

The Plattsmouth Journal

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THOUGHT FOR TODAY.

We need only obey. There is guidance for each of us, and by lowly listening, we shall hear the right word.—Emerson.

The present weather is surely Old Winter's parting shot.

The groundhog's six weeks has almost expired. Ain't you glad?

This hasn't been a very severe winter on the fellows who loafed all last summer.

When an office without a salary begins to seek a man he at once becomes an artful dodger.

The late Madero's father was a smart man and objected seriously to his son going into politics.

A man who has lived on a farm will put up with several kinds of hardships in town before going back.

However, we shall try to be patient with our suffragettes so long as they throw nothing worse than adjectives at us.

The women suffragists get no consolation from the present legislature. The suffrage bill has been defeated in both house and senate.

Prospects for crops in Oklahoma were never better, but that is one trouble with Oklahoma; it raises so much larger prospects than crops.

The Sunday base ball bill has passed the house. Now it is up to cities, towns and communities to say whether or not they want Sunday base ball games.

The Dewey hotel fire in Omaha was not near as disastrous as at first reported. While a number were seriously injured, but one person perished in the flames.

The Sunday base ball question is settled, and the university removal is also a matter of the past. The house stands pat for the present site and the senate is for removal.

The presidency carries with it honors not accorded by the government. President Wilson has just been appointed honorary vice president of the Saturday Night Four-Leaf Clover club.

It is a very cold day in August when the lawyers lose out. Two-thirds of the members of President Wilson's cabinet belong to that profession, viz: Bryan, McReynolds, Burtleson, Lane, Daniels, Garrison and McAdoo, all of whom have been admitted to the bar.

The few papers in the county that are opposing the jail proposition offer no good argument against it. They simply appeal to the taxpayers as though they thought everyone was as selfish as they are. The jail is needed and they know it, but they simply oppose it because they think it will benefit some locality other than their own. Every taxpayer, as we take them, are men of good common sense, and men who are not going to let such buncombe as these papers are putting forth sway them from voting for a proposition that is destined to save them money in the long run.

Nat Goodwin to Bat Nelson: "They are here today and gone tomorrow. Cheer up! Millions of gals left in the country. Can I give you any advice?"

The designer of those new nickels may think he has done something wonderful, but it would take the luck out of him if he could overhear what Jew and Gentile say of him.

Every spring rain adds to the probability of a big crop. These are democratic times, and the Lord is generally good to them. He has placed the soil in good shape for the farmers.

It is estimated that one hundred million dollars will be raised annually by taxing incomes. This means that amount of taxation is to be taken off of the things that the people must have in order to live.

From the talk the farmers are looking into the seed corn question more earnestly this spring than ever. Nothing will insure a good corn crop more assuredly than first-class seed, and the farmers are onto this fact.

The last four seasons the ladies' hats have been compared to inverted dishpans, but this year they come nearer resembling a half-gallon cup or a small stewer. Now, if the price has just shrunk in proportion to the size perhaps there won't be so much grumbling among the men folks.

A Cass county bachelor takes no stock in matrimony, and when we asked why he did not get married, he replied: "Why should I get married? I have a fancy rooster who is vain about his feathers; a goat that chews the rag, a business that keeps me up in air, and an automobile that keeps me broke." We had nothing more to say.

The Journal believes the jail proposition will carry, and we have good reasons for that belief. The farmers who will throw all prejudice aside, believe Cass county should have a new jail because it is badly needed and will have to build one sooner or later, and just as well now as later. The proposition is presented to them in a more acceptable manner. The tax is paid all at once, and it is done with. The amount that each one will have to pay is comparatively small and the taxpayers who view the proposition aright will vote for it.

The instruction of the Pennsylvania Railroad company to the effect that hereafter when a train is delayed for any reason the trainmen shall immediately pass through the coaches and announce to the passengers the cause of the delay and its probable duration, is welcomed by the public. Passengers frequently become unduly vexed at a railroad because of unexplained and mysterious delays. In their impatience they even attribute to the company or its employes deliberate and diabolical indifference to the peace of mind of the traveling public, when if brief explanations were made the cause of the delay would become palpable enough and the passenger would subside into patience. With the Pennsylvania system adopting this inexpensive and considerate innovation, other roads may do likewise, both to their own profit and to the satisfaction of their patrons.

LAWYERS ELECT THE JUDGES?

The suggestion is being made that, in view of the palpable blunders in the past, the selection of judges, both federal and state, be made by the lawyers. The advocates of this innovation—themselves lawyers, be it said—fortify their position by the following declared postulates:

First, it would remove the judiciary of the state from politics. Second, it would eliminate the selection of judges by political bosses. Third, it would eliminate corporate influence in the selection of judicial nominees. Fourth, it would insure the selection of honest and competent men. The contentions seem to be weak in several particulars. First, they assume that lawyers as a body are more incorruptible and less swayed by considerations of self-interest than an equally limited number of any other class of citizens. Secondly, there is no guarantee that lawyers would not err as often as the people at large in the selection of corrupt or unfit judges. Thirdly, and most important of all, the scheme is undemocratic and dangerous.

The spectacle of judges being the creatures of a profession through which alone they, in their official capacity, impinge on the public, would be inglorious indeed. Placed in the hands of an autocracy of lawyers—after, perhaps, one of rival factions of lawyers—to whose power, rather than to the public's needs, every self-seeking judge would find it convenient to defer, the judicial system would be far from being the unframed instrument of government demanded by a free people. Not even is there any assurance that lawyers would select men for judges competent from the standpoint of legal ability.

