

# The Plattsmouth Journal

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## THOUGHT FOR TODAY.

Pride is bitterness. He who feels contempt for any living thing hath faculties which he has never used.—Wordsworth.

Well, how do you like Indian summer in the heart of winter?

Some genuine winter weather can be depended upon with about as much certainty as the corn crop.

The fellow who possesses more gall than brains is the one that generally gets a soft job when they are passed around.

They have commenced talking base ball already for next season. Plattsmouth should begin a little discussion on the subject. Now is the time to talk about it.

Some member of the house has prepared a bill placing the commission form of city government so that cities of 3,500 population can have the benefit of it if they so desire.

Judge Archbold has had the nerve all along to admit the charges made against him and claim that he could see no wrong. Probably Archbold is the best way to spell it after all.

Speaker Kelley of the house of representatives is spoken of as a very fair man. Republican members evidently think so from the manner in which he has favored them in the selection of his committees.

Governor Morehead has not yet appointed the board of control, and it will be some time before he does. And when that is done he will probably make other appointments. The governor is pursuing a very safe plan.

Ninety-eight bills have already been introduced in the house at Lincoln and twenty-seven in the senate. This is pretty good for one day. Now comes the tug of war to get them passed. It is very easy to introduce bills and another thing to get them through.

A plucky Grand Island girl, who hauled off and biffed a masher who persistently annoyed her on the streets of Omaha, did the proper caper. She hit direct from the shoulder and pummeled him good and plenty. That girl should be kept on the job of making frequent excursions to Omaha.

This is the time of the year when the fool killer is snooping around looking for the fellow who used an overdose of kerosene in getting a rousing fire started on cold mornings, and it must keep him pretty busy, because throwing kerosene on the smouldering embers of last night's fire is quite general and is a pretty sure way to start something.

In addition to the \$20,000 appropriation recommended by Governor Morehead for the purchase of a farm in Sarpy county, intended as a home for Mrs. Roy Blunt during her lifetime, relatives of the widow are asking that a provision be made to educate her infant son, born since the unfortunate occurrence of last March when Blunt was killed by shots fired at fleeing convicts.

If at first you don't succeed, guess again.

While the Ohio river is on a rampage and drowning out nearby residents, it is some relief for us to know that the Old Missouri is as docile as a lamb, and the January thaw on hand, too.

Another mess of bills went into the legislative hopper Wednesday, hurry up, gentlemen, and you may be able to reach the one thousand mark within the time limit of 20 days for introducing bills.

Every Commercial club should send representatives to the good roads convention at Lincoln January 22. The larger the attendance the more effect it will have in the direction of securing good roads legislation. There should be an appropriation made to aid in making the roads better, and there is not a member of the legislature who would oppose a bill calculated to help the people of the state at large.

The best money-maker on the farm is the hen. She turns grass into greenbacks, grain into gold, and from sand and gravel she coins silver. There is nothing else on the farm to compare with her. The horses and cattle are heavy consumers, and to get their value one must part with them, but not so with her. In her small way she is a gold mine on the face of the earth, a mill that grinds which others overlook and refuse.

If the "laborer is worthy of his hire," which no one disputes, then a man who has devoted almost fifty years to the advocacy of the principles of the democrat party should certainly receive some recognition at the hands of his party friends for his constant devotion at all times and under all circumstances to the success of his party friends. If such a faithful worker is not rewarded by those in position to aid him, then parties surely are very ungrateful.

An upstate contemporary tells us of a novel contribution basket for churches invented by an Oklahoma man. If a person drops a quarter or more in the box there is silence; if he drops a dime in a bell rings, a nickle sounds a whistle and a penny fires a blank cartridge. If one pretends to be asleep when the box is passed, it awakens him with a watchman's rattle, and a kodak takes his picture. Unfortunately the man and postoffice address of the inventor are not given. There are a number of church stewards in this town who would like to get into communication with him.

The Lincoln Star is responsible for the following story, whether true or not: "There is a story current concerning an episode in a moving picture show, which was, of course, not located in Lincoln. It was to the effect that when an irate husband showed up at the box office with revolver in hand to declare to the proprietor that he was in search of his wife and her male companion, the manager, to avoid a disturbance in his place, hastily stepped to the footlights and explained that if there happened to be a man in the house with another man's wife, he had better step out of the side door and avoid trouble, whereupon eleven couples got up and hastily left the theater through the side door."

Wall street has commenced to kick on Wilson. Well, let 'em kick.

