

The Plattsmouth Journal

Published Semi-Weekly at Plattsmouth, Neb.

R. A. BATES, Publisher

Entered at the Postoffice at Plattsmouth, Nebraska as second-class matter
\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

THOUGHT FOR TODAY.

Get your distaff ready,
and God will send his flax.
—Mary A. Livermore's Favorite Proverb.

At least nobody lost their heads at Mr. Bryan's wineless dinner.

Great season for cleaning up and improving.

Plattsmouth has a circus and yet spring work is somewhat delayed.

Still, you would have to dodge more if autos were sold on the installment plan.

Dr. Friedmann didn't have to wait for his serum to make good in order to get his price.

The St. Louis congress is a timely one. Let there be peace and a limitation on amount.

After a man begins paying the fiddler, dancing doesn't seem such a gala performance.

It is proposed at the capital city that students might act as night police officers. Another reason why the state university should remain in the heart of the city.

Not many weeks now till the Fourth of July. And it is not one whit too early to begin moving in that direction. Let the committee get a move on them.

Congressman Gallagher's investigation of the base ball trust has not begun, as yet. And some of the enslaved players are still drawing salaries at the rate of \$2,000 and \$3,000 per month.

What there is in us that is good or beautiful can be seen by our neighbors in the neatness of our gardens and premises. When you see a garden well filled with choice vegetables and rare flowers the owner has his heart in the right place.

The Lincoln Herald hits the right mark in the following: "Plattsmouth is having difficulty with the Lincoln Telephone company over a proposed increase in rates and the railway commission is soon to have another tale of woe to listen to. The telephone corporations will keep on monkeying with the dear people until there will be a referendum campaign on for state ownership of telephones."

It is reported that the house will get through with the tariff bill this week, when it will be turned over to the senate. There's where there will be some fighting and scratching before it is passed.

President Wilson says the platform pledges upon which he was nominated and elected, plank for plank, must be carried out, and he proposes to do all in his power to see that they are. Good for Woodrow.

The people of Cass county should not forget that the Plattsmouth Commercial club is in charge of the Fourth of July celebration in this city this year. This should be sufficient to convince anyone that it will be a good one.

The Japs with Yankee Robinson's big show, in Plattsmouth today, don't seem to be very much affected by the California trouble. They are pretty intelligent fellows and as acrobats and jugglers they are right there with the goods.

It is said that Lincoln is already overrun with "bootleggers" in anticipation of the capital city going "dry" tomorrow. It was a harvest for them when the city went "dry" before, and it will be the same way again. Give it well regulated saloons instead of a system of bootlegging.

It is likewise not impossible that if California should get the country into trouble that it doesn't want, her exposition in 1915 may look like thirty cents. There lies in the matter another consolation for the failure of the Nebraska legislature to appropriate a big sum for "exposition" purposes.

While Plattsmouth is not growing to any great extent, everybody seems to be improving their places of business, and also their residences. Some new residences are in the course of construction and the demand for houses to rent is wonderful. We are more than holding our own, and should be content.

The police department of London is at last showing fight against the so-called "militancy" of the suffragettes. It is beginning to fight fire with fire. Especially since these violations of law have been so leniently regarded in England—generally more firm than our own country, in the enforcement of its criminal laws—has the lethargy of its officers with these women criminals been rather unusual.

What Mexico needs is a period of rest from its unrest.

Considering the numerous wars and rumors of wars, wheat is too cheap.

The wireless operators going on a strike shouldn't increase the high cost of living.

It is conceded on all sides that the Nebraska wheat crop is absolutely the finest ever seen.

China has decided to be "thoroughly modern," even to the accumulation of a large national debt.

This community has had at least all the rain it needs for at least two weeks. Give the farmers a chance.

It is certainly good for that tired feeling to walk over Plattsmouth just now and see how things are humping.

Mrs. Thomas T. Preston, formerly Mrs. Grover Cleveland, is president of the anti-suffrage society of New Jersey.

What's in a name? The Mississippi levee at Waterproof, La., has been broken and half a dozen hamlets are under water.

It would seem that it is not alone the plans of "nice and men" that oft go wrong. Dan Cupid seems to make as many mis calculations as anybody, including the weather man. He keeps the courts and lawyers busy annulling his badly executed contracts.

The beautiful spring month of May, while it comes to us with the fragrance of flowers and much that is cheerful and beautiful, yet it also brings to us Memorial day and with it many sad memories. We are not indebted to history for our knowledge of the greatest of national crisis. Many remember it and fathers and mothers now living had better keep telling that story to their children, so that instead of their being dependent upon cold type and obliged to say: "On such a page of such a book you can read that," will they rather be able to say: "My father told me so!" "My mother told me so!" Men and women who vividly remember 1861 and 1862 and 1863 and 1864, be yourselves the historians telling it, not with pen but with living tongue and voice and gesture. That is the great use of Memorial Decoration day, for the calla lilies on the grave tops soon become breathless of perfume and in a week turn to dust like unto that which lies beneath them. But the story of courage and self-sacrifice and patriotism told on platforms and in households and by the roadside and in churches and in cemeteries, but that annual recital will be kept fresh in the memory of generations as long as our American institutions are worthy of preservation.

Revising the tariff may not result in lowering the high cost of living perceptibly, but it affords a vast amount of entertainment.

The Cincinnati Enquirer says that an optician is a one-armed man who knows he will never pound his finger with a tack hammer.

"Oh, why should the spirit of mortal be found while like a swift-flying meteor, a fast-flying cloud"—the dandelions cover everything in sight.

