a primary. Of course they simply want to appear smart, that's all.

We cannot perceive any reason why this nation should not have the greatest navy on earth. We are the greatest nation in the world and can easily build a more respectable navy than we now possess at the present time. The money that would be spent in building up a navy would be spent for something less important than ironclads. The government should not care for criticism to the contrary on this question, and if our navy is not looked after as it should be we may have great cause to regret it. Other countries are building stronger navies, and the United States should do the same.

We overheard a farmer complaining the other day that on account of the big crop wheat would be lower in price. He is a republican, but didn't charge Wilson with the responsibility of the prospective low price. We incline to the opinion, however, that President Wilson has something to do with it. He caused the rains to fall and the sun to shine and that produced an abnormally big wheat crop. We are using the same kind of argument many republican editors used when the Almighty blessed the country with good crops. We confess there isn't much sense in the argument, but if it was proper for republican editors to usurp the prerogatives of the Almighty in the production of crops, may not democratic editors use the same gush?

If anyone doubts the wisdom of a legislature, says the Kansas City Journal, the following contained in the 1913 session laws of Kansas should dispell such a misapprehension: "When two trains approach a crossing both shall stop, and neither shall go ahead until the other has gone by."

We haven't heard of Mr. Bryan cancelling any of his chautauqua engagements in consequence of the severe criticisms he is receiving from some of the metropolitan journals. These criticisms come from republican journals, of course. The old say, "It makes a big difference whose ox is gored!" holds good in this respect. A year ago the entire republican administration, including the president, was away from their places making political speeches or addressing chautauquas. But it is Mr. Bryan this time, and of course they must issue a protest.

The Commercial club is agitating a proposition for holding a fall festival, feeling that now is the time to start the ball rolling and have everything arranged by the first of September for a week of entertainment that will bring the residents of the county here to celebrate the close of a harvest of more than usual excellence. This matter of a fall festival was discussed some time ago at a meeting of the Commercial club and the festival decided upon, but the work of arranging it should begin at once, as it will take considerable time to arrange all the different features, and if it is to be made the success it should be will require work from now on.—Omaha Trade Exhibit. This is no reference to the proposed fall festival in Plattsmouth.

Some people have the happy faculty of rising victorious over the troubles of life. Though they may not loom large in the world's true conquerors. Some are naturally gifted with a happier and more cheerful temperament than others. It is merely a matter of habit. The man who lives his life cheerfully, without complaint, rises steadily in the scale of happiness and strength, while the grumbler slips a notch downward each day. Some worry so much over the everyday trifles that when a really big trouble comes along they have not enough reserve force left to meet it. Most of us are too much given to worry. And most of our worries are without real reason. Nine-tenths of the things we worry about are either over and done with, or in the future and never come. Life is short; so let's make it as cheerful as possible. Trouble is bad enough without being exaggerated, without carrying the worries and ill-feelings of one day over to the next, without permitting them to be a constant wear and tear on the temper and nerves. Remember the happy hours and the success, forget the sad ones and the failures—as the gold-seeker clings to the nuggets and casts away the dirt.

Dowager Queen Alexandra is said to be unable to get along on an income of \$550,000. Then think of the fellows who criticize Secretary Bryan because he cannot pay necessary expenses in Washington on a salary of \$12,000 a year.

There is no question about the grade of summer we are having. The old "heathen" who called Venus the fire god, evidently knew what he was talking about, for this planet dominates the weather during July and there appears to be no question about his influence.

Everything is relative. The Japanese feminists want greater freedom and opportunity for women. They want their "merits openly and properly recognized," as one of them says, "but do not want the bold and brazen independence of action of the American and European women, nor their men to imitate in toto the men of Europe and America in their attitude towards women." That will come later as the timid Japanese women become accustomed to being somebody.

How some newspapers do love to criticize Mr. Bryan for taking in the chautauquas. He has done this for many years and we cannot see any reason why he should cease doing so simply because he is secretary of state. He is in great demand all over the country. There is one thing certain, you cannot please all the people at once, and Mr. Bryan should please himself first, and if it happens to please most of the people good and well. If not, he can rest assured that he pleased himself and a whole lot of chautauqua-goers.

Now comes the report from Washington that the price of living is going higher still. Confound Wilson. We voted for him because our good republican friends assured us that his election would bring ruin to the farmers in the way of low prices for their products. They declared that cows would not bring \$20, horses and mules could hardly be given away, fat cattle might bring 2 cents per pound and hogs possibly 3, eggs would be a drug on the market at 4 cents per dozen, that all kinds of grain would come down in price until it wouldn't pay to raise it. One enthusiastic editor declares that eggs would be so cheap that hens would refuse to raise chicklets because they wouldn't get pay for the time consumed in the process of hatching. The same people declared it wouldn't pay to raise children because there would be nothing for them to do until the country recovered from the disaster of democratic rule. But all these predictions have failed. Prices are even better than heretofore, the hens are busy producing eggs and chicklets and the crop of babies is bigger and better than ever. Wilson has certainly turned the trick on pessimists.

MR. HENRY PECK AND HIS FAMILY AFFAIRS

By Gross