Prosperity would taste better if so many of us were not compelled to eat of the second table.

When the parcel post gets well under way it will enable country folks to pay more attention to religious matters. They can 'phone to town on Saturday and order a can of piety for Sunday use.

Turkey is too deliberate in dealing with the Balkan allies. Every time a nation hesitates in the diplomatic game the other side takes on another, and usually a harder condition.

In the death of C. O. Whedon Nebraska loses one of its ablest attorneys and one who deserved great honors at the hands of his party friends. He had been a resident of Nebraska for forty years, and was born in Ohio in 1850.

Parcel post is receiving a good deal of "knocking." There is little question about that. It is said a business man out in the state sent per parcel post a link of stovepipe to the postmaster general as evidence of his disapproval.

Reuben V. Clark, superintendent of the Harvard schools, has arrived at the conclusion to accept the position of superintendent of the Boys' Industrial school at Kearney, which position was tendered him a few days ago by Governor Morehead.

A physician's certificate as to the fitness for marriage and publication of the proposed license five days prior to the ceremony are made requisites to a legal marriage by the terms of two bills introduced in the lower house. A law of this kind is in effect in a number of states and it should not only become a law in Nebraska, but should be in force in every state in the union.

Wall street nabobs should go slow in their denunciations of Wilson. He will soon be president of the United States, and it is generally conceded that he knows his business about as well as any Wall street sharks can tell him. But they have run the presidents so long that they think it is their duty to advise President Wilson. They want to proceed slowly with their suggestions to him lest they wake up a tartar.

The farmers in the house at Lincoln can do a great deal of good if they will band together for the purpose of keeping down all extravagant measures. They are naturally in favor of economy and there is not a citizen in the state but who knows that heretofore appropriations have been extravagant and this legislature will be no exception to the rule. They need a watch-dog, both in the house and senate, and they should be good ones. The people's money is at stake and they should not be robbed through extortionate appropriations.

After next July a standard barrel of apples must be 26 inches between the heads, 64 inches in circumference, outside measurement around the middle, and the heads must be seventeen and one-eighth inches in diameter. In accordance with the law, if the apples are hand-picked and free from blemishes they may be labeled "Standard." But a fine of \$1 and costs will be extracted for every barrel that is marked "Standard" and does not conform to the requirements. The law was passed at the earnest solicitation of those who believe that the purchaser has a right to know what he is getting when he buys a barrel of apples.

Have you tried the parcel post? How do you like it?

## WILSON AND "BIG BUSINESS."

The attacks that are now being made on Woodrow Wilson from sources close to "big business" in New York, attacks based on his Chicago speech are foolish but not surprising.

Governor Wilson, in that speech, made a direct appeal to the conscience, the patriotism, and the enlightened self-interest of "big business." He sought to persuade rather than compel. He specifically declared against using "the whip." There was no sign of Colonel Roosevelt's "big stick." He resorted to courteous and lucid argument instead. He tried to convince the men of great affairs in this country that it is not only for their country's good, but for their own interest as well, that they should fall in line with the predominant public sentiment and recognize that they owe a duty to the entire people. He spoke very plainly and firmly against monopoly and against a control of credit by the money trust, and declared that these things are not to be endured. But we hoped that the evil would be cured, not so much under whip and spur of the law, as by the business men themselves.

If big business is devoid of conscience and patriotism and intelligence then Governor Wilson's plea would naturally fall on barren ground. And that, judging from the outcry set up by most of the New York newspapers, is where the plea has fallen. Newspapers that united to urge his nomination by the Baltimore convention are now, of a sudden, found uniting to scold and satirize and to patronize with insulting admonitions.

And yet, as his secretary points out, Governor Wilson said nothing at Chicago that he did not say repeatedly throughout the campaign. What he said then pleased the rank and file of his party, and it pleases them when he now repeats it. What has come over the spirit of the dreams of his "big business" supporters in New York? Did they imagine, when they advocated his nomination, when they were urging his election, that he was speaking with a forked tongue? Did they judge that he was trying to fool the great masses of the American people for whose support he was appealing? The outcries they are now raising naturally give rise to the questions.

The one conclusion to be drawn from the speeches of Woodrow Wilson since election is that he means to keep the faith. He means to give the people what he promised he would give if elected. He has made it plain that he is anxious to do this with just as little disturbance and suffering as possible. He stands ready to be a wise friend to "big business" if only big business will meet him half way by cleaning up and making an honest effort to "be good." He would prefer to have it that way, not merely for the sake of the men of big affairs, but in order not to shake the stability and prosperity of business conditions the country over. It would be infinitely the better way.