A Milwaukee court has just decided that a wife is justified in beating up another woman who insists on paying direct attention to her husband. Now, ladies, go to 'em.

Mayor Sattler will have to issue another "clean-up" day proclamation. Rain last Saturday interfered with the carrying out of his request.

The last legislature passed some laws that will be quite beneficial to the state. It also passed some measures that may prove an expensive experiment. But then all legislative bodies make more or less mistakes, and the last one is no exception to the rule by any means.

There is more or less common complaint in certain quarters that there is a dearth of opportunity for young men nowadays. After looking the situation over carefully and looking over some of the modern young men just as carefully, we are led to wonder if it is not fully as likely that there is a lack of young men to meet the requirements of the opportunities.

Our readers will pardon us if we let a brother editor give his opinion of a stingy man. We do not know whether there are any such in Plattsmouth or not, but all other towns have them, you know. Our brother editor says that if there is anything on earth that gives him a longing for eternal rest and deep, damp solitude it is a man who comes to a town or country, builds up a big paying business, grows rich and then squats down on the gold like a hen on a door knob and is too stingy even to let the gravel grind in his own gizzard. A real, genuine 18-karat, stingy, selfish man can't be honest, and if he ever gets to heaven and has wings, he folds them up and walks for fear he will ruffle a plume or lose a tail feather. The kind of men who build up a town and county and enjoy life and make the best citizens, are the enterprising, energetic and liberal men, who believe in living and letting others live; and who do not, when they get a dollar, squeeze it till the Goddess of Liberty feels like she had on a corset. Such squeezing is what causes such hard times and stops the circulation of the American eagle. If it were not for our broad-gauged, enterprising men it would be impossible to build up a prosperous city.

One might imagine the London suffragettes had been imported from Mexico.

Mothers' day next Sunday, and Governor Morehead has issued his proclamation to that effect.

Three companies of the state militia will be at the rifle range all next week.

Spring poem: Oh, the fish worms are calling, calling, and to work is appalling, appalling.

Does Congressman Sisson of Mississippi want to fight the Japs or get in the limelight? You have only one guess.

Tariff revision may reduce the high cost of living somewhat, but the fact remains that the best way to reduce it is to be as economical as possible. That's the common sense way.

The Journal is heartily in favor of the movement that is being pushed to interest the boys in raising corn. We hope to see numerous Cass county boys in the state contest this year.

President Wilson says: "We propose to prevent private monopoly by law." May we not hope he will be upheld in his holy purpose by all the machinery of the government and by the people.

A Topeka (Kansas) man who had been gone from home seven years was mean enough to show up last week and dispute his wife's claim to the \$3,000 life insurance which she had collected.

Plattsmouth last season improved more than any town of inches in Nebraska. And what is more, she is liable to go beyond that limit this season, from the way our people are starting out.

Why not be fair? The people don't intend that the railroads shall rob them. To be honest with the railroads the people must not permit legislation that would rob the railroads. The public may as well understand that moderation in railroad legislation will bring good results, and unreasonable legislation will bring good results, and unreasonable legislation will defeat itself and make conditions worse than they have ever been. The railroad is simply an organization like any other necessary to the public, and managed on the whole as well as any other, by about the same kind of men as are engaged in other business. You cannot have on the one hand public service commissions and legislatures, compelling the railroads to reduce their rates, their freight charges and their commutation rates, and on the other hand organizations of labor, or arbitrators appointed by the government, telling the railroads that they must raise wages and employ more men. You can't cut down the freight rate at one end and raise wages at the other without wiping out the railroads.

STATE RIGHTS IN COURTS.

A disgruntled lawyer, who had just lost a case in court which he had confidently expected to win, is credited with the remark that "if there is any one thing God Almighty does not know, it is how a petit jury will decide." Most of us have had sufficient opportunity to watch trials in court to come close to agreeing with him in this sentiment.

The criticism of jury decisions by the public at large, however, is usually much biased. Moreover, the very thing that the jury should consider, and which very likely influenced the decision more than anything else, is usually lost sight of in this criticism.

This thing is the right of society as represented by the state to as fair and impartial a trial in court as society, through a feeling of charity and mercy demands for the individual. The jury which cannot place the interests of the society it represents on the same level with the interests of the individual on trial is not a good jury.

If the public was given the privilege of reversing jury decisions, we believe the great percent of the changes would be in the direction of favoring the individual rather than society itself. This speaks well for the sentiments of society, but would be a dangerous condition to introduce when the interests of the whole community came to be considered.

Every man has a right to justice in the fullest sense if he is placed on trial for any crime whatsoever, and the quality of mercy is no less worthy of commendation than in the days when Shakespeare put the well known words in the mouth of Portia. But the state, fully as much as the individual, has a right to demand justice in its courts, and unless the juries consider this, they are far more worthy of the disapproval of the public than they are if they look only at the weeping wife or sweetheart and let sentiment blind their sense of justice toward the individual on trial.

State rights in court are necessary to the state and the individuals which make it up, and the public will be far better served if they demand these rights than if they only demand mercy to the individual at the hands of every judge and jury.

The parcel post has come to stay. Its use by the people will grow rapidly. And there should be a prompt response to this patronage on the part of the government in the way of increased and improved facilities. This duty not only devolves upon the post-office department but chiefly upon congress, which should authorize and provide for more parcel post stations and cut such foolish restrictions as that which bars a book from the post while admitting a brick or a cabbage.

It is also pleasing to note that Mr. Underwood is in favor of reducing the crop of tariff speeches.

MR. HENRY PECK AND HIS FAMILY AFFAIRS - - By Gross