Presumptively lawyers know whether a certain designated member of their profession is or is not a good lawyer. But so do the people at large. And the people are more likely to be unbiased in the choice of a lawyer for a judge than those who scrutinize a candidate merely from the more or less conventional viewpoint assumed by a profession in its attitude toward one of its members.

Several farmers from the west side of the county have been in Plattsmouth the past few days on business and we have taken the opportunity to interview them on the jail proposition. They thought the amount designated was too small, but when the matter was explained to them and how the jail was to be connected with the court house they seemed to take a different view of the matter, and there was not one of them but said that they would vote for the proposition, as the county needed a new jail, and it should be constructed as soon as possible. They were all heavy taxpayers, too.

Sam Patterson, the Arapahoe banker, and former Plattsmouth boy, brother of Tom and Rae Patterson, is a candidate for the position of assistant auditor of the treasury department at Washington. This post is now occupied by W. E. Andrews, a Nebraskan, who was appointed by former President McKinley, and has held it ever since. Mr. Andrews will be relieved of his duties as a result of the change in the administration. Mr. Patterson has grown up in the banking business, and at one time was deputy state treasurer. He is well known in democratic circles in Nebraska, and being well fitted for the position, should have a strong pull for the place soon to be vacated by W. E. Andrews.

The two Maderos, brothers of the late president of Mexico, who are now in the United States, declare they will remain here and not return to Mexico. Another case, perhaps, not of loving more, but of loving less.

Some men are as crooked as the dollar mark that stands for their wealth.

If you want to live almost forever and die happy, says a Chicago dentist, eat nothing but unseasoned and uncooked vegetables and fruit. An excellent recipe for reducing the cost of living, perhaps, but who wants to live almost forever on such a diet?

When the harvester trust looked out on the beautiful snow and reads about the perfect condition of the winter wheat crop, it jumps up and cracks its heels together in anticipation of a big business in their line among the wheat growers of the western states, and to study how deep they dare gouge them.

Some person up in Canada keeps sending the Journal marked copies of papers booming that country. Just as well cut it. That country don't interest us and we trust people in Nebraska will become less interested. Nebraska is good enough for us, and should be good enough for any person who wants to make a living. Stay in Nebraska.

The bill making it a punishable offense to circulate false advertising is all right with the exception that it is all wrong to punish the newspaper instead of the author of the false ad. As the World-Herald says: "If the advertiser misrepresents, punish him—don't make the newspaper responsible for another man's deception."

In the assignment of ambassadorships President Wilson cannot afford to overlook David R. Francis of Missouri. This eminent statesman is able to fill any position in which he may be placed, and perform his duties with not only credit to himself, but with distinguished honor to America and the administration of President Wilson.

Let a newspaper commit an unintentional error and the editor is jumped upon and kicked and cursed from pillar to post, with no promise of forgiveness this side of the grave. But let some other person commit an intentional error and the same editor is appealed to not to say a word about it. And all this beats the word that is spelled with four letters. But such is the life of an editor.

The National Monthly, of Washington, is authority for the statement that, the country over, President Wilson's demonetization of the inaugural bill has been well received, and that the country approves of its permanent displacement. Even in Washington it is recognized that since such affairs required an expenditure of public funds, of all the way from \$50,000 to \$90,000, and disorganized several departments for a week, it is best never again to establish the custom.

Governor Morehead and some of the senators who refused to confirm his appointees for the board of control do not speak now "as they pass by." The senate has not treated the governor fairly in this transaction. The appointees are all good men, and as politics are not to be thought of in the performance of the duties devolving upon them, we can't see any just cause for the action of the senate. Gregg, who voted for Taft, is the apparent cause for some senators who are bull moosers, to vote against him, while several democrats do not like Charley Grauf. But what's the matter with Henry Gerdes? Not a thing on earth can be said against him. He is honest, conscientious, a splendid citizen and one of God's noblemen.

Horses and Mares WANTED

We want twenty draft horses from 5 to 10 years old, 1400 to 2000 pounds. And all other fat horses and mares from 4 to 30 years old. We will be in

Plattsmouth, Friday, March 28th

and will buy all the fat horses in the country that are for sale and will pay more than any man in the world for a fat horse of any kind. We will not buy a thin one at any price. We buy them from 4 to 30 years old, weighing from 900 to 2000 pounds. All your mares and geldings. Bring in your good draft horses and fat plugs to a real horse buyer.

Walsh & Co.

Under the reorganization of the senate committee at Washington, Senator Hitchcock has been made chairman of the Philippine committee, and is also a member of the committees on banking and currency, foreign relations, military affairs, printing, territories and forest reserves and protection of game. The committees to which Senator Hitchcock has been assigned comprise among them four of the most important. His assignments are probably more important than those held in the last two decades by a senator from Nebraska. He ranks second only to Chairman Owen on the new committee on banking and currency which, in the next regular session, will be even more important than the finance committee. As chairman of the Philippines committee he is destined to play

a large part in the determination of the question of Philippine independence, which will be brought before congress within the year and, according to Congressman Jones, during the special session. Governor Morehead will have the best of the state senate in the end. It is several months yet till the board of control assumes the duties of their positions. Governor Morehead will not appoint any other candidates, the legislature will adjourn some time next month, and Messrs. Gerdes, Gregg and Grauf will hold their places until the next session of the legislature, nearly two years hence. So you see the governor quits with one on the senate.

The base ball fans are getting warmed up for business.

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