But there is another way, and which gravels "big business," we suspect, is that it is coming to believe that, if necessary, President Wilson will resort to it. If Wall street will not take its hands off the throat of the country's finances and industry it must be compelled to do it. If it will not voluntarily respect the laws that now exist, and the laws that remain to be enacted, to insure a square deal, then the law's penalties must be invoked.

Governor Wilson, like all sensible men, would rather have peace than war. But, as an honorable man, he will insist that, come peace or come war, his administration and his party keep the faith.—World-Herald.

Next will be an increase in the salary of rural route carriers. They are deserving.

If you desire to qualify for a position under the parcel post service you must be everything from a grocery boy to a hod-carrier.

A farmer can go to his telephone and order a hot meal sent by rural delivery. The old dinner horn has done its part well, but is no longer indispensable.

The Cincinnati Enquirer says that another reason why the cost of living is so high is that dinner used to begin with prayers, whereas it now begins with cocktails.

The Missouri river seems to have been discovered at last by the rivers and harbors committee. Mighty tributaries will help make sure of the future of the trunk stream.

A confederate \$40 bill was passed in a neighboring town last week. How long will it take some folks to learn that special stamps only will send a parcel through the mails?

Do you know the meaning of "blue-sky law"? There is more than one way to define it. But the fellow who has invested in "blue-sky" can tell you all about it.

In their platform last fall the democrats favored the establishing of a binding twine plant at the penitentiary. Now, what are the democratic members going to do about it?

Of course the nearby property owners in Lincoln are fighting to retain the university right where it is—that's natural. But "removal" has passed down the line and the masses of the people favor the proposition. "Let the people rule."

Do what you can for a man who runs for office and he'll pretend to appreciate what you do for him, but as soon as he can't use you he'll have no more use for you. That's gratitude. We have inherited gratitude by the barrel-full. But we're still in the running and have taken a seat on the watch tower.

Say, young man, have you ever thought that while you are talking about some nice girl that some other foul-mouthed puppy may be talking about your nice sister? Always protect the name of a girl, until you know absolutely that she isn't deserving of it. Even then, be charitable in your criticisms.

Representatives Busch of Otoe and Cass counties has introduced a bill giving assessors authority to dig up the records of the dead and see if the taxes were paid on such property as had been covered up through life. There is no doubt that there has been much property thus covered up from the sight of assessors.

And now it is up to the local merchants to get the country trade for many miles surrounding Plattsmouth on account of the parcel post. But they can't get it by sitting down and waiting for it to come to them. Make prices and let the people see them, and maybe they won't send to the catalogue houses, whose prices they see advertised.

Speaking of "blue-sky" laws, the Sioux City Journal pertinently remarks none "will be satisfactory unless it contains something that will discourage the annual investment of \$7,000,000 in roads that are good only until the next heavy rain."

Oscar Anderson is a bookkeeper in Chicago. He did a mail order drug business, offering to cure tuberculosis for \$20. He promptly mailed all of his patients a cure warranted to eradicate the seeds

of the disease without fail. Chemists examined his cure and found that it was a mixture of boiled barley and rye flour and so he is to be taken to Fargo, N. D., to meet some of his victims and give an account of himself.

Talking of Commercial clubs, think of what Pacific Junction energy is doing in that line. Last Monday evening ninety-four new members were added to their booster club. Now, it looks "to a man up a tree" that if Pacific Junction can do so well, Plattsmouth business men and citizens would get their hustling clothes on and add enthusiasm and life to our Commercial club by becoming members. Do this at the very next meeting and let's "all pull together" for a Greater Plattsmouth in 1913.

The Tecumseh Journal-Tribunal, edited by Hon. C. W. Pool, who was speaker of the Nebraska house of representatives four years ago, and of which the writer was also a member, in speaking of selecting house committees, says: "Four years ago the democratic members of the Nebraska legislature adopted the plan of selecting the important house committees by the members themselves instead of permitting the speaker to name such heads of committees, this state being the first in the United States to adopt that method of procedure. Two years later the national house of representatives followed the example set by the democrats of Nebraska—clearly illustrating that Nebraska stands at the head of all states in its progressiveness. The legislative sessions of 1911 and 1913 proceed along the lines mapped out by the progressives in 1909 and are being heralded as the Simon pure article."

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